

OSCAR

Hospitality

United Nations Day: 24 October

24 October has been celebrated as United Nations Day since 1948.

The United Nations, as an organization, is well known to just about everyone around the world. They participate in activities ranging from assistance in times of disaster, both those coming from natural disasters and those caused by the wages of war.

They offer medical assistance to those in need in these places, as well as providing clean water, food, and places to rest and recover.

United Nations Day

United Nations Day celebrates the foundation of this great organization, and is a great opportunity for you to learn about its past, its present, and what its plans are for the future.

UN Day marks the anniversary of the entry into force in 1945 of the UN Charter. With the ratification of this founding document by the majority of its signatories, including the five permanent members of the Security Council, the United Nations officially came into being.

Ever wondered what the UN does?

Read on to find out...



What does the United Nations Do?

MAINTAIN INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

The United Nations came into being in 1945, following the devastation of the Second World War, with one central mission: the maintenance of international peace and security. The UN does this by working to prevent conflict; helping parties in conflict make peace; peacekeeping; and creating the conditions to allow peace to hold and flourish. The UN Security Council has the primary responsibility for international peace and security.



PROTECT HUMAN RIGHTS

The term “human rights” was mentioned seven times in the UN’s founding Charter, making the promotion and protection of human rights a key purpose and guiding principle of the Organization. In 1948, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights brought human rights into the realm of international law. Since then, the Organization has diligently protected human rights through legal instruments and on-the-ground activities.



DELIVER HUMANITARIAN AID

One of the purposes of the United Nations, as stated in its Charter, is “to achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character.” The UN first did this in the aftermath of the Second World War on the devastated continent of Europe, which it helped to rebuild. The Organization is now relied upon by the international community to coordinate humanitarian relief operations due to natural and man-made disasters in areas beyond the relief capacity of national authorities alone.



PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

From the start in 1945, one of the main priorities of the United Nations was to “achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion.” Improving people’s well-being continues to be one of the main focuses of the UN.



UPHOLD INTERNATIONAL LAW

The UN Charter set an objective: “to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained”. Ever since, the development of, and respect for international law has been a key part of the work of the Organization. This work is carried out in many ways – by courts, tribunals, multilateral treaties – and by the Security Council, which can approve peacekeeping missions, impose sanctions, or authorize the use of force when there is a threat to international peace and security.



Resources: <http://www.un.org/en/events/unday/index.shtml>

<http://www.un.org/en/sections/what-we-do/index.html>

<https://www.daysoftheyear.com/days/united-nations-day/>