



Promote Common Security Through Dialogue and Cooperation: UNSC

For Prelims: UNSC and its features, International Code of Justice.

For Mains: Promote Common Security Through Dialogue and Cooperation, UNSC Meeting.

Why in News?

Recently, India's Permanent Representative to the UN addressed a [United Nations Security Council \(UNSC\)](#) meeting on the topic 'Promote Common Security Through Dialogue and Cooperation.

- The UNSC meeting was convened at the behest of China, the president of the Security Council for August 2022 and a veto-wielding member of the **15-member Council**.

What are the Key Highlights of the Address?

- All countries **should respect each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity** and respect international agreements.
- Common security was only possible when **countries stand together on terrorism** and do not practice double standards on the issue and when they do not take unilateral measures to back out of agreements.
- India called for multilateral reform, particularly at the Security Council, saying **common security among nations could not be aspired** for if the common good of the global south was denied representation.
 - The most urgent thing is to make the Security Council more representative of developing countries so as to reflect current geopolitical realities, the **African continent** should also have permanent representation on the Council.
- An armed conflict in **one part of the world has cascading effects on the people of another**.
 - We have seen the effect of the [Ukraine Conflict](#) on other developing countries, particularly, on the supply of food grains, fertilizer and fuel.
- The impact of the [Crisis in Afghanistan](#) is still being felt throughout the region.
- China has **repeatedly blocked the attempts of India and the US at the UN to blacklist Pakistan-based terrorists**.
- While emphasizing on Common Security, India targeted China, which has **violated border pacts** by amassing its military in eastern **Ladakh in 2020**.
 - The eastern Ladakh border standoff between India and China erupted on 5th May, 2020, following a **violent clash in the Pangong lake areas**.
 - Both sides gradually enhanced their deployment by rushing in tens of thousands of soldiers as well as heavy weaponry.
- China claims nearly all of the disputed South China Sea, though Taiwan, the Philippines, Brunei, Malaysia and Vietnam all **claim parts of it**.

What is UNSC?

▪ **About:**

- The Security Council was established by the **UN Charter in 1945**. It is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations.
 - The other 5 organs of the United Nations are—the General Assembly (UNGA), the Trusteeship Council, the Economic and Social Council, the International Court of Justice, and the Secretariat.
- The UNSC, with a mandate to maintain international peace and security, is **the centrepiece of global multilateralism**.
- It selects the [UN Secretary-General](#) and plays a **co-terminus role** with the UN General Assembly in electing judges to the [International Court of Justice](#).
 - Its resolutions, adopted under **chapter VII of the UN charter**, are binding on all countries.

▪ **Composition:**

- The UNSC is composed of **15 members, 5 permanent and 10 non-permanent**.
- **Five permanent members:** China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, and the United States.
- **Ten non-permanent members:** Elected for two-year terms by the General Assembly.
 - Five from African and Asian States,
 - One from Eastern European States,
 - Two from Latin American States,
 - Two from Western European and other States.

▪ **India's Membership:**

- India has served **seven times in the UN Security Council as a non-permanent member** and in January 2021, India entered the **UNSC for the eighth time**.
- **India has been [advocating a permanent seat in UNSC](#)**.

▪ **Voting Powers:**

- Each member of the Security Council **has one vote**. Decisions of the Security Council on matters are made by **an affirmative vote of nine members including the concurring votes of the permanent members**.
- A "No" vote from one of the five permanent members **blocks the passage of the resolution**.

UPSC Civil Services Examination Previous Year Question (PYQ)

Prelims

Q. The Security Council of UN consists of 5 permanent members, and the remaining 10 members are elected by the General Assembly for a term of (2009)

- (a) 1 year
- (b) 2 years
- (c) 3 years
- (d) 5 years

Ans: (b)

Mains

Q. Discuss the impediments India is facing in its pursuit of a permanent seat in UN Security Council. (2015)

Source: TH

