

We affirm that the United Nations should grant India permanent membership on the Security Council.

Our sole contention is the Divided Nations.

Legitimacy is the foundation on which the UN is built upon, as [Hurd '08](#) explains that the UN Security Council is reliant on legitimacy to encourage states to implement economic sanctions, contribute resources to peace missions, and accept Council-mandated solutions to disputes.

Unfortunately, [Singh '18](#) finds that absent comprehensive reform, the UN's credibility and authority for most of the world will soon diminish to dangerous levels.

Fortunately, granting India a permanent seat legitimizes the UN in two ways.

First, by securing peacekeeping commitments.

UN peacekeepers are necessary for global peace and stability. [Guzzardi '08](#) explains UN peacekeeping operations, or PKOs, include tasks such as “monitoring ceasefires, disarming local forces, and patrolling demilitarized zones.”

India's bid for a permanent seat has been backed by a strategy of entitlement. [Choedon '17](#) explains that India contributes large amounts of troops to PKOs due to their desire to be recognized as a great power. The [Hindustan Times '18](#) quantifies, India has contributed more than 180,000 troops for over 49 PKOs.

However, [Gupta '16](#) finds that if India's bid for a seat fails, they would be left with no option but to downscale their participation in PKOs.

Moreover, [Schaefer '07](#) explains that PKOs are restrained by a lack of reforms, including expanding peacekeeper influence, improving logistics, and enforcing mandatory standards for conduct.

This lack of reform has already cost lives. According to [Ross '16](#), conflicts involving al-Shabaab, Boko Haram or the Islamic State have been mishandled by the UN. In addition, the UN failed to prevent mass killings in Rwanda and Sri Lanka.

Fortunately, India will champion reform. [Choedon '17](#) confirms that when India was a non-permanent council member, they proposed methods to increase the effectiveness of PKOs.

A permanent seat on the Council allows for these reforms to pass. According to [Guzzardi '08](#), veto privilege can be used as a political tool to gain more leverage in negotiations.

[The UN](#) explains that each state becomes the President of the Security Council once per year. Thus, whereas temporary members can only be President once every few years, permanent members become President every year.

Importantly, the [US Mission to the UN](#) furthers that the President sets the agenda for the month, granting India more opportunities to lead discourse on reform.

[Hultman '18](#) quantifies that PKOs directly saved 150,000 lives over 13 years and had the UN spent 200 billion dollars more on PKOs, global conflict would be reduced by two-thirds.

Successful PKOs bolster the legitimacy and influence of the UN. However, if PKOs continue to decline the UN will fall with them. [Delattre '17](#) confirms as the face of the UN internationally, effective peacekeeping is essential to UN legitimacy.

Second, by increasing geographic diversity.

[Banerjee '18](#) reports that India has spoken out against the declining legitimacy of the UN and has offered concrete solutions.

For one, the [Global Policy Forum](#) reports that India has already discussed potential reforms to the UN such as Security Council expansion, enforcement of timely Member State payments, and increased transparency.

A [UN Press Release](#) explains that the UN has had difficulty passing reforms because of a misalignment of interests between developing and developed countries. More specifically, whereas developing countries tend to have economic concerns such as reducing poverty, developed countries care more for modern problems such as nuclear proliferation.

According to [Stuenkel '10](#), India aims to increase the representation of the “global South”, which would increase the UN’s legitimacy, as nations of the world must feel that their stakes are factored into the UN’s decision making.

India has acted fervently on the behalf of developing countries. [Mohan '13](#) writes that India has recently lead discussions in the L69, a group of 40 developing countries seeking increased representation in UN decision-making.

The impact is a collapse of international cooperation.

[Singh](#) continues that if the UN is ineffective, the whole concept of multilateralism will collapse.

This would be disastrous as [Shaffer '12](#) explains international institutions are necessary to solve existential threats such as climate change, nuclear proliferation, and financial collapse all of which threaten the livelihoods of billions.

Please affirm.