

ABSTRACT

UNITED NATIONS' PEACEKEEPING IN THE POST-COLD WAR ERA: IMPLICATIONS FOR PEACE

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The last decade of the twentieth century saw significant changes in the nature and incidence of violent conflict. The Security Council has found itself increasingly confronted with situations of intrastate conflicts and, as the tragedies of Rwanda and Somalia demonstrated, the peacekeeping tools of early years were often found to be inadequate for the new tasks. Concomitant with this shift in armed conflict is an incremental enhancement of United Nations peacekeeping operation to address these prevailing conflicts. Despite this, failures of various proportions for United Nations peacekeeping missions have resulted. This paper argues that a different conceptualization of peacekeeping is now required by showing how present day conflict has forced a different mode of operational practice upon peacekeepers. This practice must accommodate the nexus between peacemaking, peacekeeping and peacebuilding. Through the use of case studies, the thesis demonstrates that the maintenance of peace and security has taken on a broader meaning to incorporate concern for human security.

Keywords: Georgina Chami; United Nations; Galtung; Structural violence, world-system; peacekeeping and peace.