Just Security 2020
Building a UN for the 21st Century

Stimson convenes global and regional policy dialogues to promote consensus on priority global governance reform innovations in peacebuilding and conflict management, climate governance, global cyber-economic management, human rights and humanitarian action. The Just Security 2020 project gathers thoughtful perspectives from diverse stakeholders on the future of global governance and to chart potential paths forward for consideration at the UN 75 Leaders Summit and beyond.

ADDRESSING THE UN’S GOVERNANCE DEFICIT

As the world confronts myriad, interconnected challenges—from ending civil wars and extreme poverty to combating climate change and information warfare—the very concept of global collective action is in question. The world faces a severe governance deficit, while the United Nations (UN) system is increasingly being asked to do more with less. In addition to multiple challenges and obstacles to delivering justice and security, the current world order is under attack by resurgent nationalism, protectionism, and suspicions of the legitimacy of the current multilateral system.

In 2015, the Albright-Gambari Commission on Global Security, Justice & Governance released a report with recommendations to address these challenges. To advance the analysis and recommendations of the Commission, the Stimson Center’s Just Security 2020 Project aims to build a more capable United Nations and strengthen other global institutions to better cope with existing and emerging global challenges, while promoting multilateralism.

Global institutions, such as the UN, remain central to achieving a more just and secure world. Solving complex challenges requires collective action, creative leadership, new or upgraded tools, networks and institutions. The UN and other global institutions serve nations and peoples worldwide by maintaining international peace and security, promoting sustainable development, and safeguarding human rights, but
their further innovation and a recommitment to multilateral principles are necessary to address current and emerging challenges.

BUILDING NETWORKS FOR MORE EFFECTIVE MULTILATERALISM

Stimson’s project team conducts research, policy analysis, and outreach to refresh and refine the findings and recommendations of the Albright-Gambari Commission and to pair them with other global governance renewal and strengthening ideas. The project is also building a global network through its Platform on Global Security, Justice & Governance Innovation. The platform promotes the project’s research, engages scholars and policy experts worldwide, and continues to actively support four civil society organization-led coalition building networks: the UN 2020 Initiative, Together First campaign, UN 75 Research Network, and the Global Town Halls project. The project is also focused on empowering and educating young people to ensure they have the knowledge and tools to become active global citizens and champions of effective multilateral governance.

Just Security 2020 is the only initiative focused, since 2015, on global governance change in connection with the UN’s 75th anniversary, which is reflected not only in our research but also in the diverse and committed networks we are building. In addition to co-founding dynamic global coalitions, we are leading efforts to shape the United Nations’ global conversation in 2020. Further, our inclusive and bold approach to generating public support and collaborative solutions by engaging civil society, scholars, youth, the private sector, governments and international organizations is backed up by thoughtful scholarship, is unique. The project team’s research, engaging online platform, and broader transnational activities provide a springboard for follow-on partnership development and sustained progress—post-2020—by a diverse range of state and non-state actors.

Contact
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