

**Forum:** Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

**Issue:** Promoting the creation of Safe Recovery Zones in Post-Conflict Regions



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**Position:** Deputy President

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## Personal Introduction

Dear Delegates,

My name is George Trakas, and I am 16 years old. I attend the 10th grade at Pierce – The American College of Greece. Throughout my MUN career I have attended 9 MUN conferences and I am delighted to announce that I will be serving as the Deputy President of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) at the 9th session of ACG MUN. I am really excited to share this very interesting experience with you!

Initially, I would like to congratulate you for attending our conference and I hope that we will create long-lasting memories. I think you all know that MUN broadens our horizons and welcomes us in a world of justice and harmony, while teaching us how to be a rightful citizen of the world. I would be grateful if everyone attending our committee sees these three days as a special opportunity to take part in something meaningful and at the same time very beautiful. As it will be my first time chairing, I hope from the bottom of my heart that we will all have a productive experience, full of joy and that this conference will pave the way towards understanding the real value of MUN.

In the following guide you will find multiple useful information on the question of “Promoting the creation of Safe Recovery Zones in Post-Conflict Regions”. I believe that all of you understand the impact of such zones in torn apart regions. We must take into consideration ways to ensure their existence in the near but also in the distant future, as the upcoming leaders of our world. I hope that this research report will provide you with all the needed information and guidelines in order to be able to come up with the expectations of this year’s ECOSOC agenda. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me via email at [g.trakas@acg.edu](mailto:g.trakas@acg.edu).

## Topic Introduction

In the wake of conflict or crisis, host nation government with the assistance of international organizations, humanitarian agencies and other diplomatic face immense challenges restoring stability, delivering aid, and rebuilding essential infrastructure. This is where specialized security solutions play a critical enabling role in resolving serious issues that have been in the air for multiple years, especially at the Post-Conflict Regions.

It is a fact that the creation of Safe Recovery Zones in these specific regions might seem challenging since War-torn societies embarked on the fragile transition from violent conflict to a durable peace, face enormous economic, social and political challenges. Also, in areas that have just emerged from a conflict, whether economic or political, or even from a war, a logical increase in crime has been observed, which has caused a sense of uncertainty among citizens and has made it imperative to seek ways to address the issue. Additionally, the increased social tension and polarization that stem from the aftermath of the conflicts mentioned above can lead to stronger political polarization, declining trust in institutions, increased support for extremist or populist movements.

Taken together, the preceding points underscore the significant role that Safe Recovery Zones can play in post-conflict settings. Initially, promoting safe zones in such regions is crucial for providing security, restoring essential infrastructure and rebuilding societies in a way that is sustainable and can be led by local populations. Moreover, they must guarantee the right of life, the right to be free from torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, access to humanitarian organizations etc.<sup>1</sup>

In the post conflict regions, current affairs are dominated by immense reconstruction needs, significant funding gaps and the ongoing challenges of achieving sustainable peace and economic recovery

Resilience requires everyone to partake in the exercise. The partnership between international governments and local factors is necessary in order to ensure political coherence. Whenever there is

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<sup>1</sup> Kaldor Centre | Law & Justice - UNSW Sydney, [www.kaldorcentre.unsw.edu.au/sites/kaldorcentre.unsw.edu.au/files/Policy\\_brief\\_Creating\\_safe\\_zones\\_and\\_safe\\_corridors.pdf](http://www.kaldorcentre.unsw.edu.au/sites/kaldorcentre.unsw.edu.au/files/Policy_brief_Creating_safe_zones_and_safe_corridors.pdf).

pre-agreement and prefinancing, things worked out relatively smoothly, such as in Nepal. Recovery is not just a fad and should also become part of the natural work of all the international partners.<sup>2</sup>

## Definition of Key Terms

### Consociationalism

“A stable democratic system in deeply divided societies that is based on power sharing between elites from different groups”<sup>3</sup>

### Local Economic Development (LED)

“A longer -term, development-oriented concept that LER (Local Economic Recovery) can transit into a focusing sustainable economic development beyond emergency recovery”.<sup>4</sup>

### Political oppression

It refers to the deliberate use of government power to silence oppositions, restrict personal freedoms and dominate individuals or groups -often through force, intimidation, censorship, or unfair laws- in order to preserve the existing order or keep those in power in control.<sup>5</sup>

### Post- Conflict Creation, Income Generation and Reintegration (PCEIR)

“The broader UN policy framework under which LER (Local Economic Recovery) is conceived – aiming to create jobs, income and reintegration in post-conflict settings.”<sup>6</sup>

### Post Conflict Regions

Areas coming out of violent conflict towards sustainable peace by rebuilding political, economical and social structures. This process emphasizes security, justice, reconciliation, development and the establishment of effective governances to prevent a relapse into violence, a complex process involving internal reforms and internal aid.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>GFDRR,

[www.gfdr.org/sites/default/files/publication/WRC3%20Proceedings%20and%20Knowledge%20Report%20FINAL.pdf](http://www.gfdr.org/sites/default/files/publication/WRC3%20Proceedings%20and%20Knowledge%20Report%20FINAL.pdf).

<sup>3</sup>Consociationalism | Definition, Examples & Benefits | Britannica." *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 1 Apr. 2013,

[www.britannica.com/topic/consociationalism](http://www.britannica.com/topic/consociationalism).

<sup>4</sup>ILOInternational Labour Organization,

[www.ilo.org/sites/default/files/wcmsp5/groups/public/@ed\\_emp/documents/instructionalmaterial/wcms\\_141270.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/sites/default/files/wcmsp5/groups/public/@ed_emp/documents/instructionalmaterial/wcms_141270.pdf).

<sup>5</sup>"Political Oppression." *Focused Study Guides for Every Class* | Fiveable, [fiveable.me/key-terms/ap-world/political-oppression](https://fiveable.me/key-terms/ap-world/political-oppression).

<sup>6</sup>ILOInternational Labour Organization,

[www.ilo.org/sites/default/files/wcmsp5/groups/public/@ed\\_emp/documents/instructionalmaterial/wcms\\_141270.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/sites/default/files/wcmsp5/groups/public/@ed_emp/documents/instructionalmaterial/wcms_141270.pdf).

<sup>7</sup> Brown, Graham, et al. *A Typology of Post-Conflict Environments: An Overview*. 2008, [assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/57a08b99ed915d3cfd000e06/wp53.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/57a08b99ed915d3cfd000e06/wp53.pdf).

## Recovery Zones in Post-Conflict Regions

“Refers to a specific geographical area within a country that has experienced armed conflict, targeted to receive concentrated assistance for socio-economic recovery, peacebuilding and reconstruction.”<sup>8</sup>

## Safe corridor

“Refers either to a route out of the conflict for civilians and non-fighters, or in the middle of a conflict a way to move around.”<sup>9</sup>

## Safe zones

“Suggests an area within a country engulfed in armed conflict or generalized violence that is made safe from military attack. The idea is that those within the zone can live safely, protected from the impacts of the conflict.”<sup>10</sup>

## United Nations Protected Areas (UNPA)

UNPAs are areas in which Serbs constitute the majority or substantial minority of the population and where inter-communal tensions have led to armed conflicts.<sup>11</sup>

## Background Information

### The history of Conflicts

In the long course of human history, periods of relative peace and corresponding cultural development have repeatedly alternated with periods of war, destruction and devastation. More than one hundred and forty civil wars since the end of World War II in 1945. Since the end of Second War in 1945, more than 140 civil wars have occurred worldwide, resulting in an estimated 20 million deaths and displacement of approximately 67 million people. These conflicts have left deep political, economic and social scars that continue to affect regions long after active hostilities have ended.

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<sup>8</sup> First Edition.

[www.ilo.org/sites/default/files/wcmsp5/groups/public/@ed\\_emp/documents/instructionalmaterial/wcms\\_141270.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/sites/default/files/wcmsp5/groups/public/@ed_emp/documents/instructionalmaterial/wcms_141270.pdf).

<sup>9</sup> Gilbert, Geoff, and Anna Rüsç. *Creating Safe Zones and Safe Corridors in Conflict Situations: Providing Protection at Home or Preventing the Search for Asylum?* 2017,

[www.kaldorcentre.unsw.edu.au/sites/kaldorcentre.unsw.edu.au/files/Policy\\_brief\\_Creating\\_safe\\_zones\\_and\\_safe\\_corridors.pdf](http://www.kaldorcentre.unsw.edu.au/sites/kaldorcentre.unsw.edu.au/files/Policy_brief_Creating_safe_zones_and_safe_corridors.pdf).

<sup>10</sup> Kaldor Centre | Law & Justice - UNSW Sydney,

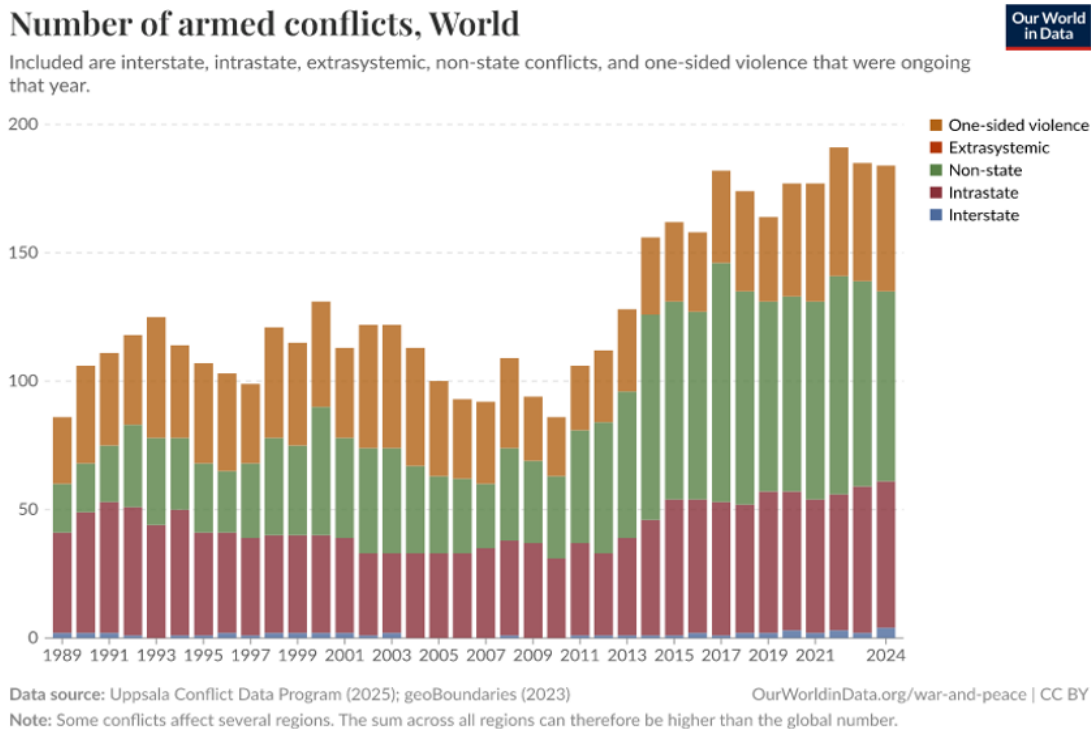
[www.kaldorcentre.unsw.edu.au/sites/kaldorcentre.unsw.edu.au/files/Policy\\_brief\\_Creating\\_safe\\_zones\\_and\\_safe\\_corridors.pdf](http://www.kaldorcentre.unsw.edu.au/sites/kaldorcentre.unsw.edu.au/files/Policy_brief_Creating_safe_zones_and_safe_corridors.pdf)

<sup>11</sup> "UNPROFOR." *United Nations Peacekeeping*, [peacekeeping.un.org/fr/mission/past/unprof\\_b.htm?utm\\_source](http://peacekeeping.un.org/fr/mission/past/unprof_b.htm?utm_source).

In the late 1980s and early 1990s, when the Cold War came to an end, there was widespread optimism that a new era of prosperity and peace would emerge, driven by increased international cooperation, economic integration, and geopolitical stability. Nevertheless, this euphoria turned out to be no more than, as the British Foreign secretary stated, ‘Utopian Folly’.

Since 1989 over one hundred armed conflicts have taken place. Unfortunately, lots of these conflicts are still taking place, with thousands of people ending up displaced or even killed, with such examples being the various ethnic and separatist conflicts in India that started in 1967 and it is still going, the ethnic conflict between Tutsis and Hutus two of the most powerful ethnic groups in Rwanda, which also faced genocide, coups and high level of organized crime and others.<sup>12</sup>

Overall, wars and conflicts do not arise from a single cause, but there are multiple factors that cause and sustain them, such as poverty, unemployment and economic stagnation.<sup>13</sup> This complexity underscores the importance of comprehensive post-conflict strategies that address not only immediate security concerns but also long-term recovery, development and social resilience-providing a strong rationale for the creation of Safe recovery Zones in post-conflict regions.



<sup>12</sup> Every CRS Report - EveryCRSReport.com, [www.everycrsreport.com/files/20000802\\_RL30625\\_8ec738ddcc968366e05908022d2affce98ad1d31.pdf](http://www.everycrsreport.com/files/20000802_RL30625_8ec738ddcc968366e05908022d2affce98ad1d31.pdf).

<sup>13</sup> Economic Analysis and Policy Division, [policy.desa.un.org/sites/default/files/inline-images/eapd2023/publication/CDP-bp-2005-8.pdf](http://policy.desa.un.org/sites/default/files/inline-images/eapd2023/publication/CDP-bp-2005-8.pdf).

**Figure 1:** A graphic which shows the amount of armed conflicts and how they have ranged in from 1989 since 2024.<sup>14</sup>

## The Cold War

It was an ongoing geopolitical rivalry between the United States and the Soviet Union and their respective allies. Although it did not result in direct large-scale warfare between the two superpowers, it shaped global politics through ideological rivalry, proxy wars, military alliances and nuclear deterrence. This era influenced patterns of conflict, development and international cooperation worldwide.

It started when the uneasy alliance between United States and United Kingdom on the one hand and Soviet Union on the other fall apart. During the Cold War, most wars were considered and extension of the conflict between the two superpowers of that time. The Soviet Union wanted to establish left-wing governments in the countries of eastern Europe. The Cold War was solidified by 1947-48 when the U.S. aid had brought certain Western countries under American influence and the Soviets had established communist regimes. The fall of the Berlin wall in 1989 was the most dramatic signal that the Cold War between the world's two superpowers was coming to an end.<sup>15</sup>

After the end of the cold war Russia suffered economically and other satellite states, such as Romania, faced serious internal issues. It was very difficult for all these states to overcome the issue and searched for aid in countries such as the USA. Despite the termination of the Cold War, nations continued to fight wars, both internally and with their neighbors.<sup>16</sup>

The Cold War is fundamentally connected to the evolution of safe zones for civilian recovery through the geopolitical need to contain refugee flows, manage proxy conflict casualties, and maintain civil infrastructure without triggering direct superpower confrontation.

In conclusion, the aftermath of the Cold War is not considered to be concluded. Many of the economic and social tensions that were exploited to fuel the conflict competition in parts of the third

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<sup>14</sup>"Number of Armed Conflicts." *Our World in Data*, 1989, [ourworldindata.org/grapher/number-of-armed-conflicts](https://ourworldindata.org/grapher/number-of-armed-conflicts).

<sup>15</sup>"Cold War." *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 8 Sept. 2025, [www.britannica.com/event/Cold-War](https://www.britannica.com/event/Cold-War).

<sup>16</sup> *Every CRS Report - EveryCRSReport.com*, [www.everycrsreport.com/files/20000802\\_RL30625\\_8ec738ddcc968366e05908022d2affce98ad1d31.pdf](https://www.everycrsreport.com/files/20000802_RL30625_8ec738ddcc968366e05908022d2affce98ad1d31.pdf).

world remain acute. The implications of Cold War urgently called for the creation of new safe recovery zones in regions affected by the conflict.

### **The expansion of Post-Conflict Recovery Activities**

Post conflict recovery became broader and deeper during this period after the end of WWII. Early efforts focused primarily on reconstruction and political stabilization in war-torn Europe, most notably through initiatives such as the Marshall Plan. As decolonization accelerated during the Cold War, internal conflicts and civil wars became more common, prompting the United Nations to develop more comprehensive peacekeeping and recovery approaches. Peacekeeping missions increasingly incorporated Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) and Security Sector Reform (SSR) into their mandates, as seen in cases, such as Namibia, Cambodia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Sierra Leone.

These measures aimed not only to end active hostilities, but also to reduce the risk of renewed conflict by reforming security institutions, reintegrating former combatants and laying the foundations for long-term stability and governance.

### **Post-conflict regions in the 1950s**

The 1950s was a decade characterized by facing the aftermath of WWII, of decolonization wars and early Cold War proxy conflicts. The first UN Emergency Zones & Trust Territories made their first appearance. They began administrating regions recovering from war Humanitarian access, food distributions, infrastructure, reconstruction. At the same time Refugee Camps were characterized as Humanitarian safe areas, where many refugee camps were intentionally placed in secure regions near conflict borders to protect civilians.

At these years these camps were not called 'safe recovery zones', but they served similar purposes (protection, stability, return preparation).

### **The first conflict resolution**

Is an applied academic study that has been defined over the past 50 years and has come out in the post-Cold War era. This field includes laws and more specifically economic laws, international relations, development studies, communication studies.

Socialist and liberal movements to prevent the outbreak of the first World War motivated lots of people to create a 'science of peace', that would provide a firm basis for preventing future wars. The evolution of conflict resolution gained momentum in the 1950s and 1960s at the height of the cold war, when the development of nuclear weapons seemed to be a threaten for human survival.

Individuals in North America and Europe began to establish research groups, formal centers in academic institutions and scholarly journals to develop the ideas of international relations, domestic politics.<sup>17</sup>

### **Safe recovery zones in then 1960s**

Contemporary reviews of document protected-zone cases showed that actual implementations of Safe Recovery Zones remained rare.

Generally speaking, this decade witnessed profound change in the established world order. In the 1960s, this split along ideological and economic lines divided the world into five centers of power; the Soviet Union; Communist China and Southeast Asia; Europe and the United States; Africa; and Latin America.

The allied powers determined at the end of World War II the Security Council's permanent membership in the newly United Nations. The power blocs of the 1950s began to erode in the 1960s. It was the Soviet Union which faced off the West in the Cold War and instigated such provocations as the erection of the Berlin Wall.<sup>18</sup>

### **The evolution of Post-Conflict Recovery**

A transitional period bounded by past war and future peace, a period which introduces a number of new challenges. During the late 1970s and 1980s, reconstruction and recovery came to revolve around the economic liberalization in places such as Sudan, Egypt, Mozambique, Latin America and elsewhere. Organizations such as the World Bank and the IMF tried to provide economic aid.

While studies demonstrated that certain arrangements could possibly mitigate SAPs' (Structural Adjustment Programs in El Salvador, Nicaragua and Guatemala) potentially harmful influence, a backlash against the liberal economic model of development began to occur in developing as well post-

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<sup>17</sup> Woodhouse, Tom, and Harvey Langholtz. *Course Author Series Editor Peacekeeping and International Conflict Resolution*.

[cdn.peaceopstraining.org/course\\_promos/picr/peacekeeping\\_and\\_international\\_conflict\\_resolution\\_english.pdf](https://cdn.peaceopstraining.org/course_promos/picr/peacekeeping_and_international_conflict_resolution_english.pdf).

<sup>18</sup> [https://arsof-history.org/articles/v4n4\\_1960s\\_page\\_1.html](https://arsof-history.org/articles/v4n4_1960s_page_1.html)

conflict countries. Macroeconomic liberation and democratization failed to provide the sorts of stability and economic growth envisioned

### **The Rise of NGOs**

During the decades NGOs controlled most recovery activities. UN ECOSOC records showed a rise in international NGOs from 893 in 1990 to 1,995 in 2000 (a 123% increase). INGOs (International Non-Governmental Organization) increased from 36 to 120 in the same period. NGOs increasingly intervened in social dynamics -inter- group relations, ethnic relations, and gender issues

### **Growth of Justice and Economic Reforms**

Justice reforms expanded, particularly transitional justice measures such as truth and reconciliation commissions, based on the belief that conflict is rooted in past injustices. Economic reforms continued to emphasize liberalization and privatization but later included livelihood programs and governance of primary exports (West Africa).

### **Debates on Governance**

'Good Governance' became a central concern despite declining state involvement. The previously accepted link between structural adjustment, democracy, social spending and good governance lost credibility.

### **The humble Consociationalism**

Emerged in the late 1990s and became mostly conceptual after 9/11, with few real-world implementations. Advocates caution against imposing radical modernization in gender norms, equity, governance or economic structures. The humble consociationalism accepts that major political, social, or economic change is possible. Some others core principals were: collaborative governance led by the recipient state, local civil society, and only secondarily the international community, the fact that international actions should seek permission to support locally owned processes rather than directing them and reflected in the rise of post-conflict reconstruction trust funds.<sup>19</sup>

## **Major Countries and Organizations Involved**

### **Bosnia and Herzegovina**

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<sup>19</sup> "The Evolution of Post-conflict Recovery." [www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/01436590903037333](http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/01436590903037333).

In 1992 the Bosnian War outbreaks, which led to the displacement and sieges of urban areas. In 1993 UN Security Council declared several Bosnian towns as 'safe zones' under the mandate of UNPROFOR, which began in 1992 to establish peace in former Yugoslavia. Later resolutions, such as the UNSC Resolution 819 and the UNSC Resolution 824 declared several new safe zones within the country and gave the Security Council authority to take action to maintain or restore international peace and security in the region. In practice, some of these 'safe areas' became tragedy zones, since a huge amount civilian would seek shelter and were exposed to attacks, sieges, massacres. The UN failed to resolve the conflict due to restricted, non-combat peacekeeping mandate (UNPROFOR), deep divisions within the Security council regarding intervention and a focus on humanitarian aid over political, military solutions.<sup>20</sup>

## Norway

Norway is widely recognized for its consistent long-term and neutral role in peacebuilding and recovery efforts worldwide. Norway specializes in making recovery zones possible and sustainable by reducing violence, enabling civilian protection and supporting post-conflict recovery. In the early 2000s in Sri Lanka Norway mediated a cease fire that allowed humanitarian access, civilian movement and temporary zones where schools and hospitals reopened. In brief Norway has played a crucial role in the creation of safe recovery zone by multiple means. Rather than relying on military forces, Norway helps create political and social conditions that allow safe zones to emerge and recovery zones to last.<sup>21</sup>

## USA

Because of their political power, military capabilities and willingness to intervene during humanitarian crises, the US has the higher influence in global actions in creating safe zones. They provided Iraq with protective zones in order to defend Kurdish civilians from Iraqi government forces, while spending \$371.1 in aid. In 2024 52.5% of foreign aid provided by the US was for economic purposes. <sup>22</sup>In addition, they coordinated lots of humanitarian aid drops and medical support for displaced Kurds, through funding for international organizations and NGOs, rather than direct drops.

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<sup>20</sup> Cutts, Mark. *NEW ISSUES in REFUGEE RESEARCH the Humanitarian Operation in Bosnia, 1992-95: Dilemmas of Negotiating Humanitarian Access*. 1999, [www.unhcr.org/sites/default/files/legacy-pdf/3ae6a0c58.pdf](http://www.unhcr.org/sites/default/files/legacy-pdf/3ae6a0c58.pdf).

<sup>21</sup> "Norway Commits \$200 Million to Greening Ukraine's Energy Sector under New Framework Agreement with UNDP." UNDP, 2025, [www.undp.org/ukraine/press-releases/norway-commits-200-million-greening-ukraines-energy-sector-under-new-framework-agreement-undp](http://www.undp.org/ukraine/press-releases/norway-commits-200-million-greening-ukraines-energy-sector-under-new-framework-agreement-undp).

<sup>22</sup>"How Much Foreign Aid Does the US Provide to Iraq?" USAFacts, 9 July 2025, [usafacts.org/answers/how-much-foreign-aid-does-the-us-provide/countries/iraq/](https://usafacts.org/answers/how-much-foreign-aid-does-the-us-provide/countries/iraq/).

They collaborated with European allies and local Kurdish groups to stabilize the region and prevent further mass displacement. This operation became a model for late international safe-zone discussions. In conclusion the US managed to provide humanitarian aid and support peace, security and economic development in lots of regions facing crisis.<sup>23</sup>

### **International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)**

Under the International Humanitarian Law (IHL), the ICRC plays a key role in promoting, facilitating and at times advocating for the creation of designated protective zones in situations of armed conflict. These zones such as hospitals, recovery zones and humanitarian corridors are intended to protect civilians and other persons not participating in hostilities, ensure access to medical care and enable the safe movement of humanitarian assistance. The ICRC acts as a neutral intermediary to negotiate corridors and temporary truces for the evacuation of civilians and delivery of humanitarian aid in besieged areas. In conclusion, The ICRC integrates recovery into its core mission by supporting communities in conflict and post conflict settings in order to promote and facilitate protected spaces where possible.<sup>24</sup>

### **UNESCO**

Has been promoting the role of culture in sustainable development for many decades. Through the collaboration with the United Arab Emirates and the International Centre for the study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM) launched training guides for Post-Conflict Heritage Recovery.<sup>25</sup> Concluding UNESCO views culture and education not as optional extras but as foundational assets for lasting peace and recovery in areas hit by conflict or disaster turning “recovery zones” into places of renewed life and opportunity.<sup>26</sup>

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<sup>23</sup> Ball, Gregory. “1991 - Operation Provide Comfort and Northern Watch.” *Air Force Historical Support Division*, [www.afhistory.af.mil/FAQs/Fact-Sheets/Article/458953/1991-operation-provide-comfort-and-northern-watch/](http://www.afhistory.af.mil/FAQs/Fact-Sheets/Article/458953/1991-operation-provide-comfort-and-northern-watch/).

<sup>24</sup> ppakter. “From Crisis to Recovery: Managing the Environmental Impacts of Armed Conflict.” *Humanitarian Law & Policy Blog*, 2 Dec. 2025, [blogs.icrc.org/law-and-policy/2025/12/02/from-crisis-to-recovery-managing-the-environmental-impacts-of-armed-conflict/](https://blogs.icrc.org/law-and-policy/2025/12/02/from-crisis-to-recovery-managing-the-environmental-impacts-of-armed-conflict/).

<sup>25</sup> “UNESCO and ICCROM Release Training Guide for Post-Conflict Heritage Recovery with the Support of the United Arab Emirates.” *ICCROM*, 19 Dec. 2024, [www.iccrom.org/news/unesco-and-iccrom-release-training-guide-post-conflict-heritage-recovery-support-united-arab](http://www.iccrom.org/news/unesco-and-iccrom-release-training-guide-post-conflict-heritage-recovery-support-united-arab).

<sup>26</sup> “UNESCO's Emergency Response.” *UNESCO : Building Peace Through Education, Science and Culture, Communication and Information*, 19 Jan. 2026, [www.unesco.org/en/emergencies](http://www.unesco.org/en/emergencies).

## World Bank

The World Bank was created for reconstruction and development in the aftermath of WWII. Since then, the world Bank has gained significant experience in interventions in this area. Since the late 1990s the World Bank has been investing in cultural heritage and providing technical assistance. It has financed to date more than 300 lending and non-lending operations that include components in historic city regeneration and cultural heritage preservation. Has put emphasis on its programs in urban development as part of the process that led to the adoption of the 2011 Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape and the integration of culture in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the New Urban Agenda.<sup>27</sup> The World Bank supports recovery zones by financing and advising post-conflict and disaster affected areas to rebuild infrastructure, restore livelihoods and strengthen long term resilience, using tools such as damage assessments and recovery frameworks to guide sustainable reconstruction.<sup>28</sup>

## Blocs Expected

### 1<sup>st</sup> Alliance

In the first alliance, the focus is on bringing together all countries that prioritize economic rebuilding, development financing, and long-term social resilience in safe recovery zone. These countries would contribute financial resources, technical expertise, and policy support aimed at restoring livelihoods, rebuilding infrastructure and strengthening local institutions. Such countries are: South Korea, Singapore, Qatar, India, China, Russia, Brazil, United Arab Emirates.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Alliance

This alliance consists of countries that prioritize immediate humanitarian aid and protection for vulnerable populations in crisis-affected areas. Their engagement would focus on emergency relief, civilian protection, access to basic services and support for displaced persons, ensuring that immediate

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<sup>27</sup> Documents & Reports - All Documents | The World Bank, [documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/708271541534427317/pdf/131856-WP-REVISED-II-PUBLIC.pdf](https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/708271541534427317/pdf/131856-WP-REVISED-II-PUBLIC.pdf).

<sup>28</sup> Group, World Bank. "World Bank Extends Additional Funding to Türkiye for Construction of Rural Homes in Earthquake-Hit Areas." *World Bank*, World Bank Group, 18 Mar. 2025, [www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2025/03/18/world-bank-extends-additional-funding-to-turkiye-for-construction-of-rural-homes-in-earthquake-hit-areas](https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2025/03/18/world-bank-extends-additional-funding-to-turkiye-for-construction-of-rural-homes-in-earthquake-hit-areas).

human needs are met within safe recovery zones. Such countries are the USA, United Kingdom, France, Sweden, Netherlands, Canada, Germany, Japan

## Timeline of Events

September 2, 1945	End of WWII <sup>29</sup>
1947	Beginning of Cold War <sup>30</sup>
December 8, 1947	Marshall's ideas are sent to the Congress <sup>31</sup>
April 3, 1948	President Truman signs the Economic Recovery Act <sup>32</sup>
1948-1950	\$13 billion are sent for reconstructions <sup>33</sup>
1950	The first conflict resolution <sup>34</sup>
1978-1982	Reconstruction and recovery came to revolve around the economic liberalization <sup>35</sup>
1991	The Soviet Union collapses <sup>36</sup>
February, 1992	The establishment of UNPROFOR <sup>37</sup>
1993	UN Security council declared several Croatian towns as 'safe zones' <sup>38</sup>
April 16, 1993	UNSC Resolution 819 <sup>39</sup>

<sup>29</sup> Woodhouse, Tom, and Harvey Langholtz. *Course Author Series Editor Peacekeeping and International Conflict Resolution*.

[cdn.peaceopstraining.org/course\\_promos/picr/peacekeeping\\_and\\_international\\_conflict\\_resolution\\_english.pdf](https://cdn.peaceopstraining.org/course_promos/picr/peacekeeping_and_international_conflict_resolution_english.pdf).

<sup>30</sup> "The Start of the Cold War 1945-55 - the Cold War - KS3 History - Homework Help for Year 7, 8 and 9." *BBC Bitesize*, [www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z77cg7h](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z77cg7h).

<sup>31</sup> "Special Message to the Congress on the Marshall Plan. | the American Presidency Project." *Ucsb.edu*, 2020, [www.presidency.ucsb.edu/documents/special-message-the-congress-the-marshall-plan](http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/documents/special-message-the-congress-the-marshall-plan).

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May 6, 1993	UNSC Resolution 824 <sup>40</sup>
April 7, 1994	The genocide of Rwanda <sup>41</sup>

## Relevant UN Resolutions, Treaties & Events

### United Nations Projected Areas (UNOPROF)

Established its headquarters in Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina; it is now headquartered in Zagreb, Croatia and deployed in Croatia. The UN Security Council judged that special interim arrangements were required in order to ensure that lasting cease fire was maintained. Its main purpose was to ensure that the UNPAs are demilitarized, through the withdrawal or disbandment of all armed forces in them, and that all persons residing in them are protected from the fear of armed attack. Currently speaking, UNPROFOR is authorized to control access to the UNPAs, to ensure that the UNPAs remain demilitarized, to monitor the functioning of the local police and lastly to ensure non-discrimination and the protection of Human rights. Outside the UNPAs military observers are to verify the withdrawal of all of all JNA and irregular forces in Croatia. The UN is also to facilitate the return, in conditions of safety and security, of civilian displaced persons to their homes in the UNPAs. <sup>42</sup>

### United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Resolution 824

Adapted on 6 May 1993, demands that any taking of territory by force cease immediately; declares that the capital city of Sarajevo and other threatened areas, such as Tuzla, Zepa, Bihac, Srebrenica and their surroundings should be treated as safe areas by all parties concerned and should be free from armed attacks and from any other hostile act. The resolution requires the withdrawal of Bosnian Serb forces, guarantying full and secure access for UNPROFOR and humanitarian agencies, and obliges all parties to cooperate with UN operations. It, also, authorizes additional UN military observers to monitor humanitarian conditions, signals readiness to adopt further measures in case of non-compliance, and states that these provisions remain in force until ceasefire, force separation and heavy-weapons supervision arrangements are implemented under the peace plan.<sup>43</sup>

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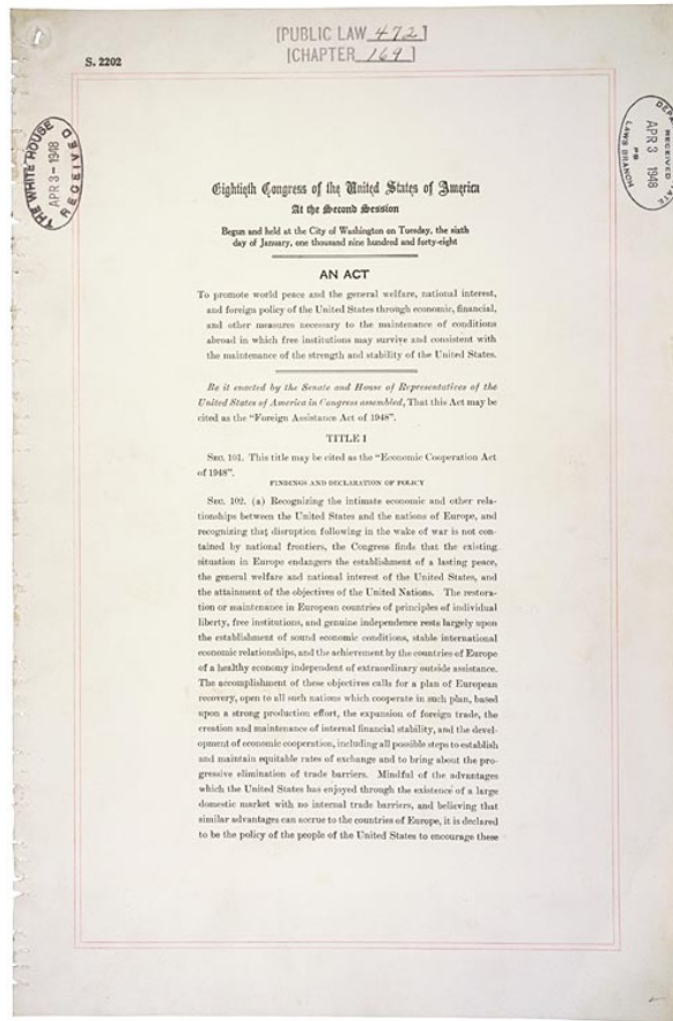
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## Previous Attempts to Solve the Issue



**Figure 2:** Depiction of the Marshall plan<sup>44</sup>

The Marshall Plan was an American initiative aiming to provide foreign aid to European countries facing the aftermath of World War II. It operated for four years, from April 3, 1948, through in 1951. The goals were to rebuild war-torn regions, remove trade barriers, modernize industry, improve European prosperity and prevent the spread of communism in Western European countries. It was named after the Secretary of State George Marshall, who in June 5, 1947, gave a speech at Harvard University proposing that the USA provide economic aid to restore economic infrastructure of postwar Europe. On December 8, 1947, President Harry Truman sent Congress a message that followed Marshall's ideas to provide economic aid to Europe. The Congress overwhelmingly passed the Economic Cooperation

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[www.kaldorcentre.unsw.edu.au/sites/kaldorcentre.unsw.edu.au/files/Policy\\_brief\\_Creating\\_safe\\_zones\\_and\\_safe\\_corridors.pdf](http://www.kaldorcentre.unsw.edu.au/sites/kaldorcentre.unsw.edu.au/files/Policy_brief_Creating_safe_zones_and_safe_corridors.pdf).

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Act of 1948. After that the President of the United States of America signed the economic Recovery Act on April 1948. The Congress offered \$13.3 billion for European Recovery, provided markets for American goods, created reliable trading partners, and supported the development of stable democratic governments in Western Europe. The largest recipient of Marshall Plan was the United Kingdom, while receiving 26% of the total aid. Although offered participation the Soviet Union Refused the plan benefits and also blocked benefits to Eastern European countries, such as Romania and Poland. All in all, the Marshall Plan generated a resurgence of European industrialization and brought extensive investment into the region.<sup>45</sup>

## Possible Solutions

### **Integrating post-conflict recovery preparedness into local governance systems and empowering local actors in leading recovery**

We have to ensure a clear division of roles and responsibilities and shared goals, backed by enabling legal and regulatory frameworks, between national and local level actors for the different phases of the recovery cycle. We, also, need effective coordination mechanisms, aligned with adopted division of responsibilities, between local and national actors and particularly between local agents and national technical sectors agents and between public, civil society and private actor at local level. Lastly, we have to strengthen local technical capacities in areas critical for risk analysis, risk reduction planning, social impact analysis, multi-stakeholder coordination and accountable management of recovery funds. Our main goal with this solution is to enhance community resilience, reduce casualties and economic losses and ensure that recovery efforts are tailored to local needs and vulnerabilities.<sup>46</sup>

### **Ensure humanitarian assistance in recovery zones**

Firstly, we have to ensure that potential risks to humanitarian operations and negative perceptions that might hinder, are identified through the collaboration with partners, including internal teams if existed. Moreover, we should build a solid understanding of humanitarian principles within the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), in order to appropriate and promote familiarity with the international normative frameworks. We could also adopt a community-based

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<sup>45</sup> "Marshall Plan (1948)." [www.archives.gov/milestone-documents/marshall-plan](http://www.archives.gov/milestone-documents/marshall-plan).

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approach that that considers age, gender, and diversity differences, aiming at meaningful participation within the zone and also in the design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of the humanitarian response. <sup>47</sup>All these measures previously stated, aim at alleviating suffering, stabilizing communities by meeting immediate needs and fostering resilience against future crises, which ultimately reduces global instability and conflict.

### **Balance the economic needs and capacities of the developing regions with insights drawn from international data**

The main purpose of this idea is to ensure that recovery strategies are both locally grounded and informed by global evidence. In order to achieve this goal international data should serve as a benchmark, leveraging global indicators to evaluate recovery needs, set achievable targets, and inform the adoption of evidence-based best practices. International recovery frameworks and development models should be adjusted too, aiming at fitting local governance capacity, social structures, and conflict dynamics. International data to guide long-term planning should be implemented, while allowing flexible, phased investments that align with the absorption capacity of developing economies.<sup>48</sup>

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