

International Organizations

NATO



NATO pt. 1

Who: The United States, Canada, & European Allies

Purpose: Safeguard the security & freedom of its members

How to join/who can join: Open to any European country who wants to further Euro-Atlantic security and is willing to defend their allies

Benefits: Bolsters economic ties, provides security benefits, and spreads liberalism around the world

The “Trump Factor”: Trump thinks NATO members aren't spending enough

Extra info: Originally founded after WWII as a way to contain the USSR's influence; the US is the big player in NATO, comprising 70% of funding.

NATO pt. 2

How:

- Broader security network of over forty countries from around the world, including in Africa, Asia, and the Mediterranean.
- Crisis management tools like relief supplies (Hurricane Katrina)
- Implementation of peace agreements (Bosnia)
- Enforcement of UN peace mandates (Libya, Somalia)
- Intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance (illegal trafficking)
- Mutual defense treaties (“an attack on one is an attack on all” -- 9/11)

United Nations



UN pt. 1

Who: Basically every country in the world (Palestine, Taiwan, and Kosovo do not have full membership though).

Purpose: Promote international peace & friendly relationships between states.

How to join/who can join: “Peace-loving” states that can carry out the UN charter

Benefits: Bolsters economic ties, provides security benefits, and improves global diplomacy.

The “Trump Factor”: Trump disregards the far-reaching powers of the UN

Extra info: Originally founded after WWII as a way to prevent future conflicts & has a ton of sub-councils.

UN pt. 2

How:

- UN Peacekeepers to help stabilize countries
- Crisis management tools like relief supplies & foreign aid (Haiti)
- Help broke peace treaties (Somalia)
- International sanctions (Iran)
- To investigate member disputes & human-rights violations

ICC



ICC pt. 1

Who: 123 members, although there are lots of notable non-members like the US.

Purpose: Investigates individuals charged with the gravest crimes, like crimes against humanity.

How to join/who can join: Basically any country willing to help the ICC in finding criminals.

Benefits: Ensures human rights are protected around the globe

The “Trump Factor”: Trump recently authorized sanctions & visa restrictions on ICC personnel

Extra info: 1 in 5 countries hasn't fully paid the ICC dues, which hurts their investigatory powers.

ICC pt. 2

How:

- The ICC only prosecutes cases of member states when those states are either 1) unwilling to or 2) unable to
- Facilitates a democratic trial & helps provide survivors with an outlet (called victim participation).
- Victims can also secure reparations. ICC can try different things are war crimes (like destruction of cultural heritage).
- If deemed guilty, the people in question are convicted. However, while there are 40 current indictments, there have only been 2 ever convicted: Thomas Lubanga & Bosco Ntaganda

IMF



IMF pt. 1

Who: Basically the entire world (189 members).

Purpose: It ensures the stability of the international financial system and helps countries alleviate their economic crises.

How to join/who can join: A country must be approved by a majority of other member nations.

Benefits: Ensures global monetary stability.

The “Trump Factor”: Surprisingly, there has been little confrontation.

Extra info: As of 2016, the IMF had a fund of \$667 billion, which it gets through quotas.

IMF pt. 2

How:

- Surveillance: the IMF regularly monitors economic development & conducts in-depth appraisals of each member's economy, discussing how they can further grow.
- Technical assistance & training: If surveillance is the “diagnosis” this is the “prognosis.” The IMF helps provides practical guidance and training on how to upgrade institutions, and design appropriate macroeconomic, financial, and structural policies
- Lending & bailouts, paired with substantive policy changes and austerity.



EU pt. 1

Who: European countries (27 member states).

Purpose: Establishes a unified economic and monetary system, promotes peace, breaks down trade barriers, encourages scientific developments

How to join/who can join: A country must implement all EU regulations, meet the “conditions for membership” (be a stable democracy, free-market economy, etc.), approved by Parliament

Benefits: Stronger economy

The “Trump Factor”: Trump doesn't like US' trade relationship with EU

Extra info: Britain just pulled out of the EU (Jan 2020)

EU pt. 2

How:

- Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU): Interprets EU laws and settles disputes. Can impose financial penalties on member states who violate laws.
- European Parliament: Approve EU laws, approve member states, approve European Council members, approve international trade agreements
- European Commission: proposes laws, manages the budget, implements decisions, issues regulations, and represents the EU around the world. If a country fails to adhere to EU laws, the Commission can take legal action against the country.
- European Central Bank: manages the euro and regulates the EU banking system. Also has lent money to countries in the eurozone as a last resort.

World Health Organization



**World Health
Organization**

WHO pt. 1

Who: Almost every country in the world (excludes Liechtenstein, Taiwan, Palestine, the Cook Islands, and Niue)

Purpose: It promotes health, keeps the world safe, and serves the vulnerable

How to join/who can join: Countries must ratify the treaty known as the Constitution of the World Health Organization

Benefits:

The “Trump Factor”: [Trump is officially withdrawing the United States from the World Health Organization](#)

Extra info: Founded in 1948 from the United Nations

WHO pt. 2

How:

- Coordinates international responses to health emergencies
- Sets health standards and guidelines
- Advocates for providing health coverage to one billion people
- Relies on member states to monitor and report crises
- Can declare a PHEIC, or a Public Health Emergency of International Concern wherein the WHO issues guidance to its members on how to respond in a crisis (EX: Travel and trade restrictions)
- Receives funding primarily from donations and mandatory payments from its member states; distributes supplies to member states (like tests and personal protective equipment)

OPEC



(Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries) pt. 1

Who: 16 Members; 5 in the Mideast, 7 in Africa, 1 in South America.

Purpose: Create a cohesive set of oil policies within its member states in order to stabilize the oil market, and keep oil profits high for member states.

How to join/who can join: Must have a substantial net export of crude oil, and get a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority of all full members, and approval from all founding members (Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela)

Benefits: Protects oil profits and stability.

The “Trump Factor”: He has an inconsistent stance on the group

Extra info: “OPEC+ refers to all non-OPEC countries that export crude oil.

OPEC member states produce 40% of all oil.

OPEC pt. 2

How:

- Control Supply: By increasing or reducing how much oil is produced, OPEC keeps prices stable by manipulating the supply/demand relationship. When they reduce the amount of oil being produced, oil prices go up, because there is less supply. Likewise, when they increase how much is being produced prices go down.
- Sometimes, member states will not abide by production targets, which can also affect oil prices because it makes OPEC less effective, and makes the economies less certain.
- Negotiate deals with OPEC+ members to further control markets. This was attempted when prices were plummeting at the beginning of the Pandemic.

The African Union



African Union pt. 1

Who: 55 African Nations

Purpose: Help get rid of the vestiges of colonialism & facilitate African cooperation

How to join/who can join: Any African country

Benefits: Bolsters economic ties, provides security benefits, and strengthens democracy in Africa.

The “Trump Factor”: [AU has worked to bolster ties with the US; still mad about his 2018 comments](#)

Extra info: This is a relatively new organization and was founded in 2002. They also operate very similar to the EU.

African Union pt. 2

How:

- Removed restrictive visas to facilitate easier movement across the continent
- Adopted human rights initiatives and resolutions
- Help finance important projects by utilizing the African Monetary Fund, the African Central Bank, and the African Investment Bank
- Broker trade deals like the ACFTA
- Regional peacekeeping (Somalia)

ASEAN



ASEAN pt. 1

Who: Southeast Asian Nations

Purpose: Help promote greater ties amongst Southeast Asian countries

How to join/who can join: Any Southeast Asian country

Benefits: Bolsters economic ties, provides security benefits, and provides a forum for discussion

The “Trump Factor”: The US has been a pretty close ally with ASEAN

Extra info: Their collective GDP is \$2.8 trillion

ASEAN pt. 2

How:

- Established a free trade area to significantly boost trade in the region
- Adopted human rights initiatives and resolutions & established a commission to oversee 10 countries.
- Promoting stability by making ASEAN a nuclear-free zone
- Helped with economic development, including with financial integration, food security, and job training.
- Military exercises, but beyond that is pretty toothless. Look at the SCS & the “ASEAN way”

The World Bank



The World Bank pt. 1

Who: 189 member countries, so basically the entire world.

Purpose: To reduce poverty by offering assistance in poorer nations

How to join/who can join: Any country approved by a majority of member states

Benefits: Bolsters economic ties and human rights

The “Trump Factor”: [Trump has for the World Bank to stop financing in China](#)

Extra info: In 2019, they lended about \$9 billion in 54 different operations. They have two principal goals for 2030: 1) end extreme poverty, reducing the number of people living on \$1.90 a day to less than 3% and 2) promote shared prosperity by growing the incomes of the bottom 40% in every country.

The World Bank pt. 2

How:

- Providing low-interest loans in important areas like education & public health
- Manage the Clean Technology Fund and, in 2017, they stopped financing fossil fuel development.
- They help with knowledge sharing, offering support to developing countries through policy advice, research and analysis, and technical assistance.
- Launched several global food security programs as well, partnering with organizations like the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.