

The Role of International Non-governmental Organizations (NGO) in preserving international peace and security

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Abstract

International non-governmental organizations, due to their very nature, are capable of many international diplomacy without the involvement of their respective governments. These organizations can create peace according to their goals, and enterprise to cultural, social and political actions with the approach of the international security. International organizations are of the main pillars of global system in our era. Understanding these organizations leads to a greater awareness of international system functioning. Temporary actions takes place when the deterioration of the situation would be avoided and coercive measures would be decided to establish global peace. The thesis entitled Role of International Non-governmental Organizations (NGO) in preserving international peace and security, have been conducted for reviewing the position of international non-governmental organizations in creating and maintaining the peace in international arena and establishing international security. The method of the research is an analytical descriptive study. The results of the study show that non-governmental organizations play an important role in avoidance of conflict. They are capable to prevent the potential conflict due to their knowledge and involvement in areas.

Keywords: Non-governmental Organizations; International Security; International peace.

Introduction

Since the early of nineteenth century, the government of United States of America has been followed Solidarity policy of the continent of America after Monroe Doctrine in 1823. Monroe Doctrine was declaring that America belongs to Americans, hence does not let Europeans involvement and expansionism in this continent. In next years, the policy of cooperation and solidarity of the American people was followed not only by the United States but also by other American countries, especially "Great Colombia" or "Peru", and in light of the these efforts, some cooperation developed in the field of defense and political issues between some governments of the new continent, and so far, numerous regional organizations have been formed; the organizations which can be introduced through geographical territory segregation. The only organization that has truly continental mission in the area, is renamed organization of American Countries Union, developed in 1890 with USA leadership and has 32 members now including representatives of the United States of America, Latin America except Cuba, the Caribbean newly independent countries i.e. Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, Jamaica, Dominican and St. Louis. 163: 2001).

Non- governmental Organizations

Study on Non-Governmental Organizations has attracted researchers from opposition parts, but attempt to understand the role and importance of them leads to bewilderment and a limited vision. Our knowledge about non-governmental organizations are partly limited, because there are significant contradictions of these advocates and also many descriptive expressions about "irregular community" (Fistful and Church, 2004: 3). Some of these expressions have been studied below such as implicit organizations that prevent systematic studies and our ability to express the claims about non-governmental organizations.

International Non-governmental Organizations

The international organizations have political, economic, cultural and social nature usually, but the cultural organizations have been discussed in this paper. These organizations are divided into two categories around the world (Aminian, 2005: 48).

1. International Cultural Organizations
2. Regional or International Organizations

The number of international cultural organizations is less than international political or economic organizations. So cultural organizations is mentioned less in the discussion of international organizations, and in the books. Another point is that in first look it seems some of the organizations are not cultural, but when their goals and duties have been discussed, they are considered as cultural organizations. International Organization refers to a group of countries that has been formed based on the Constituent Treaty, and its members have shared objectives in the institutional framework and specific agencies with specific and continuing tasks.

The Security and Peace

Security, as one of the pivotal human needs and as one of the important concepts of international relations, has always been considered by paradigms of international relations. The realism, structural liberalism, and global paradigm have paid most attention to security among the traditional paradigm of international relations (Aqarebparast, 2007: 79). The international community have examined several processes and ways to achieve the goal of "establishing international peace and security" (i.e. the same goal announced in the Westphalian peace treaties– the introduction of Munster Treaty- in January 30, 1648); Emergence of the states as the key

members of the international community with the principles of sovereignty authorization is among these methods, that have been occurred until the late twentieth century; but, wars and atrocities has shown its inefficiency.

Breach of Peace

Some experts believe that, there is no significant difference between “breach of the peace” and “aggression”, and United Nations is permitted to fight its causative agent i.e. the offending party as much it is allowed to eliminate the crisis (ibid: 117).

"Breach of peace" that used as a particular concept in Article 39 of the Charter, has a more general sense in the paragraph 1 of Article 1 of the Charter; because the “other acts violating peace” are mentioned in this article somehow, and in a sense, war and aggression could be considered as special cases.

The Advantage of Nongovernmental organizations

In addition to the gathering of countries, the requisite for an international organization formation is that the members approve the founding covenant with name of the Covenant or Charter or Constitution etc. Any countries gathering is not able to an international organization formation without founding covenant approval.

- 1- Announcing the organization existence
- 2- Obtaining legal and international personality

In addition, nongovernmental organizations often have an advantage in war zones to prevent violence and war. Grassroots organization play the role of democracy development and security and democracy rebuilding in the area. The experts of management have claimed that international approaches have often focused on post-conflict situations and peace building on the national level of elites, that the integration of local non-governmental organizations and officials at the international level can be an effective in multi-level communication.

Nongovernmental Organizations and Transnationalism

Since several decades ago, modern technology has provided the communication and transportation capacity required to support the high level of trade between the countries. The many and fast ways of communication and transportation have contributed to global interactions. When speaking of the “Interactive World”, it refers to the movement of information, money, physical objects, people, or other tangible or intangible items across the state borders. There are four main global factors: (1) Communication, Information movement, including the transmission of beliefs, opinions, and the teachings; (2) Transportation, movement of physical objects, including materials of war, and personal possessions, as well as goods; (3) Finance, movement of money and credit instruments; (4) Travel, movement of people. Many international activities simultaneously include all four types of interaction (Keohane & Nye, 1971).

Nongovernmental organizations and global governance

The concept of "governance" in international relations was raised in 1989, when the World Bank described the current situation in Africa as a crisis of governance. Since then, the term "government" has been largely linked to the policy of development and especially to the development of post-colonial world (Pagden, 1998: 7).

The Peaceful Tasks of Nongovernmental Organizations

In a broad sense, Avoid conflict is one of the classic areas of NGO activities. The role of nongovernmental organizations in this area is multifaceted. They include not only collecting and evaluating information relevant to internal conflicts; in addition, it influences on developing and providing humanitarian and human rights standards and monitoring the parts of non-governmental organizations subordinates. It can be seen as a symbol of peace stability in the region, according to the contribution of humanitarian and human rights nongovernmental organizations in both the development and implementation of international law (Tearer (T h i i r e r), 2000: 46).

Dissemination of Information and Human Rights Monitoring

Nongovernmental organizations play an important role in conflict prevention. They can be prevented the potential conflict, according to their knowledge and involvement in areas. Nongovernmental organizations are often within the country or close to it, and are able to respond to changes quickly. In addition, they are mostly actors with greater awareness of human rights violations. The need for the active participation of non-governmental organizations in human rights monitoring can be developed by a growing number of internal armed conflict, it is necessary for close land cooperation (Tanner, 2000: 553).

The Initial Reason for NGO Formation in International Peacebuilding

By the early 1990s, the future of nongovernmental organizations is palpable in peace building by governments and international organizations. However, even the reason for this is not entirely clear. Possibility to changes associated with the government in nongovernmental organizations is considered as one of the potential pillars of peace building. Nongovernmental organizations will help to rebuild the country and promote long-term peace and development (Uvin, 1996: 159-176). Therefore, even if they do not play a unique role, they indirectly effect in the peace.

Nongovernmental organizations challenges

There are nuclear problems with data from non-governmental organizations in activities in the heart of this issues. Some anthropologists have done ethnographic; that non-governmental organizations and students of comparative politics carried out an extensive fieldwork; and countries or nongovernmental organizations were involved in participant observation and interviews.

Conclusion

It is obvious for anyone who has ever read it, that the achievements of non-governmental organizations are greater than society understanding of that. A waiver of nongovernmental organizations role in international relations is the loss of the most productive and the most encouraging after international affairs. Although nongovernmental organizations may never reach the national governments power, and they may never engage in different issues as much as governments, their efforts to move towards the goals are enough prominently on the world stage, that shape the events track and make governments to take advantage of it. So we cannot our close eyes on nongovernmental organizations in International Relations. It is true that a number of other internal forces at work consider to push the nongovernmental organizations to establish peace. Government interests in outsourcing coincident with advances in technology, affluence, increased leisure time, and an increase in education level - that allow and encourage people to participate in more independent civic activities, both in domestic and international politics.

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