

The United Nations in the 21st Century (Dilemmas in World Politics)

By Karen A. Mingst, Margaret P. Karns, Alynna J. Lyon

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This popular text for courses on international organizations and international relations provides a comprehensive yet accessible introduction to the United Nations, exploring the historical, institutional, and theoretical foundations of the UN as well as the political processes and issues facing the organization today. Thoroughly revised throughout, the fourth edition focuses on major events since 2006, including the influence of emerging powers such as China, India, and Brazil, the crisis in UN peacekeeping, and the continuing decline of the UN's relevance in international economic relations. This edition also includes a new chapter on the future of the United Nations, as well as new case studies on peacekeeping in the Democratic Republic of Congo, human trafficking, and the challenges of state building for human security in Haiti.

Helpful student resources include the Charter of the United Nations, a list of acronyms, suggested resources for additional research and reading, and a glossary.

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- Sales Rank: #819341 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Westview Press
- Published on: 2011-12-27
- Released on: 2011-12-27
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.00" h x .82" w x 6.00" l, .95 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 360 pages

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Review

“This text presents a comprehensive study of the prospects and challenges for the United Nations in the twenty-first century. It is essential reading for anyone interested in international organization and global politics. The accessible and engaging writing makes it ideal for classroom use.”

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“This is a welcome update of a valuable text for courses on the United Nations, international organization, or IR. Clear organization and accessible writing make it exceptionally user-friendly for undergraduate teaching. Highlights ways the UN has adapted (or not) to new challenges of the 21st century.”

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“The newest edition of *The United Nations in the 21st Century* provides a thorough and accessible overview of the world's preeminent international organization. It is updated to include the most recent global challenges, from terrorism to piracy to global warming, and to reflect the importance of new players on the international scene. Mingst and Karns provide historical background and a detailed description of the UN system's many institutions and actors. I have used earlier editions for my undergraduate courses and am eager to adopt this new-and-improved version.”

—**Alexander Thompson, Ohio State University**

Praise for the previous edition:

From the Back Cover

Dilemmas in World Politics offers teachers and students of international relations a series of quality books on critical issues, trends, and regions in international politics.

About the Author

Karen A. Mingst is Lockwood Chair Professor, Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce and Department of Political Science, University of Kentucky.

Margaret P. Karns is Professor Emerita of Political Science, University of Dayton.

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