

U.N. Security Council 2019 Authorized Actions

The United Nations Security Council deals with issues related to maintaining the security and safety of the international community. The Security Council is the only U.N. council or committee that may initiate economic sanctions, peacekeeping operations, military actions, or any other direct intervention in a state (country). When states join the United Nations, they agree to abide by the resolutions passed in the Security Council.

The Security Council's has a wide range of options to insure international security. They include:

- Acquire additional information about a conflict or potential conflict
- Request information from other U.N. related agencies - for example the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Human Rights Council (HRC), etc.
- Investigate the presence of banned weapons or weapons of mass destruction
- Request states or parties provide information about war crimes or attempts at genocide in disputed territories or states
- Investigate possible violations of international humanitarian law
- Call for an immediate cease-fire between combatants in a conflict (civil war or war between states/countries)
- Call for negotiations, suggest a peace plan, and/or provide a trained peace negotiator/diplomat
- Invite the logical, regional transnational organization (ie., African Union, League of Arab States, European Union, NATO, ASEAN, OAS) to provide expertise, negotiators, peace keepers, aid workers, financial or military assistance
- Impose a no fly zone patrolled by a regional military alliance
- Impose a trade embargo on one or several states or parties in the dispute
- Authorize a naval blockade by a regional military alliance
- Establish a U.N. peacekeeping force – lightly armed to preserve a peace agreement
- Establish “safe areas” for refugees and provide relief services to refugees fleeing the conflict, with the assistance of various international aid organizations
- Authorize military force against one or both parties in the dispute or conflict, reflecting the U.N. “Responsibility to Protect” doctrine
- Establish an international criminal tribunal to try persons responsible for war crimes and crimes against humanity in the disputed area
- Establish a compensation commission to give money to the victims of the conflict
- Call upon the U.N. Peacebuilding Commission to work with international non-government organizations (NGOs) to help rebuild war torn states and territories

The U.N. Security Council is composed of fifteen member states. China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States are the five permanent members of the Security Council, and have veto power on resolutions (but not on amendments or procedural votes). The Security Council may also invite countries involved in the issue at hand to participate fully in the discussion, however these countries do not have voting rights on resolutions or amendments to resolutions.

2019 U.N. Security Council Members

Belgium, *China, Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast), Dominican Republic, Equatorial Guinea,
*France, Germany, Indonesia, Kuwait, Peru, Poland, *Russia, South Africa, *United States, *United Kingdom

*Veto states/countries

2019 U.N. Security Council Members

Please PRINT both names neatly

Belgium

*China

Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)

Dominican Republic

Equatorial Guinea (resolution author)

*France

Germany

Indonesia

Kuwait

Peru

Poland

*Russia

South Africa (resolution author)

*United States,

*United Kingdom

* Veto states