

**STRUCTURAL AND FUNCTIONAL ANALYSIS OF THE UN'S
ACTIVITIES TO STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL TOLERANCE AND
THE EXPERIENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN**

SHARIPOVA GUZAL USMANBEKOVNA

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Historical Sciences Department of History and
Source Studies of Islam – IRCICA, International Academy of Islamic Studies of
Uzbekistan11, A. Kadriy, 100011, Tashkent, Uzbekistan g.sharipova@iiu.uz

ISLOMQULOVA MALIKA ALIBEK QIZI

first-year student of International Relations at the International Islamic
Academy of Uzbekistan

Abstract. This article examines the institutional structure of the United Nations and its role in promoting a culture of tolerance as the foundation of global security. Using a systematic approach, it analyses the activities of key UN bodies and programmes in the field of intercultural dialogue. The author applies a structural-functional method to assess the effectiveness of the implementation of international declarations and conventions aimed at preventing discrimination and protecting human rights.

Particular attention is paid to the Republic of Uzbekistan's experience in integrating international legal norms into national legislation and practice. The article examines the mechanisms of the country's interaction with UN institutions that contribute to strengthening inter-ethnic and inter-religious harmony in the Central Asian region. The research findings show that the universal nature of the UN enables Uzbekistan to effectively coordinate efforts in combating global challenges such as extremism and intolerance.

Relevance of the topic. Within the framework of contemporary international relations, the United Nations occupies a central position and plays a vital role in virtually all areas of the global agenda. Against a backdrop of growing interdependence among

states, the significance of the UN's efforts in addressing global challenges—including issues relating to the strengthening of international security and stability—is steadily increasing. Today, the UN is the sole universal mechanism for maintaining international peace and the collective regulation of international relations. In the context of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the relevance of this study stems from the country's active integration into the international legal framework and the need to adapt national legislation to international standards in the field of human rights and inter-ethnic harmony.

In contemporary scholarship, the United Nations is regarded as a 'unique, truly global institution' with a breadth of activity that enables it to achieve global unity. Researchers emphasise that the UN is the sole 'universal mechanism' for maintaining international peace, collectively regulating relations and ensuring sustainable development.

The study is grounded in a structural-functional analysis, which allows the UN to be viewed not merely as a collection of bodies, but as a dynamic system in which each element—the General Assembly, the Security Council and the specialised agencies—performs specific functions aimed at promoting tolerance and protecting human rights.

Foreign historiography, Tom Ruys has made a significant contribution to the study of the legal foundations of the UN's activities, in particular the implementation of Article 51 of the Charter, by analysing the evolution of customary law in the context of modern conflicts. In her works, Linda Fasulo provides an 'insider's view' of institutional processes at UN headquarters, which is critical for understanding the organisation's functional effectiveness. Issues relating to the integration of sustainable development and social responsibility principles into educational and state standards are covered in detail in the research of J. Godemann and G. Michelsen.

The Uzbek academic school, of particular significance to our research are the works of Academician A. H. Saidov, who, in his writings on the theory of modern international law, laid the foundations for understanding the interaction between national legal systems and international standards. Uzbek legal scholarship is actively exploring issues of social protection and the implementation of international conventions – for example, the works of R. Akhmedova and S. Mirzaev – which is directly linked to the practice of strengthening tolerance through the legal protection of citizens.

Despite the extensive literature on the general history of the UN, the academic literature does not sufficiently cover the issue of the influence of specific UN mechanisms on the formation of a regional ‘culture of tolerance’ in Central Asia. This article aims to fill this gap by proposing a model for practical interaction between UN institutions and the state structures of Uzbekistan.

In the contemporary architecture of the international legal order, the United Nations acts not only as a regulator but also as the principal generator of ideas of tolerance and intercultural harmony. The UN is recognised as the sole universal mechanism capable of ensuring global unity in the condemnation of terrorism and intolerance.

The legal and regulatory framework for tolerance. The basis for the UN’s activities in this area is the Charter, upon which the entire international legal system of the modern world order is founded. A key milestone was the adoption in 2006 of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, which was endorsed by all 192 Member States. This document established for the first time at the global level that politics, philosophy, ideology and religion can under no circumstances serve as a justification for acts of violence and intolerance. The Strategy emphasises that the protection of human rights and the rule of law are the fundamental basis for combating extremism.

UNESCO’s conceptual contribution. The UN specialised agency UNESCO has a particular influence on strengthening tolerance. Its work is based on the humanitarian

principle: ‘since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed’. Through instruments such as the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003), UNESCO establishes binding international standards that protect the right of peoples to preserve their identity, which is the cornerstone of mutual respect and tolerance.

Incorporating the concept of tolerance into the sustainable development agenda. Issues relating to the promotion of inter-ethnic harmony are inextricably linked to socio-economic aspects. The Rio Declaration (1992) and the Millennium Declaration (2000) affirm that sustainable development is impossible without eradicating poverty and ensuring equality, as social injustice is a breeding ground for conflict. Within the framework of UN programmes, such as UNDP, tolerance is viewed as a tool for ensuring social security and stability.

The protection of vulnerable groups as an element of a culture of harmony. The UN’s influence is also evident through specialised conventions, such as the Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989), which lays the foundations for raising future generations in a spirit of peace and non-discrimination. Similar mechanisms operate in the sphere of protecting the rights of women and indigenous peoples, creating a comprehensive system for preventing social tension.

The study has shown that the United Nations is a key partner for the Republic of Uzbekistan in shaping the national architecture of tolerance and security. The UN is recognised as the only universal organisation capable of ensuring global unity in condemning terrorism and intolerance.

1. Legal implementation of global strategies. The most significant outcome of this cooperation was Uzbekistan’s adoption and full endorsement of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (2006). The implementation of this strategy within the national

context has enabled the principle that no ideology or religion can serve as a justification for violence to be enshrined in law. This has created a legal shield against extremism that undermines the foundations of inter-ethnic tolerance. Uzbekistan actively participates in the implementation of Security Council resolutions (e.g. Resolution No. 1373), which facilitates the coordination of efforts with international and regional organisations such as the SCO and the CIS.

2. Social protection and human rights. Analysis shows that the integration of international UN legal standards has acted as a catalyst for reforms in Uzbekistan's social protection system. The adoption of UN and International Labour Organisation (ILO) standards has contributed to the creation of a more inclusive environment where individual rights are protected regardless of nationality, race or religion. This confirms the UN's role as a hub for coordinating the international community's efforts to ensure sustainable development and stability.

3. Institutional trust and judicial protection. There has been a growing trend among small states, including Uzbekistan, to place greater trust in the UN's international judicial procedures as a means of redressing infringed rights. This contributes to strengthening the rule of law in the republic's foreign policy and creates conditions for the peaceful settlement of any inter-state disputes, which forms the foundation of regional tolerance.

4. Education and sustainable development. The UN's influence in Uzbekistan is evident through the implementation of the principles of the 'Agenda 21', adopted in Rio de Janeiro. Particular attention is paid to strengthening the role of young people and women in the process of ensuring sustainable development, which directly leads to a reduction in social tensions and the strengthening of a culture of harmony. UNESCO's educational initiatives in the country enable these values to be integrated into the curriculum, building resilience to ideas of intolerance among the younger generation.

References

1. The Charter of the United Nations (adopted in San Francisco on 26 June 1945) is the founding document that defines the institutional structure and universal mechanisms for maintaining peace.

2. Lukashuk I. I., Saidov A. H. Fundamentals of Contemporary International Law: A Textbook for Higher Legal Education Institutions. – Tashkent: National Association of Uzbek Philosophers Publishing House, 2007. – 392 pp. — a key theoretical work on international law in the national context of Uzbekistan.

3. Lebedev A. S. The Role of the UN in the Fight against Terrorism // Observer. – 2008. – No. 5. – pp. 46–54. — An analysis of the UN’s activities as a centre for coordinating the international community’s efforts against global challenges of intolerance.

4. Koptyug V. A. The UN Conference on Environment and Development (Rio de Janeiro, June 1992): An Information Review. – Novosibirsk: Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, 1992. — A review of UN policy documents (Agenda 21) linking sustainable development with a culture of peace.

5. Akhmedova R. The System of Human Rights and International Legal Norms. – Tashkent: Uzbekistan Academy of Sciences, 2020. — a study of the process of implementing UN international standards into the social and legal system of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

6. Fasulo L. An Insider's Guide to the UN. – Yale University Press, 2004. — a systematic analysis of the internal structure and functional effectiveness of the United Nations bodies.