Relationship between the General Assembly and the Security Council

UNITAR Briefing for Delegates of the 78th session of the General Assembly

Security Council Affairs Division | Ms. Blanca Montejo

New York, 12 September 2023







The GA and the Security Council: a new scenario



- Early practice and <u>Uniting for Peace</u>
- Contemporary practice and the <u>new Veto</u> <u>Initiative</u>
- GA recommendations to the Council:
- ➤On general principles
- ➤On specific situations



Emergency Special Sessions (invoked by the Council)

	Resolution reference	Meeting	Vote	Repertoire reference
1	Resolution 119 (1956)	<u>S/PV.751</u> 31 October 1956	7Y-2N-2A	https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/sites/www.un.org.securitycouncil/files/en/sc/repertoire/56-58/56-58_06.pdf#page=5 (France and UK voted against; Belgium and Australia abstained)
2	Resolution 120 (1956)	<u>S/PV.754</u> 4 November 1956	10Y-1N-0A	https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/sites/www.un.org.securitycouncil/files/en/sc/repertoire/56-58/56-58_06.pdf#page=5 (USSR voted against)
3	Resolution <u>129 (1958)</u>	<u>S/PV.838</u> 7 August 1958	11Y-0N-0A	https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/sites/www.un.org.securitycouncil/files/en/sc/repertoire/56-58/56-58_06.pdf#page=5
4	Resolution 157 (1960)	S/PV.906 17 September 1960	8Y-2N-1A	https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/sites/www.un.org.securitycouncil/files/en/sc/repertoire/59-63/59-63_06.pdf#page=4 (Poland and USSR voted against; France abstained)
5	Resolution 303 (1971)	<u>S/PV.1608</u> 6 December 1971	11Y-0N-4A	https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/sites/www.un.org.securitycouncil/files/en/sc/repertoire/69-71/69-71_06.pdf#page=4 (France, Poland, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland abstained)
6	Resolution 462 (1980)	<u>S/PV.2190</u> 9 January 1980	12Y-2N-1A	https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/sites/www.un.org.securitycouncil/files/en/sc/repertoire/75-80/75-80_06.pdf#page=4 (GDR and USSR voted against; Zambia abstained)
7	Resolution <u>500 (1982)</u>	<u>S/PV.2330</u> 28 January 1982	13Y-0N-2A	https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/sites/www.un.org.securitycouncil/files/en/sc/repertoire/81-84/81-84_06.pdf#page=4 (UK and US abstained)
8	Resolution <u>2623 (2022)</u>	<u>S/PV.8980</u> 27 February 2022	11Y-1N-3A	Not available (to be featured in the 25 th Supplement of the <u>Repertoire</u>) (Russian Federation voted against; China, India and United Arab Emirates abstained)
*There have been eleven Emergency Special Sessions, eight of which were invoked by the Security				
Council				



Eleventh Emergency Special Session

United Nations

S/RES/2623 (2022)



Distr.: General 27 February 2022

Resolution 2623 (2022)

Adopted by the Security Council at its 8980th meeting, on 27 February 2022

The Security Council,

Having considered the item on the agenda of its 8979th meeting, as contained in document S/Agenda/8979,

Taking into account that the lack of unanimity of its permanent members at the 8979th meeting has prevented it from exercising its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Decides to call an emergency special session of the General Assembly to examine the question contained in document S/Agenda/8979.

Chronology of events:

- 27 February 2022 adoption of resolution 2623 (2022) by the Council
- 28 February 2022 Assembly convened its 11th **Emergency Special Session**
- 2 March 2022 the Assembly adopted its first resolution ES-11/1
- 6 May 2022 the Council issued its first PRST in connection with the item "Maintenance of peace and security of Ukraine"



The GA and the Security Council: main areas of collaboration



- Admission, suspension, expulsion of members
- Appointment of the Secretary-General
- Appointment of judges to the ICJ and international tribunals
- Election of non-permanent members



The GA and the Security Council: main areas of collaboration



Report of the Security Council for 2021

General Assembly Seventy-sixth Session Supplement No. 2

- Annual <u>notification</u> to the GA (A/SESSION/300)
- Summary <u>statement</u> ("seizure list", S/YEAR/10)
- Weekly <u>addenda</u> to the summary statement (S/YEAR/10.Add.#)
- Annual report and special reports



The GA and the Security Council: main areas of collaboration



- Monthly coordination <u>meetings</u> between the Presidents of the GA and the Security Council
- Briefing on the Security Council's programme of work and wrap up sessions
- Annual open debate on working methods (last one was held on <u>5 September 2023</u>)
- Participation of Presidents in their respective activities













Collaboration with the GA's subsidiary organs



- Committee on the Exercise of Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People
- **Human Rights Council**
- Special Committee on Peacekeeping **Operations**



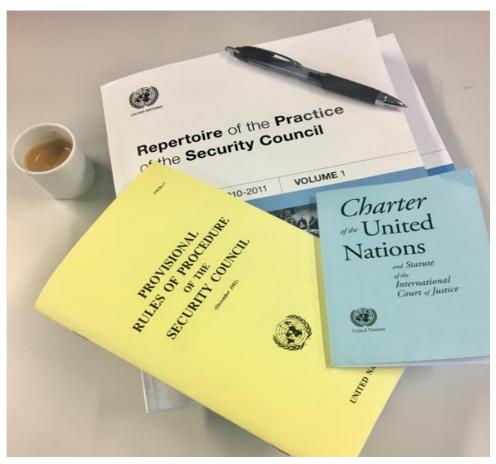
Collaboration with the Peacebuilding Commission

- Coordinating programmes of work and agenda items (S/2023/277)
- Advanced unedited versions of the reports of the Secretary -General to the Council
- Written advice to the President of the Council
- PBC's annual report (S/2023/86)





Tools and resources available to Member States



- Repertoire of the Practice of the **Security Council**
- Interactive Handbook
- Charter of the United Nations
- Provisional rules of procedure of the **Security Council**
- Rules of procedure of the General Assembly
- Index to proceedings



Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council



SUPPLEMENT 2020

Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council



International Law Commission's function to make the evidence of customary international law more readily available (Article 13 of the Charter)



Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council



SUPPLEMENT 2020

Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council



- Comprehensive and authoritative coverage of SC interpretation and application of UN Charter and the Provisional Rules of Procedure since 1946
- Based on official SC documents
- Analysis of SC decisions, discussions and other documents
- Contemporaneous coverage since 2018 and commitment to produce advance version every year by October (for COVID-19, only available record of working methods developed in that period)
- Published in printed and electronic format



Additional tools

Research and Analysis

Tables, Graphs and Data

This page provides links to tables on procedural and constitutional topics relating to the practice of the Security Council that were included in the volumes of the Repertoire in different periods. It also includes new tables, graphs and other data sets that provide information over larger periods spanning multiple volumes of the Repertoire. This section will be updated with new data sets and tables as they are

KEY INFORMATION



Field Missions Dashboard

Categorizes the mandates of current peacekeeping, peacebuilding and special political missions authorized by the Security Council.



Women and Peace and Security

All relevant provisions since 2000 relating to women, peace and security.

KEY DOCUMENTS

- Charter of the United Nations
- . Provisional Rules of Procedure of the Security Council
- Note on Security Council Practice (S/2017/507)
- Highlights of Security Council Practice
- . Summary statements by the Secretary-General of matters of which the Security Council is seized

KEY DATA

- Meetings and consultations (2001-2022)
- Meetings held away from Headquarters (1946-2022)
- · All Agenda items by first appearance (1946-
- . Resolutions adopted under Chapter VII of the Charter (1995-2022)

- Research and analysis resources on the Security Council
- Peace and Security Datahub
- Diplomatic Pulse
- IGN sessions

