What’s wrong with the UN and How to Fix it
By Thomas G. Weiss

UN & Humanitarian Governance

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Thomas G. Weiss

Co-director of UNIHP
United Nation Intellectual History Project
Director of the Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies
Presidential Professor of Political Science at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York
Introduction

Marc Malloch Brown; “the scale of change required. Member States “would have to rise above their own current sense of entrenched rights and privileges and find a grand bargain to allow a new more realistic governance model for the UN”
Part I: 
Chapter 1: Westphalian National Interest

Westphalian State Sovereignty;
“UN was established in 1945 by sovereign states seeking to protect themselves against external aggression, the UN was not built to confront many of the challenges that face the world today”

Richard Hass “Americans have traditionally guarded their sovereignty with more than a little ferocity”
Alive But Not Well

“state to function in any meaningful way to guarantee the safety and well-being of their population clearly illustrates why Westphalia sovereignty is not well. State become not just interconnected but interdependent.”
UN Human Right Council

- Mary Robinson transformed (OHCHR)
- Durban Conference; UN World Conference against racism, radical discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

Kyoto Agreement; or disagreement
Chapter 2: North-South Theater

- Non-Aligned Movement
- G-77
- Kofi Annan; “Security Council reflects the world in 1945, not the 21st century distribution of power”
- HLP; High Level Threat Panel
NAM vs. G-77

Less advanced South (ca 140 countries vs)

Wealthy North
Chapter 3:
The Feudal System, or Dysfunctional Family

- **UN Family** - opposite of a top-down hierarchic
- **Holbrooke**; “ill organized and unable to provide adequate support...what’s decided in New York or Geneva does not translate into follow up in the field, or vice versa”
- **UNIFEM**; “It has failed to serve as an effective coordinating body for issues relating women”
Chapter 4:
Overwhelming Bureaucracy and Underwhelming Leadership

“An organization without young and enthusiastic staff is moribund”
Jain; “The world body has much work to do before women assume their proper place there sixty year is a long time to wait. True reform will not happen until the political will is created and activated to fully bring women into the mainstream with equal privileges, access to resources, and decision-making roles”

“Secretariats can and should be changed. Renewing and reinvigorating the staff is critical.”
Part II: Palliatives If Not Cure

- Redefining National Interest
- Human Right; R2P
- “Responsibility to Protect” is that human beings sometimes count for more than the narrowest interpretation of state sovereignty.
- “MOVE BEYOND THE NARROW CONFINES DICTATED BY THE WESTPHALIAN ORDER” State sovereignty is no longer accompanied by the license to kill.
Chapter 6:
Moving Beyond the North-South Divide

- **ICBL**- International Campaign to Ban Landmines
- **ILO;** “Why it seems to be more urgent for the United Nations to act when someone is killed by a bullet than when someone dies of malnutrition.”

- **Reconceptualizing development;** WB, UNDP development strategies.
- “Some think UN has lost its soul and gone pro-capitalist.”
Chapter 7: Truly Delivering as ONE

- Needs more centralization
- Central Emergency Response;
- Post-conflict peace-building efforts financed and supervised by the United Nations.
- Independent funs, generous financial contributions
Chapter 8: Reinvigorating the International Civil Service

- Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security
- How can the UN recruit and train the people whom in needs?
- Ideas Matter!
- Investing in the NEXT generation!

Junior Professional Officer (JPO)
What’s Next?

“Transforming the current United Nations into an institution capable of addressing the challenges that threaten human survival poses a similar challenge: diagnoses of what ails the UN reflect a wide variety of perception—indeed, variety of realities depending on the viewers’ analytical lenses.”

Paradigm; “way of seeing the world”

UN; “global governance is a bridge between the old and the as yet born.”
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