

CFR Resources

Jonathan Masters and Andrew Chatzky, "[The IMF: The World's Controversial Financial Firefighter.](#)"

A brief introduction to the International Monetary Fund and the role it has played in a number of crises. (2,500 words)

Jonathan Masters and Andrew Chatzky, "[The World Bank Group's Role in Global Development.](#)"

A brief introduction to the World Bank that considers both its critics and its successes. (2,050 words)

James McBride and Andrew Chatzky, "[What's Next for the WTO?](#)"

A brief introduction to the World Trade Organization that considers its precarious position in the face of criticism from President Donald J. Trump and others. (2,200 words)

"[The Role of the UN General Assembly.](#)"

A brief introduction to the structure and functioning of the UN General Assembly. (1,800 words)

"[The Role of the UN Secretary-General.](#)"

A brief introduction to the position of UN secretary-general. (1,700 words)

"[The UN Security Council.](#)"

A brief introduction to the structure and powers of the United Nations Security Council as well as an examination of criticisms the organization faces and its prospects for reform. (2,400 words)

"[What Does the World Health Organization Do?](#)"

A brief introduction to the functioning of the World Health Organization and a guide to criticisms of the institution. (2,050 words)

Classroom Reading List: Global Governance

Articles

Damien Cave and Isabella Kwai, "[China Is Defensive. The U.S. Is Absent. Can the Rest of the World Fill the Void?](#)" New York Times, August 31, 2020.

A look at how Australia and other smaller countries are adapting as the United States and China change their stances toward global governance. (1,550 words).

Richard N. Haass, "[The UN's Unhappy Birthday](#)," Project Syndicate, September 10, 2020.

An op-ed by CFR's president that details the shortcomings and failures of the United Nations. It provides a counterpoint to Tijjani Muhammad-Bande's article. (1,000 words)

Tijjani Muhammad-Bande, "[The UN General Assembly: A 75-Year Journey Towards the Future We Want](#)," UN Chronicle, July 6, 2020.

An op-ed by the president of the seventy-fourth session of the UN General Assembly and permanent representative of Nigeria to the United Nations that details the successes and promise of the United Nations. It provides a counterpoint to Richard N. Haass's article. (1,300 words)

"[Omar al-Bashir: Sudan Agrees Ex-President Must Face ICC](#)," BBC News, February 11, 2020.

A comprehensive look at a recent International Criminal Court case against Omar al-Bashir, the former president of Sudan. (800 words)

Elian Peltier, "[U.N. Peacekeepers in Haiti Said to Have Fathered Hundreds of Children](#)," New York Times, December 19, 2019.

A New York Times story on a report that found that UN peacekeepers stationed in Haiti fathered and then abandoned hundreds of children. (1,200 words)

Samantha Power, "[The Envoy](#)," New Yorker, December 31, 2007.

Classroom Reading List: Global Governance

A profile of an important UN official at a pivotal time in the organization's history. An excerpt from Power's book listed below. (11,200 words)

["Rohingya Crisis: The Gambian Who Took Aung San Suu Kyi to the World Court,"](#) BBC News, January 23, 2020.

A comprehensive look at a recent International Court of Justice case over the genocide of the Rohingya people in Myanmar. (1,500 words)

Jacob M. Schlesinger, "[How China Swallowed the WTO,](#)" Wall Street Journal, November 1, 2017.

A story, with some excellent graphs, about how the World Trade Organization has changed since China joined it. (2,600 words)

Somini Sengupta, "[What Is the United Nations? Its History, Its Goals and Its Relevance,](#)" New York Times, September 24, 2019.

An explainer on the United Nations that includes analysis of the organization's challenges. (1,400 words)

Books

Elizabeth Borgwardt, *A New Deal for the World: America's Vision for Human Rights* (2005).

A history of how the modern systems of global governance came to be in the wake of World War II, with a particular focus on the Bretton Woods Conference, the founding of the United Nations, and the Nuremberg trials. (437 pages)

Jussi M. Hanhimäki, *The United Nations: A Very Short Introduction, Second Edition* (2015).

An introduction to the United Nations that explains its history and functioning as well as examines its successes, failures, and challenges. (192 pages)

Classroom Reading List: Global Governance

Paul Kennedy, *The Parliament of Man: The Past, Present, and Future of the United Nations* (2006).

A comprehensive history of the United Nations that argues it is a flawed but indispensable institution. (384 pages)

Roger Lipsey, *Hammarsskjöld: A Life* (2013).

A detailed biography of the United Nations' most famous and most effective secretary-general. (760 pages)

Amrita Narlikar, *The World Trade Organization: A Very Short Introduction* (2005).

An introduction to the World Trade Organization that explains its history, structure, and purpose in an effort to contextualize controversies about the organization. (155 pages)

Samantha Power, *Chasing the Flame: Sergio Vieira de Mello and the Fight to Save the World* (2008).

A biography of a senior UN official that illuminates a number of crises in which the UN intervened. (622 pages)

Benn Steil, *The Battle of Bretton Woods: John Maynard Keynes, Harry Dexter White, and the Making of a New World Order* (2013).

A detailed but readable look at the dynamics of negotiations at the Bretton Woods Conference. (464 pages)

Multimedia

Ash Ü. Bâli, Michael Wahid Hanna, and Thanassis Cambanis, "[What's the Price of Giving Up on Human Rights and International Law?](#)" TCF World Podcast, Century Foundation, February 11, 2020.

A podcast episode that argues the United States has abandoned some elements of international law and discusses the practical effects of this abandonment. (38 minutes)

Sarah Gonzalez and Robert Smith, "[Showdown at the WTO.](#)" Planet Money, NPR, May 18, 2018.

Classroom Reading List: Global Governance

An approachable introduction to the World Trade Organization centered on a handful of incisive questions about the institution. (19 minutes)

Resources

[About the UN](#), United Nations.

The United Nations' own website, which has a wealth of information about the organization.