

## 34. International organizations

### United Nations

= UN, international organization of nation-states, based on the sovereign equality of its members.

- established “to maintain international peace and security”, “to develop friendly relations among nations” and “to achieve international cooperation in solving ... economic, social, cultural or humanitarian (problems)” and in “encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms”.
- members are pledged to fulfil the obligations they have assumed
- Nobel Prize for Peace in 2001
- consisting of specialized agencies:
  - World Health Organization – WHO
  - United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization – UNESCO
  - Food and Agriculture Organization – FAO
  - International Labour Organization – ILO

*Is it needed to function the UN? Why is it/it's not so important? Should the UN forces intervene in every (inter)national conflict?*

### North Atlantic Treaty Organization

= NATO. Includes countries of EU and NA.

- regional defence alliance (1949).
- NATO's original purpose was to enhance the stability, and freedom of its members by means of collective security.
- Another debate in NATO in the aftermath of the Cold War concerns to what extent it should convert itself from a purely defensive arrangement for its members' own territory into a peacekeeping organization prepared to intervene elsewhere, as it has in the former Yugoslavia.

*Should be NATO expanded into countries of former USSR? Is it really defensive system or does it serve only to richer countries' purposes?*

### North-American Free Trade Alliance

= NAFTA, economic pact = removal of tariffs and other barriers to free trade on most goods produced and sold in NA.

= signed by Canada, Mexico, and the United States in 1992 and went into effect in 1994

- world's second-largest free-trade zone (nearly 400 mil. consumers). The world's largest free trade zone is the European Economic Area, which came into effect at the same time as NAFTA
- economic requirements of a free-trade accord which includes mandates for minimum wages, working conditions, and environmental protection.

### Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries

= OPEC, headquarters = Vienna, international organization primarily concerned with coordinating the crude-oil policies of its member states.

- founded in 1960 by Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Venezuela. Then was this treaty signed by Qatar, Indonesia and Libya, United Arab Emirates, Algeria, Nigeria, Ecuador and Gabon.
- 11 member states supply over 40% of the world's crude oil and control nearly 80% of known reserves.

### Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

= OECD, headquarters = Paris, Slovakia – member since 2000

- 30 countries participating in a permanent cooperation designed to coordinate their economic and social policies.
- OECD makes available all information relevant to the formulation of national policy in every major field of economic activity.
- Principal goals:
  - to promote employment, economic growth and rising living standards in member countries, while maintaining stability
  - to contribute to economic expansion of both member and non-member nations in the process of development
  - to further the expansion of world trade on a multilateral, non-discriminatory basis in accordance with international obligations.

Council = made up of representatives from all member nations. Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA), established in 1958 to promote peaceful uses of nuclear energy and the International Energy Agency (IEA).