

International Organizations and Peaceful Change in World Politics

International organizations play an important, if imperfect, role in world politics, solving collective action problems in security, economic, environmental, and global health among others. While many believe that international organizations have formed critical pillars of global governance, skeptics contend that they reflect the power politics of the day and the interests of hegemonic powers. This volume examines whether international organizations contribute to or detract from peaceful change, acting as agents of both status quo and stasis. Providing a historical overview of international organizations, from the nineteenth century to the current day, a team of leading scholars offers an overview of how major theoretical approaches – Liberalism, Constructivism, Rationalism, Realism and the English School – have contributed to our understanding of the role played by international organizations in peaceful change. In particular, the roles of the United Nations (UN) General Assembly, UN Peacekeeping, UN Environment Programme, World Health Organization, World Trade Organization, and G20 are analyzed.

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Contents

<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>page</i> vii
<i>List of Tables</i>	viii
<i>List of Contributors</i>	ix
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xii

Part I Introduction

1 How International Organizations Promote or Detract from Peaceful Change	3
T. V. PAUL, ANDERS WIVEL AND KAI HE	

Part II Theory

2 Great Power Management, International Organizations, and the Promotion of Peaceful Change: 1815 to the Present	31
ARIE M. KACOWICZ	
3 Liberalism, Institutional Statecraft, and International Order	55
G. JOHN IKENBERRY	
4 Constructivism, International Organizations, and Peaceful Change: The Case of NATO	78
TRINE FLOCKHART	
5 When Do Rational IGOs Promote Peaceful Change?	102
DUNCAN SNIDAL	
6 Beyond the <i>Pax Americana</i> : International Organizations, “Peaceful Change,” and the Sino-American Power Shift	123
CHRISTOPHER LAYNE	

Part III Practice

7 The UN General Assembly and Peaceful Change	153
M. J. PETERSON	

vi	Contents	
8	Leveling Peace: The Role of UN Peace Missions in Peaceful Change	181
	SARAH-MYRIAM MARTIN-BRÛLÉ	
9	Fifty Years of Advancing Peaceful Change: UNEP and Global Environmental Governance	204
	MARIA IVANOVA	
10	Reconciling Science and Politics: The World Health Organization and the Advancement of Peaceful Change	225
	KELLEY LEE	
11	The “Crisis of Success” and Peaceful Change at the WTO and within the Global Trading System	249
	ASEEMA SINHA	
12	International Organizations and Peaceful Change: The Evolving Debate over the G20	273
	ANDREW F. COOPER	
Part IV Conclusions		
13	The Science of Peaceful Change	301
	IAN HURD	
14	International Organizations and Peaceful Change: Toward a Pluralistic Research Agenda	319
	ALICE CHESSE	
	<i>Index</i>	342

Figures

1.1 Dimensions of peaceful change	<i>page</i> 17
4.1 The ideal-type ordering domain: input, reflections, and output	91
9.1 US and EU contribution to the Environmental Fund (adjusted for inflation) from 1973 to 2019	214

Tables

2.1 The historical record of great power management, international organizations, and peaceful change	<i>page 53</i>
7.1 Forms and processes of peaceful change at the United Nations General Assembly	155

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x List of Contributors

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xi

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[More Information](#)

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xiii

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