

1. Most international conflicts are not settled by military force
 - States generally refrain from taking maximum short-term advantage of each other
 - Such as invading and conquering
 - States work with other states for mutual gain and take advantage of each other only "at the margin"
 - Don't see it often because the news does not cover it
2. States work together by following rules they develop to govern their interactions, and they usually do follow the rules.
 - Rules become more firmly established over time and institutions grow up around them
 - Develop the habit of working through institutions and within the rules.
 - They do so because of self-interest
3. The rules that govern most interactions are rooted in norms
 - **international norms** are the expectations actors hold about normal international relations.
 - e.g: sovereignty and respect for treaties
 - Norms shape expectations about state behaviors and set standards that make deviations stand out
 - Constructivists emphasise the importance of these global norms and standards
 - Agreed norms of behaviour, institutionalised through such organisations, become **habitual** over time and gain **legitimacy**
 - State leaders become used to behaving in a normal way and stop calculating whether violating norms would pay off
 - States refrain from behaviour from behaviour not just for cost-behaviour but for normative reasons having little to do with material calculations
 - Legitimacy and habit explain why international norms can be effective even when they are not codified and enforced
4. The power of international norms and standards of morality may vary when different states or world regions hold different expectations of what is normal.
 - Morality can be a factor for misunderstanding and conflict rather than a force of stability
 - **Realists** point to examples such as these to suggest that international norms do not hold much sway on important matters
 - Many of the accepted norms were shaped by the powerful states in the system and these same powerful states are often responsible for their interpretation
 - **Constructivist** point that even if international norms are violated, state go to tremendous lengths to justify behaviors that violate the norms
 - **Liberals** state that it is the codification of international norms in institutional norms in institutions that give norms their power
 - These institutions create incentives to reciprocate behaviour encourage by a norm, while constraining the behaviour of powerful states through rules that govern behavior

- Large and growing number of international institutions as evidence of their power and importance
- 5. Institutions play a key role and are concrete, tangible, structures with specific functions and missions
 - These have proliferated rapidly and have a role in international affairs
 - **International organisations (IOs)**
 - Intergovernmental organisations (IGOs)
 - United Nations (UN)
 - **Nongovernmental organisations (NGOs)**
 - International Committee of the Red Cross
 - Some IGOs are global, others are regional or bilateral (having two states as members)
 - Global IGOs usually have functional purposes involving coordinating actions of some set of states around the world
 - Regionals have had more success than globals
 - Those with specific functional or technical purposes have worked better
 - IGOs hold together because they promote the national interests of their member states (not because of vague ideals)
 - NGOs tend to be more specialised in function or have economic, business related, cultural, religious, and global political functions
- 6. The UN has a mix record with strengths and weaknesses
 - The UN is a new institution (60 years)
 - Purpose: Provide a global institutional structure through which states can sometimes settle conflicts with less reliance on the use of force
 - Closest thing to a world government, but it's not
 - The members are sovereign states that have not empowered the UN to enforce its will within states' territories except with the consent of those states' governments
 - The design acknowledges the realities of international anarchy and the unwillingness of states to surrender their sovereignty
 - The **UN Charter** is based on the principles that **1)** states are equal under international law; **2)** states have full sovereignty over their own affairs; **3)** states housed have full independence and territorial integrity; **4)** states should carry out their international obligations
 - Exists because states have created it to serve their needs
 - States gain leverage by using the UN to seek more beneficial outcomes
 - States get benefits from the UN such as international stability
 - The UN tries to safeguard, allows states to realise gains from trade and other forms of exchange
 - UN is a symbol of international order and global identity, and a forum for states (views and disputes)
 - Mechanism for conflict resolution in international security affairs
 - Promotes and coordinates development assistance and other programs (social and economics)
 - Coordinating system for information and planning by hundreds of internal and external agencies and programs, and for the publications of international data

7. The UN centres on the **UN General Assembly**, and coordinates a variety of development programs and agencies through the Economic and Social Council
 - The UN Security Council is parallel to the General Assembly, and dispatches peacekeeping forces to trouble spots
 - The administration takes place through the **UN Secretariat**, led by the secretary general
 - The ICJ (world court) is the judicial arm
 - The strength is the universality of its membership, every territory in the world is either a UN member or formally a province or colony of a UN member
 - League of Nation lacked important actors
 - Induced to join was to reassure them that their participation in the UN would not harm their national interests
 - Uses **collective security**, the banding together of the world's states to stop an aggressor
 - Veto power cause the UN to be not able to stop a great power
 - History: Successor of the League of Nations in 1945
 - UN constrains the US from being the most powerful country in the world
 - However, the US leads the UN in different ways, and the US has been free riding
 - This leads to US-UN tensions
 - Holds the principle of "three pillars" (security, economic development, and human rights)
8. The Security Council is responsible for maintaining international peace and security and for restoring peace when it breaks down.
 - decisions are *binding*
 - *define* the existence and nature of a security threat, to *structure* the response to such a threat, and to *enforce* its decisions through mandatory directives to UN members
 - P5: US, UK, France, China, Russia (veto power)
 - Super majority: 9 votes, can also abstain
 - Nonpermanent members are elected (ve each year) by the General Assembly from a list prepared by informal regional caucuses.
 - Meets irregularly
9. The UN's *own* forces—borrowed from armies of member states but under the ag and command of the UN—have been *peacekeeping* forces to calm regional conicts, playing a neutral role between warring forces.
 - *Authority* for peacekeeping forces is granted by the Security Council, usually for a period of three to six months that may be renewed—in some cases for decades.
 - *Funds* must be voted on by the General Assembly, and lack of funds is today the sin- gle greatest constraint on the use of peacekeeping forces.
 - observing and peacekeeping
 - *Observers* are unarmed military ofcers sent to a conict area in small numbers simply to watch what happens and report back to the UN.
 - *peacekeeping* is carried out by lightly armed soldiers (in armored vehicles with automatic ries but without artillery, tanks, and other heavy weapons).

- Peacekeeping forces have generally been unable to make peace, only to keep it.
10. The secretary-general is nominated by the Security Council—requiring the consent of all permanent members—and must be approved by the General Assembly.
 - The term of office is five years and may be renewed, never from a great power
 - The Secretariat of the UN is its executive branch, headed by the secretary-general. It is a bureaucracy for administering UN policy and programs
 - The secretary-general also works to bring together the great power consensus on which Security Council action depends.
 - Has the power under the Charter to bring to the Security Council any matter that might threaten international peace and security, and to play a major role in setting the UN's agenda in international security affairs.
 11. The General Assembly is made up of 193 member states, each with one vote
 - Plenary is from late September through January
 - has the power to accredit national delegations as members of the UN
 - General Assembly's main power lies in its control of finances for UN programs and operations, including peacekeeping.
 - Purely advisory and at times have served largely to vent frustrations of the majority of poor countries
 12. UN programs are funded by General Assembly allocations and partly by contributions that the programs raise directly from member states, businesses, or private charitable contributors
 - The UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) negotiates international trade agreements to stabilize commodity prices and promote development.
 13. Autonomous organisations are not under UN control
 14. The World Court (ICJ) is which only states, not individuals or businesses, can sue or be sued in the World Court
 - When a state is in grievance, they can take the case to the ICJ
 - Security Council or General Assembly may also request advisory court opinions on matters of international law
 - Weakness: States have not agreed in a comprehensive way to subject themselves to its jurisdiction or obey its decisions.
 15. A party with a dispute that crosses national boundaries gains several advantages by pursuing the matter through the national courts of one or more of the relevant states, rather than through international channels
 - judgments are enforceable
 - individuals and companies can pursue legal complaints through national courts (as can subnational governmental bodies), whereas in most areas of international law, states must themselves bring suits on behalf of their citizens.
 - there is often a choice of more than one state within which a case could legally be heard;
 - principle of territoriality also governs immigration law
 16. Laws of diplomacy
 - The ability to conduct diplomacy is necessary for all other kinds of relations among states, except perhaps all-out war
 - The status of embassies and of an ambassador as an official state representative is explicitly defined in the process of diplomatic recognition.

- Diplomats are *accredited* to each other's governments (they present "credentials"), and thereafter the individuals so defined enjoy certain rights and protections as foreign diplomats in the host country.
- Diplomats have the right to occupy an *embassy* in a host country, within which the host country's laws may not be enforced without the consent of the embassy's country
- Diplomatic norms (though not law) call for politeness when expelling spies; the standard reason given is "for activities not consistent with his or her diplomatic status."
- A *diplomatic pouch* is a package sent between an embassy and its home country.

17. Just Wars

- the idea of aggression, around which the doctrine of just war evolved, is based on a violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of states.
- *Aggression* refers to a state's use of force, or an imminent threat to do so, against another state's territory or sovereignty—unless the use of force is in response to aggression.

18. Human Rights

- The very idea of human rights lies in the face of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of states.
 - Sovereignty gives states the right to do as they please in their own territory: nobody can tell them how to treat their own citizens.
- International: No matter where a person resides, no matter his or her ethnic nationality, and no matter his or her local religious, ethnic, or clan traditions, that person has certain rights that must be respected.
- Relativism: Local traditions and histories should be given due respect, even if this means limiting rights that others outside that local context find important.
- Arise at religion, political and legal philosophy, natural law and rights
 - Rights are still not equal
 - Divided into civil-political and economic-social
- Created the UDHR
 - Sets for international norms regarding behavior by governments toward their own citizens and foreigners
 - Two treaties: International Covenant on civil and political rights (CCPR) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (CESCR)
- Amnesty international is an NGO that operates globally to try to rectify glaring abuses of human rights
- Serious violations of human rights are called war crimes, crimes against humanity are conceived inhumane acts and persecutions against civilians on a vast scale in the pursuit of unjust ends. (Rwanda, Yugoslavia)
 - The International Criminal Court (ICC) hears cases of genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity from anywhere in the world.
- Soldiers have the right under the laws of war to surrender, which is to abandon their status as combatants and become prisoners of war (POWs)
 - Earn their right to not be targeted

19. The most powerful states, especially hegemon, have great influence on the rules and values that have become embedded over time in a body of international law

20. Three factors combined to shake up international norms in the post-Cold War era

- the end of the Cold War,
- the shifts in economic position of various regions and states
- the effects of technological change in creating a "small world."