The United Nations Organisation

The United Nations is an international organization which appeared in 1945 after World War II to replace the League of Nations, to stop wars between countries, and to provide a platform for dialogue.

The name "United Nations", coined by US President Franklin D. Roosevelt , was first used in the "Declaration by United Nations" of 1 January 1942, during the Second World War, when representatives of 26 nations pledged their Governments to continue fighting together against the Axis Powers.

States first established international organisations to cooperate on specific matters. The International Telecommunication Union was founded in 1865 as the International Telegraph Union, and the Universal Postal Union was established in 1874. Both are now UN specialized agencies.

In 1899, the International Peace Conference was held in The Hague to elaborate instruments for setting crises peacefully, preventing wars and codifying rules of warfare.
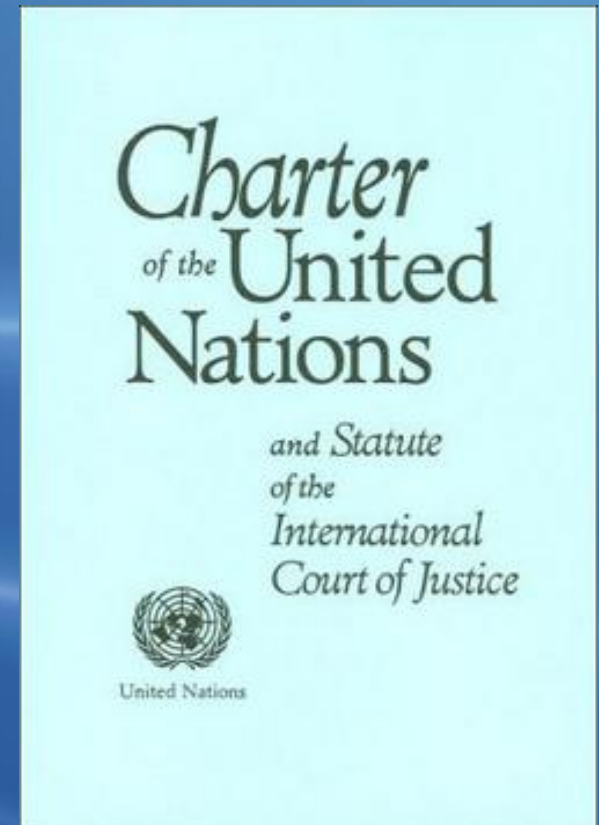
The Russian Delegation at the International Peace Conference.

The forerunner of the United Nations was the League of Nations, an organization conceived in similar circumstances during the first World War, and established in 1919 under the Treaty of Versailles "to promote international cooperation and to achieve peace and security."

In 1945, representatives of 50 countries met in San Francisco at the United Nations Conference on International Organization to draw up the United Nations Charter.

Charter of the *United Nations* and Statute of the International Court of Justice

United Nations

The Charter was signed on 26 June 1945 by the representatives of the 50 countries. Poland, which was not represented at the Conference, signed it later and became one of the original 51 Member States.

The UN officially came into existence on 24 October 1945, when the Charter had been ratified by China, France, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, the United States and by a majority of other signatories. United Nations Day is celebrated on 24 October each year.

The United Nations Headquarters resides in international territory in New York City, with further main offices at Geneva, Nairobi, and Vienna.

The organization is financed from assessed and voluntary contributions from its member states, and has six official languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish.

UN missions are made to help people fight with terrorism, hunger and to overcome the consequences of natural disasters.

UN missions are supported by some celebrities – Mother Theresa, Bono, Angelina Jolie, Shakira, Princess Diana, Beyonce.

DIANA, PRINCESS OF WALES IN ANGOLA
DURING A VISIT TO AN AREA BEING CLEARED OF
MINES BY THE HALO TRUST
PHOTO BY TIM GRAHAM

Thank you for attention