

The United Nations @ 75



When the [United Nations Charter](#) was signed on June 26, 1945, it was the culmination of an idea that began with the [League of Nations](#). In his January 1918 [Fourteen Points speech](#), U.S. President Woodrow Wilson outlined his vision for long-lasting peace after World War I. He believed that future bloodshed and armed conflicts could be avoided by establishing an international organization dedicated to resolving conflicts peacefully. In 1919, the idea became part of the [Treaty of Versailles](#), and the Covenant of the League of Nations went into effect on January 10, 1920. Although the League mediated some regional disputes, it did not have a way to enforce its authority. Additionally, it was unable to prevent World War II, and effectively ceased operations in 1940.

In August 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Prime Minister Winston Churchill met in Placentia Bay, Newfoundland. Their joint declaration, known as the [Atlantic Charter](#), contained a clause that outlined the need for a peace organization. During the [Arcadia Conference](#) in Washington, D.C., December 1941 – January 1942, Roosevelt coined the term “United Nations”, to describe the Allies fighting against [the Axis powers](#). It was subsequently used for the first time on January 1 and 2, 1942, when 26 Allied nations signed the Declaration by UN to endorse the Atlantic Charter and formalize their united war aims.

In October 1943, the foreign ministers of China, the Soviet Union, United Kingdom, and United States issued the [Moscow Declaration](#), officially calling for an international organization to replace the League of Nations. During the Teheran Conference in December, the need for an international peace organization was reaffirmed, and in August 1944, delegates from the four Moscow signatories met at the Dumbarton Oaks estate in Washington, D.C., to lay the groundwork for the United Nations.

The essence of the [Dumbarton plan](#) was that the Security Council would be responsible for preventing future wars. To allow it to fulfill its mission, member states would place armed forces at the disposal of the Council. Once the outstanding issue of the Security Council vote was resolved by the “Big Three” (Churchill, Roosevelt, and Stalin) at the Yalta Conference in February of 1945, the UN founding conference was scheduled for April 1945 in San Francisco. Although the country was in mourning due to the sudden death of President Roosevelt on April 12 1945, the conference opened as planned on April 25, 1945.

In addition to the 46 nations that signed the United Nations Declaration by 1945, the conference invited four more states. The delegates from these 50 nations, representing over 80% of the world’s population, met for two months to debate, discuss, and formalize the UN Charter. It was unanimously adopted on June 25 and signed on June 26, 1945. China, the first country affected by the Axis aggression, was given the honor of signing first. The 51st founding member, Poland, did not sign until October 15, 1945, because its government had not been recognized. Since the Charter had to be approved, the UN did not come into existence until October 24, 1945 when China, France, the Soviet Union, United Kingdom, and the United States, as well as a majority of the other signatories had ratified it.

In the 75 years since its inception, the UN has remained faithful to its original purpose of maintaining international peace and security, but its role has also expanded to include a wide range of global concerns such the environment, criminal justice, healthcare, and refugees.

According to the UN Department of Global Communications, in 2020, the UN has completed the following:

- Provided 95,000 peacekeepers involved in 13 operations around the world.
- Provided Food and assistance to 86.7 million people in 83 countries.
- Supplied vaccines to 50% of the world’s children.
- Assisted in protecting 82.5 million people fleeing war, famine, and persecution.

As with any international organization, the UN has its critics and detractors, but most leaders agree that the organization plays an important role in securing and maintaining peace, stability, and prosperity for the citizens of the world.

October 2020
Volume 1, Issue 10

Division Director’s Message



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We dedicate this edition to those ravaged by breast cancer, in particular, and cancer diseases, in general. In 2020, the [American Cancer Society \(ACS\)](#) estimates that in the United States about 276,480 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed in women, and 2,620 cases in men. Approximately 42,170 women and 520 men will die of invasive breast cancer.

We also take this opportunity to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the creation of the United Nations. The Coronavirus Global Pandemic is once again a reminder about the urgency of international cooperation. The UN and its many agencies remain a vital resource for effective international cooperation in fighting global threats.

Finally, we salute and acknowledge the contributions of more than sixty (60) million Hispanic Americans as we culminate the activities of the 2020 National Hispanic Heritage Month.

Hispanic Americans contribute to our nation beyond description. They are an embodiment of the best of our American values and they continue to leave an indelible mark in all spheres of our nation.

Please be safe.

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National Breast Cancer Awareness Month



In 1985, the [National Breast Cancer Awareness Month](#) (NBCAM) was created with collaborating efforts of the American Academy of Family Physicians, AstraZeneca Healthcare Foundation' Cancer Care, Inc., and various sponsors. Janelle Hail, founder of the [National Breast Cancer Foundation](#), was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1980 at the age of 34. At that time little information about the disease, and limited treatments existed. She started a movement to educate women around the world about breast cancer and its early detection.

Also, in 1980, Nancy G. Brinker promised her dying sister, Susan, that she would do everything in her power to end breast cancer forever. In 1982, that promise became the [Susan G. Komen](#)[®] organization and the beginning of a global movement. Today, it has grown into the world's largest nonprofit source of funding for the fight against breast cancer.

Evelyn Lauder, Senior Vice President of the Estee Lauder Companies, established [The Breast Cancer Research Foundation](#) (BCRF) in 1993 and established the pink ribbon as its symbol. Since then, 'Evelyn Lauder's life's mission has become ours: to rid the world of breast cancer. BCRF stands as a testament to her fierce dedication, keen intuition and extraordinary vision.'

The pink ribbon for breast cancer was selected because it is a color of health and stands for femininity. A blue ribbon is the symbol for men with breast cancer.

Furthermore, the Breast Cancer Research Foundation provides critical funding for cancer research worldwide for advances in tumor biology, genetics, prevention, treatment, metastasis, and survivorship. Please contact the [American Cancer Society](#) or [Florida Breast Cancer Foundation](#) for breast cancer resources in your region or city.

ABOUT US

The core mission of MDAD's Protocol and International Affairs Division is - *To facilitate the movement of official guests, delegations, dignitaries and VIPs through MIA and support the airport's international programs and initiatives.*

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BRIEFS & NOTES

UN Day: Since 1948, October 24 is celebrated worldwide as United Nations Day.

Organization: The UN has 6 main organs or bodies: General Assembly, Security Council, Economic and Social Council, Trusteeship Council, International Court of Justice, and Secretariat. All were established in 1945. One month after Palau, the last UN trust territory, gained independence, the Trusteeship Council ceased operations on November 1, 1994, but will continue to meet as needed.

Membership: In 1945, the UN had 51 members. Today, it has 193. The biggest yearly increase in membership occurred in 1960, when 17 newly independent nations, 16 from Africa, joined the UN. The last member to join, was the Republic of South Sudan in July 2011.

Non-Member Observer States: The Holy See (1964) and the State of Palestine (2012) are the only two non-member observer states.

Security Council: The Council is composed of 15 members. The five permanent members are: People's Republic of China, France, Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Ten non-permanent members are elected by the General Assembly for a two-year term each.

Secretary-General: The Secretary-General, the chief administrative officer of the UN, represents the organization's ideals and serves as a spokesperson for the people of the world. Since 1946, there have been 9 Secretary-Generals. His Excellency Antonio Guterres, who currently holds the post, started his 5-year term on January 1, 2017.

Flag and Logo: The UN logo and flag, a white central map of the world framed by two olive branches centered on a light blue field, were developed in 1945 and approved on December 7, 1946. Since then, both the logo and the flag have remained unchanged and have become symbols of the organization.

Languages: The six official UN languages are: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish. Delegates may speak in any of the official languages, and their messages are simultaneously interpreted into the other official languages.

Nobel Peace Prize: Since its founding, the UN, together with its agencies, programs and staff, have won the Nobel Peace Prize 12 times, including the 2020 Prize, awarded to the UN World Food Program (WFP) on October 9. This program is the largest humanitarian organization in the world. In 2019, the WFP assisted 97 million people in 88 countries, often in very difficult and dangerous situations.



National Hispanic Heritage Month

Each year, Americans observe [National Hispanic Heritage Month](#) from September 15 to October 15, by celebrating the histories, cultures, and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America. The observation started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting on September 15 and ending on October 15. It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988, on the approval of Public Law 100-402.



The date, September 15, is significant because it is the anniversary of independence for Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18, respectively. Also, Columbus Day or Día de la Raza, which is October 12, falls within this 30-day period.

The United States is home to [over 60 Million Hispanic Americans](#) making them the largest minority group in the country. This month recognizes and showcases the many contributions of Hispanic Americans to American culture, life and values. Hard working Hispanic Americans who have contributed so much to our lives are honored and remembered. With such a large population, it is essential that we continue to celebrate this wonderful cultural heritage and its contributions to the United States.