

## RESURGENCE OF WAR IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY: A FOCUS ON THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT

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### ABSTRACT

*Throughout history, the nature of warfare has evolved, transitioning from traditional battles fought in open spaces to modern wars characterised by advanced weaponry. Nevertheless, the repercussions of war are consistently unforeseen and catastrophic. The Israeli-Palestinian conflict has reemerged as a protracted and extremely contentious geopolitical matter in the 21st century. However, attempts to tackle the issue have been marked by intermittent instances of diplomacy, negotiation, and violence. This paper therefore examines the resurgence of war in the 21st century, with a focus on the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Hence, for the methodology, this study relied mainly on secondary sources which included information extracted from relevant journals, articles and textbooks. The findings reveal that the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has had a significant impact on the world arena for many years, influencing geopolitics, international relations, and perspectives on justice and human rights. Also, the UN's influence on the Israeli-Palestinian issue has been constrained by geopolitical constraints and the absence of agreement among member states, despite its diligent efforts. The paper concludes that; although the United Nations and other international actors play an important role, achieving lasting peace in the region ultimately relies on all parties being willing to engage in meaningful dialogue and strive towards a future built on mutual respect, equality, and justice. The paper therefore recommends that the international community should give top priority to renewing diplomatic initiatives that focus on fostering communication and negotiation between Israeli and Palestinian leaders.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Conflicts, Israeli-Palestinian War, United Nations, war.*

## **INTRODUCTION**

War has been a repeating phenomenon throughout history, influenced by many socio-political, economic, and ideological elements. However, the origins of armed confrontation can be traced back to ancient civilizations, where disputes over territory, resources, and power were frequently resolved by the use of force (Demmers, 2016). Over the course of history, the nature of war has undergone a transformation, shifting from conventional battles that took place in open areas to contemporary conflicts that are marked by sophisticated weapons, asymmetrical warfare, and the participation of several parties at local, regional, and global levels (Kaldor, 2013).

At its core, the consequences of war are vast and extensive, affecting not just the individuals engaged in conflict but also citizens, societies, and the environment. War causes extensive human suffering, leading to casualties, displacement, trauma, and the devastation of infrastructure and livelihoods (Rapoport, 2020). Furthermore, wars frequently worsen pre-existing socioeconomic disparities, intensify divisions, and sustain patterns of violence and retribution. From an economic perspective, wars deplete resources, disrupt markets, and impede development, resulting in enduring repercussions for future generations (Bangura, 2024).

However, some of the most prevalent and intense conflicts in history are the ones that have significantly influenced the development of civilizations and altered the geographical boundaries of the world. Throughout history, humanity has seen a multitude of battles, ranging from the Peloponnesian War and the Punic battles in ancient times to the Crusades and the Hundred Years' War in the medieval era (Nolan, 2017). These conflicts have had a lasting impact on communities and cultures. Also, the World Wars of the 20th century are widely recognized as the most lethal and devastating conflicts in recent history, resulting in the loss of tens of millions of lives and fundamentally altering the geopolitical map (Schoppa, 2021). The severity of these conflicts, characterized by advancements in military tactics and deliberate attacks on non-military communities, serves as a clear reminder of the disastrous outcomes of uncontrolled aggression and the urgent need to prioritize peace and diplomacy in the contemporary age.

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is a long-lasting and highly dispute

geopolitical issue in the 21st century. This conflict, which is based on historical grievances, territory disputes, religious connections, and rival national identities, has remained unresolved despite multiple efforts by international parties to facilitate peace negotiations (Munir, Baig & Haroon, 2023). The increase in violence and antagonism in recent years highlights the ongoing difficulties involved in finding a long-term solution. However, the dispute primarily centers on conflicting assertions on land ownership, namely in the historically recognized area of Palestine, encompassing modern-day Israel, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip (Weaver, 2018). Furthermore, the origins of this war may be traced back to the late 19th and early 20th centuries, when Zionist hopes for a Jewish homeland in Palestine emerged and were met with resistance by the Arab population against this process of colonization (Sabbagh-Khoury, 2023). Additionally, the division of Palestine by the United Nations in 1947 and the subsequent creation of the state of Israel in 1948 were significant events that triggered a sequence of wars and prolonged conflicts over land (Pressman, 2020).

Consequently, throughout the years, efforts to address the problem have been characterized by sporadic episodes of diplomacy, negotiation, and violence. The Oslo Accords, a peace process initiated in the 1990s, instilled optimism for a two-state solution, envisioning peaceful coexistence and security between Israel and Palestine (Sapir, 2020). However, the lack of attention given to crucial matters such as borders, refugees, and the status of Jerusalem has played a role in the continuation of tensions and occasional instances of violence. In addition, the presence of internal factions within Israeli and Palestinian populations, along with the impact of regional and international stakeholders, has added complexity to the pursuit of a lasting peace (Sapir, 2020). Consequently, in the 21st century, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has experienced a renewed outbreak of violence and animosity, characterized by occasional intensifications in the shape of wars, military campaigns, and waves of Palestinian uprisings (intifadas). However, the resurgence can be attributed to various factors, such as the ineffectiveness of peace initiatives, the growth of Israeli settlements in the occupied territories, the blockade of Gaza, and the limited economic prospects for Palestinians. In addition, the

emergence of non-state players like Hamas in Gaza and the fragmentation of Palestinian leadership have introduced new complexities to the conflict, which pose challenges to conventional approaches to resolving conflicts (Qarmout, 2024).

Thus, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has wide-ranging ramifications that transcend geographical boundaries, affecting regional stability, global security, and the broader endeavor for peace and justice. Furthermore, the significant impact on human lives, such as casualties, forced migration, and human rights abuses, highlights the immediate necessity for a solution. However, the continuation of the war acts as a call to arms for extremist beliefs and hampers endeavors to promote discourse, comprehension, and reconciliation in a swiftly evolving world.

## **CONCEPTUAL CLARIFICATION**

### **War**

The word "war" in English originated from the Old English words "wyrre" and "werre" in the 11th century. These phrases were derived from the Old French word "werre" (also known as "guerre" in contemporary French), which in turn came from the Frankish word "\*werra". Ultimately, the Frankish word may be traced back to the Proto-Germanic word "\*werzô" meaning "mixture" or "confusion". The term is derived from the Old Saxon *werran*, Old High German *werran*, and the contemporary German *verwirren*, which all signify 'to confound, to perplex, to bring into confusion' (Pillai, Kurup & Chellarian, 2021). However, war is a highly intense and violent confrontation involving the use of weapons and military forces. It can occur between countries, governments, society, or non-governmental armed groups like mercenaries, insurgents, and militias. It is typically defined by the presence of intense violence, widespread destruction, and high mortality rates, involving both regular and irregular military forces (Mirza & Mushtaq, 2021).

War, according to military theorist Carl von Clausewitz, is a structured and forceful clash between political entities, such as states or factions, that entails collective participation. Over the course of history, intellectuals such as John Keegan have carefully examined the

development of warfare, paying close attention to changes in strategies, advancements in technology, and the political context that have influenced its various forms (Lucas Jr., 2019). However, some scholars emphasize multiple factors that contribute to the outbreak of war, such as territorial disputes, resource conflicts, power dynamics, and ideological divergences (Caballero-Anthony & Emmers, 2022; Mohan, 2022). These elements, in conjunction with ethnic or religious tensions, frequently function as catalysts for armed conflict, resulting in immense human suffering and devastation.

Furthermore, argues that the repercussions of war go well beyond the physical fighting, affecting society, economies, and individuals (Bauer, et al., 2016). The consequences of war, ranging from losses and displacement to infrastructure destruction and psychological anguish, are deep and long-lasting (Vahidniya, Hasani & Kamali, 2024). Thus, Warfare encompasses the typical actions and attributes associated with different sorts of war, or with warfare in general.

## **THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

This paper adopts the realism theory of international relations. Realism is a fundamental theory in the field of international relations that originated after World War I and became significant throughout the Cold War period (Guzzini, 2013). The roots of this theory can be attributed to intellectuals like Thucydides, Machiavelli, and Hobbes, who delved into the influence of power, security, and state interests on the formation of global politics (Groom, Barrinha & Olson, 2019). However, the theory emerged as a separate theoretical framework in the 20th century through the contributions of researchers such as Hans Morgenthau, E.H. Carr, and Kenneth Waltz (Fels & Fels, 2017).

A fundamental principle of realism is its emphasis on power dynamics and the endeavour of governments to ensure their security within an anarchic global system. Realists contend that states are the principal entities in international relations, and their conduct is motivated by their pursuit of power maximisation and self-preservation in a competitive

milieu. However, the quest for power frequently results in disputes around resources, territory, and influence (Dyson & Dyson, 2010).

Furthermore, realism posits that states are rational entities that prioritise their own interests above all other considerations. Additionally, it presupposes that the global system is marked by a dearth of centralised power, resulting in an ongoing condition of rivalry and discord. Again, realists highlight the significance of military strength, alliances, and strategic calculations in influencing the actions of states (Narizny, 2017).

The strengths of realism lie in its emphasis on empirical observations and its capacity to elucidate patterns of conflict and cooperation in the realm of international affairs. The theory offers a coherent structure for examining the actions of states and forecasting results based on power dynamics. However, realism theory has been criticized for its focus on power politics and its tendency to neglect the influence of non-state actors, norms, and ideas in influencing international relations (Drezner, 2021).

By employing a realist perspective to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the theory reveals how the distribution of power, national objectives, and concerns over security have shaped the actions of Israel, Palestine, and other entities in the area. The conflict is defined by conflicting assertions for land, resources, and national identity, resulting in prolonged periods of bloodshed and instability. However, a realist perspective would prioritise issues such as Israel's military capability, Palestinian resistance activities, and the influence of regional powers in determining the distribution of power.

The significance of realism in this research is in its capacity to offer a structure for understanding the fundamental dynamics of the Israeli- Palestinian conflict. Realism emphasises power dynamics and state interests, highlighting the structural limitations and motivations that influence the actions of the parties involved.

## **WAR THROUGH THE AGES**

This comprehensive exploration explains the history of war in human history, tracing the development of warfare from ancient times to modern-

day conflicts, starting with the onset of World War I in 1914. World War I, sometimes known as the First World War, was a worldwide battle that took place between two groups of countries: the Allies and the Central Powers. Conflict occurred in Europe, the Middle East, Africa, the Pacific, and certain regions of Asia. The onset of World War I in 1914 marked the beginning of a new era of warfare characterized by industrialization, with mechanized combat and advanced weaponry. This worldwide struggle, lasting until 1918, fundamentally altered the geopolitical configuration of the 20th century, establishing the foundation for future conflicts and influencing the course of nations (Strachan, 2017).

However, the period between World War I and World War II, characterized by significant geopolitical changes and economic instability, provided the conditions for the outbreak of World War II in 1939. The Second World War, was a worldwide battle that occurred between two significant coalitions: the Allies and the Axis countries. Almost all countries in the globe, including all major powers, participated in these military alliances (Hedinger, 2017). Until 1945, this catastrophic conflict engulfed the entire world and was characterized by extensive mobilization, genocide, and the unparalleled use of nuclear weapons. The consequences that followed served as a catalyst for the Cold War, dividing the world into opposing blocs led by the United States and the Soviet Union (Kesternich, et al., 2014).

Consequently, the Cold War followed this period and was a period of geopolitical tension between the United States and the Soviet Union, together with their allies in the Western Bloc and the Eastern Bloc. It began in 1947, two years after the conclusion of World War II, and continued until 1991, which marked the collapse of the Soviet Union. The war occurred amidst a context of ideological conflict, nuclear threats, and indirect conflicts (Painter, 2014).

The Korean War (1950-1953) and the Vietnam War (1955-1975) also represented the worldwide struggle for dominance, among the complexities of asymmetrical warfare in the post-colonial era. The Korean

War commenced on June 25, 1950, when North Korea initiated an unforeseen invasion of South Korea, igniting a fierce struggle that endured for three years until an armistice was ratified on July 27, 1953 (Campbell, 2014). The Vietnam War, which lasted from November 1, 1955, until the fall of Saigon on April 30, 1975, involved Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia in a long and difficult conflict. The Vietnam War was a significant battleground during the Cold War, highlighting the larger ideological struggle between communism and capitalism (Berni, 2021). Both battles demonstrated the geopolitical tensions and proxy confrontations that were typical of the Cold War period, resulting in lasting impacts on the regions involved and altering global security dynamics.

Furthermore, the end of the Cold War in 1991 raised hopes for a new period of peace and cooperation, but the following decades was marked by ongoing regional conflicts and emerging security risks. The Gulf War (1990-1991), the Yugoslav Wars in the 1990s, and the Rwandan genocide in 1994 highlighted the difficulties of preserving balance in a rapidly changing global system. The Gulf War, which took place from August 2, 1990, to February 28, 1991, was a coalition of 35 nations led by the United States.

The purpose of this military intervention was to counter Iraq's invasion and annexation of Kuwait (Klare, 2013). Simultaneously, the breakup of Yugoslavia sparked a sequence of hostilities, such as the Ten-Day War instigated by the Yugoslav People's Army on June 26, 1991, in retaliation to Slovenia's proclamation of independence the day before. This signaled the beginning of the Yugoslav Wars, which were defined by conflicts between different ethnic groups and disputes over land (Ritler, 2017). The Rwandan genocide occurred during the Rwandan Civil War from April 7 to July 19, 1994. It was the organized killing of Tutsi civilians by Hutu forces (Guichaoua, 2020). These conflicts, which happened in a relatively short period of time, highlighted the complex interaction between regional tensions, ethnic differences, and geopolitical interests that

characterized the post-Cold War era. They had a significant impact on their respective regions and global security dynamics.

However, warfare in the 21st century has taken on new forms due to the emergence of asymmetrical threats, cyber warfare, and terrorism. The September 11 attacks in 2001 and the subsequent War on Terror caused a significant shift in global security strategies, leading to military deployments in Afghanistan, Iraq, and other areas affected by extremist uprisings (Rogers, 2016). In addition, the widespread availability of weapons capable of causing massive harm and the rise of non-state entities have created unprecedented obstacles to global stability. The protracted Syrian Civil War (2011-present), the Yemeni crisis, and the Ukraine-Russia war (since 2022) highlight the enduring complexities of contemporary warfare and the urgent need for collaborative peace building efforts.

Furthermore, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is a persistent military and political dispute concerning territorial control and the right to self-governance within the region previously known as Mandatory Palestine implies current hotspots that require immediate diplomatic attention and settlement. These wars demonstrate the various forms of modern warfare, emphasizing the urgent need to promote diplomacy, cooperation, and conflict resolution in a volatile global environment.

### **GLOBAL RESURGENCE OF WAR; A PRECEDING CONTEXT**

Reflecting a move from post-Cold War stability to more unpredictability, the world has seen a disturbing comeback of violent conflicts in recent years. Though geographically separated, a number of wars that share underlying patterns of instability, geopolitical manoeuvring, and unresolved historical grudges define the rebirth of war internationally. This revived violence trend is not exceptional but rather fits a larger pattern that preceded the most recent Israeli-Palestinian war.

One prominent example of this resurgence is the ongoing Syrian Civil War, which began in 2011. From a domestic rebellion against the Assad

government, the conflict has developed into a sophisticated international proxy war involving many state and non-state players including the United States, Russia, Iran, and several terrorist organisations. Apart from major humanitarian issues, the war has led to regional instability and conditions that have helped ISIS to grow and aggravated sectarian conflicts in the Middle East. Thus, the Syrian crisis illustrates how local struggle may turn into more general regional disputes having worldwide consequences (Phillips, 2022).

Another major conflict is the war raging in Yemen, started in 2014 when Houthi rebels took over Sanaa, the capital, prompting intervention by a coalition headed by Saudi Arabia. With extensive starvation, disease, and civilian losses, the conflict has evolved into among the most severe humanitarian disasters of the twenty-first century. However, as Saudi Arabia and Iran fight for dominance, the war in Yemen emphasises the junction of local grievances with regional power struggles and shows how worldwide rivalries could feed and prolong regional conflicts (Bano, 2024).

Furthermore, the Russian takeover of Crimea in 2014 and the ensuing fighting in Eastern Ukraine have been key in Eastern Europe's military tensions' revival (Pospelov, 2020). Russia's relations with Western nations have been strained by the annexation, judged illegal by most of the world, and support of separatist forces in the Donbas, which resulted in economic sanctions and a fresh arms race. This battle is typical of how territorial disputes and nationalistic aspirations may cause whole areas to be unstable and attract outside forces (Pospelov, 2020).

Also, the war in the South China Sea provides a prime illustration of how maritime conflicts could aggravate world and regional tensions (Macaraig & Fenton, 2021). Along with rival claims from nations like Vietnam and the Philippines, China's territorial claims have resulted in military clashes and more global scrutiny. The complicated interaction of national interests, strategic control of resources, and international law

shown by the South China Sea conflict has helped to create geopolitical uncertainty (Macaraig & Fenton, 2021). These conflicts, each distinct in their causes and contexts, collectively illustrate a global trend towards increased warfare and instability.

## **OVERVIEW OF THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT**

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is an ongoing military and political dispute concerning territorial control and the right to self-governance within the region previously known as Mandatory Palestine. The dispute revolves around several crucial elements, namely the Israeli control over the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the status of Jerusalem, Israeli settlements, borders, security, water rights, the permit system, Palestinian freedom of movement, and the Palestinian right of return (Waxman, 2019). The conflict stems from the emergence of Zionism in Europe and the migration of Jewish settlers to Ottoman Palestine during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The indigenous Arab people expressed strong opposition to Zionism, particularly due to apprehensions of potential territorial displacement and dispossession. However, the Zionist movement obtained the endorsement of a dominant power with the 1917 Balfour Declaration released by Britain, which pledged to back the establishment of a "Jewish homeland in Palestine". After the Ottoman Empire was defeated in World War I, Mandatory Palestine was created as a British mission. The escalation of tensions between Jews and Arabs led to intercommunal conflict. In 1936, an Arab uprising ensued, advocating for self-determination, which was quelled by the British authorities (Khalidi, 2020).

However, the implementation of the 1947 United Nations Partition Plan for Palestine resulted in the outbreak of the 1948 Palestine war. This conflict led to the displacement and departure of the majority of Palestinian Arabs, the creation of Israel on a significant portion of the Mandate's land, and the subsequent rule of the Gaza Strip by Egypt and the West Bank by Jordan. During the 1967 Six-Day War, Israel took control of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, which are now referred to as the Palestinian territories (Totten,

2017). This occupation is currently recognized as the longest in modern history and has received international criticism for its infringement on the human rights of the Palestinians (Totten, 2017).

Since its beginning, the conflict has resulted in numerous civilian casualties, predominantly among the Palestinian population. Multiple endeavors have been undertaken to address the problem within the framework of the Israeli-Palestinian peace process, in conjunction with endeavors to address the wider Arab-Israeli conflict. The Oslo Accords of 1993-1995 marked significant advancement in the efforts to reach a mutually agreed-upon resolution between the Israeli government and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO)(Sapir, 2020). However, most contemporary peace initiatives have focused on the two-state solution, which entails the creation of a sovereign Palestinian state alongside Israel. In recent years, the level of public endorsement for a two-state solution, which was formerly backed by both Israeli Jews and Palestinians, has significantly declined (Ben-hagai&Zubriggen, 2019). Consequently, the Quartet on the Middle East, comprised of the United Nations, the United States, Russia, and the European Union, had also facilitates official conversations. The Arab League, which has put up the Arab Peace Initiative, is another significant participant, with Egypt and Jordan. Since 2006, the Palestinian territory has been divided between Fatah, which exercises power over the Palestinian Authority in the West Bank, and Hamas, which has taken control of the Gaza Strip (Høigilt, 2016). However, the recent escalation of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, particularly the latest round of fighting that began in 2023, can be attributed to a complex interplay of factors. Primarily, the collapse of peace negotiations that began in July 2013 and were halted in 2014 left a significant void in diplomatic efforts. This stagnation has exacerbated frustrations on both sides. On the Israeli side, the political landscape has been marked by instability and shifting priorities, with some factions adopting more aggressive stances toward Hamas. Concurrently, Hamas has intensified its military activities, partly in response to ongoing economic blockades and deteriorating conditions in Gaza, which it uses to bolster its

position domestically and regionally. The convergence of these factors has contributed to a volatile environment where periodic escalations have become increasingly frequent, demonstrating the challenges of achieving a lasting resolution amidst persistent animosities and political turmoil.

While efforts to address this conflict have been ongoing and persistent; since 2019, the Israeli side has also been facing a political dilemma. The most recent cycle of peace negotiations commenced in July 2013 but were subsequently halted in 2014. Starting from 2006, Hamas and Israel have engaged in five armed conflicts, with the latest one commencing in 2023 and still ongoing till date.

### **IMPACTS OF THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT ON THE GLOBAL STAGE**

Undoubtedly, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has had a significant impact on the world arena for many years, influencing geopolitics, international relations, and perspectives on justice and human rights. An important consequence is its effect on the stability of the Middle East. The conflict intensifies regional tensions, frequently extending into neighboring countries and adding to wider turmoil. The instability in the Middle East has significant consequences for global security, given its importance as a key center for energy resources and a focus point for major global powers (Ayer, et al., 2017).

Furthermore, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has consistently caused tension in global diplomacy. The endeavor to mediate peace agreements and accomplish a two-state resolution has engaged multiple nations and global institutions, utilizing substantial diplomatic assets and focus (Pratiwi, Syarafi & Nauvarian, 2022). However, the inability to end the dispute weakens wider peace efforts and promotes doubt about the effectiveness of international diplomacy, which affects the credibility of global governance systems.

From an economic standpoint, the conflict has hindered the progress and prosperity of the region. Both Israelis and Palestinians experience the

economic repercussions of prolonged conflict, such as trade limitations, infrastructure destruction, and obstacles to investment. The presence of instability and insecurity acts as a deterrent to foreign investment and obstructs economic cooperation, hence prolonging cycles of poverty and misery (Pankina, 2019). However, these economic consequences have a broader impact, influencing worldwide markets and trade dynamics.

Furthermore, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has significant humanitarian ramifications, characterized by extensive human rights violations and civilian distress. The recurring pattern of violence, which encompasses military operations, airstrikes, and rocket attacks, does significant damage to civilian populations, intensifying the effects of displacement, trauma, and loss of life. The worldwide view of justice and moral duty is influenced by the international community's response to these humanitarian crises, which in turn affects policy regarding intervention, aid, and the enforcement of human rights (Mahwati & Nanda, 2022). Thus, the conflict has wide-ranging effects that extend beyond the region's borders, influencing global security, diplomacy, economics, and humanitarian endeavors.

### **ASSESSMENT OF THE ROLE OF UNITED NATIONS ON THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT**

The United Nations (UN) has been instrumental in dealing with the Israeli- Palestinian issue since its inception. However, the organisation's efficacy has been subject to debate and criticism. The United Nations primarily focuses on diplomatic initiatives, providing humanitarian aid, and advocating for international law and human rights norms in relation to the war. Also, they have played a crucial role in facilitating discussions and negotiations among member states about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, serving as a significant diplomatic arena. Furthermore, the General Assembly and Security Council have issued multiple resolutions urging for the peaceful resolution of the conflict, cessation of occupation, and the creation of a Palestinian state alongside Israel (Pons Rafols, 2024). However, the execution of these decisions is frequently hindered by

political divides and the absence of effective enforcement measures.

In terms of humanitarian efforts, the UN agencies, such as the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), have a crucial function in offering aid to Palestinian refugees and meeting their fundamental need, such as education, healthcare, and shelter (Canton, 2021). Nevertheless, the insufficiency of funds and the influence of political forces have placed significant strain on the operations of UNRWA, thereby exposing numerous Palestinians to the risks of poverty and insecurity.

Furthermore, the United Nations has endeavored to maintain and enforce international law and principles of human rights in relation to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The UN Human Rights Council conducts frequent investigations and issues reports on human rights breaches perpetrated by both parties, encompassing unlawful killings, arbitrary detention, and the growth of settlements in the occupied territories (Falk, Dugard & Lynk, 2023). Again, Israel and its allies frequently oppose these endeavors, alleging that the United Nations exhibits bias and partisanship.

From another perspective, the UN's influence on the Israeli- Palestinian issue has been constrained by geopolitical constraints and the absence of agreement among member nations, despite its diligent efforts. The exercise of veto power by permanent members of the Security Council, notably the United States, has impeded substantial measures to address the conflict, resulting in feelings of dissatisfaction and disillusionment among Palestinians and their advocates (Falk, Dugard & Lynk, 2023). In addition, the credibility of the United Nations has been weakened by accusations of inconsistent application of rules and biased enforcement, which adds to the complexity of its function as a mediator and peacekeeper.

While the United Nations has made efforts to deal with the Israeli- Palestinian conflicts using diplomatic, humanitarian, and legal methods, its ability to achieve results has been hindered by political disagreements, unequal distribution of power, and conflicting interests among its member

nations. However, the United Nations continues to be an essential platform for discussion, promotion, and global unity in the quest for a fair and enduring resolution to the war.

## **CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

In conclusion, the resurgence of war in the 21st century, as seen by the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict, highlights the long-lasting difficulties of settling deeply rooted disagreements in the middle of a complicated network of geopolitical interests, historical grievances, and humanitarian emergencies. In spite of several international endeavors, like as diplomatic initiatives, humanitarian aid, and legal interventions, the conflict continues to persist, causing tremendous misery to both Israelis and Palestinians and having far-reaching effects on the global arena.

Furthermore, in the 21st century, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict highlights the crucial importance of continuous international involvement, dedication to protecting human rights and international law, and attempts to address the underlying causes of conflict. Although the United Nations and other international actors play an important role, achieving lasting peace in the region ultimately relies on all parties being willing to acknowledge the legitimate aspirations and rights of one another, engage in meaningful dialogue, and strive towards a future built on mutual respect, equality, and justice.

Based on the highlights of this paper, the following recommendations are pertinent. Firstly, the international community should give top priority to renewing diplomatic initiatives that focus on fostering communication and negotiation between Israeli and Palestinian leaders. This involves renewing multilateral frameworks like the Quartet on the Middle East and utilizing the knowledge and neutrality of international mediators. Promoting unmediated, in-person discussions with well-defined guidelines and deadlines for advancement can foster the restoration of confidence and forward movement towards a complete accord for peace. In addition, involving regional stakeholders, such as Arab states and neighboring countries, can offer crucial assistance and motivations for both parties to make compromises and achieve a lasting settlement.

Secondly, it is crucial to tackle the underlying socio-economic factors of the conflict in order to establish lasting stability and promote reconciliation. The international community should give utmost importance to investing in economic development projects that prioritize the creation of jobs, expansion of infrastructure, and growth of the private sector in both Israel and the Palestinian territories. This encompasses the relaxation of trade limitations, the promotion of economic collaboration across borders, and the encouragement of entrepreneurial endeavors and innovative practices. Economic growth can mitigate grievances, decrease reliance on aid, and foster a favorable atmosphere for peace building by enhancing living standards and chances for prosperity.

Additionally, in light of the significant impact on human welfare caused by the conflict, it is imperative to increase the level of commitment in delivering vital assistance and safeguarding vulnerable people, including Palestinian refugees and civilians residing in regions affected by the conflict. International organizations, such as United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations, ought to be allocated additional cash and resources to enhance their humanitarian endeavors, encompassing emergency aid, healthcare services, and psychosocial support. Furthermore, it is imperative to prioritize the secure and unimpeded transportation of humanitarian assistance, encompassing the provision of vital services and safeguarding against acts of aggression, in compliance with established international humanitarian regulations.

Lastly, it is essential to establish bottom-up efforts that support conversation and shared comprehension between Israelis and Palestinians in order to cultivate a culture of peace and harmonious coexistence. Civil society organizations, religious leaders, educators, and youth groups have the ability to significantly contribute to the facilitation of interpersonal interactions, the promotion of tolerance and acceptance of differences, and the questioning of preconceived notions and biases. Also, international assistance and financial resources should be focused on strengthening these activities and establishing forums for cross-community discussions, cultural interaction, and collaborative endeavors that advance common interests and principles.

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