



# UN Security Council



## UN Security Council (UNSC)

The UN Charter vests the primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security to the UNSC

### About

One of the **6 principal organs** of UN; established in **1945** by UN Charter

### Headquarters

New York City

### First Session

17 January 1946 at Church House, Westminster, **London**

### Membership

- 15 members - 5 Permanent Members (**P5**), **10 Non-Permanent Members** elected for **two-year terms** (5 elected each year)
- P5 - the **US, the UK, Russia, France and China**

### Presidency

- Rotates **every month** among the 15 members
- India's** Presidency for year **2022 - December**

### Voting Powers

- 1 member = 1 vote
- P5 have **veto power**
- Members of UN sans membership of UNSC **participate without vote**

### UNSC Committees/Resolutions

#### Terrorism

- Resolution 1373** (Counter Terrorism Committee)
- Resolution 1267** (Da'esh and Al Qaeda Committee)

#### Non-Proliferation Committee

- Resolution 1540** (against nuclear, chemical and biological weapons)

### India and UNSC

- Served **7 times** as non-permanent member; elected for the **8<sup>th</sup> time** for 2021-22; **advocates for a permanent seat**
- Arguments for a permanent seat:
  - 43 peacekeeping missions**
  - Active participation in **formulating Human Rights Declaration (UDHR)**
  - India's **population, territorial size, GDP, economic potential, cultural diversity, political system** etc.



## G4

**Group of 4 countries** (Brazil, Germany, India and Japan) which advocate each other's bids for permanent seats in the UNSC

### Uniting for Consensus (UfC) Movement

- Informally known as the **Coffee Club**
- Countries **oppose the expansion Permanent Seats** of UNSC
- Prime movers of the club** - Italy, Spain, Australia, Canada, South Korea, Argentina and Pakistan
- Italy and Spain are opposed to Germany's bid; Pakistan - India's bid; Argentina - Brazil's bid and Australia - Japan's bid

### Major Challenges in UNSC

- Usual UN rules don't apply to UNSC deliberations; **no records of meetings kept**
- Powerplay in UNSC; **anachronistic veto powers** of P5
- Deep polarisation** among P5; frequent divisions end up blocking key decisions
- Inadequate representation** of many regions among of the world



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