Chapter 4
Negotiation for Sustainable Peace:
Negotiation Theories vs. Peacekeeping in the UN Documents

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ABSTRACT

This analysis is a review of different negotiation theories by looking through the key documents of the United Nations on peace keeping and provides a review how negotiation theories could make an influence on them. Conflicts are an aspect of our daily life. They influence us not only in arguments with friends and family, but also in other dimensions of our discourse contributions. Therefore, it is significant to find practicable and conflict avoiding solutions for the parties involved. Negotiation is a form of discussion that helps find solutions for contradicting interests without using force. This violent free decision-making process is the most adequate form in a democratic culture. The growing denotation of political negotiations derives from an increasing interdependence, propagation of democracy, and a trend towards more peaceful dealings between governments. The main organization for peacekeeping and thus also peace negotiation documentation is the United Nations.

INTRODUCTION

"The natural state of men is not peaceful co-existence but war - not always open hostilities, but at least an unceasing threat of war" (Kant 1795). As Immanuel Kant states that human kind has cultivated conflict situations since its beginnings, normally to survive the various situations which it has been facing, but also to rule others. The conflicts are different types, varying from macro conflicts - between international organization or states - to micro conflicts - between people. It is imaginable that there are different solutions for the different types of conflicts. The most widely applied solution is to force one's own solution upon the opponent, however.

Conflicts are characterized not only by the variance of their outcome but also by their intensity, by mediators, the conflict parties, and the parties' willingness to solve conflicts. Since the uprising

of humanism, it has been tried to solve conflicts without violence or even war as it has be been widely accepted that to solve a conflict with violence is the huge defeat. Therefore, diplomacy and the negotiations which go along became a central to conflict solution. Especially armed conflicts are meant to be solved by negotiation so as they can reach sustainable peace building measures.

Since the United Nations founding in 1945 after the Second World War, peace building, peace keeping, and sustainable peace consolidation have been a primary objective. In this line of thought, the UN passed various resolutions during the Cold War era to keep at least the "cold peace" between the Blocks preserved. However, it can be assumed that the implicit threat of nuclear devastation was more frightening, and thus contributing to peace, than any of the UN resolution passed.

Above all, after the end of the conflict between the East and the West, the main problems of the United Nations became noteworthy as "the political new beginning of 1990 found no unified world, but pre-industrial clan rule, industrial nation states and post-industrial society world" (Czempiel, 1994, p 15). The end of the block confrontation did not bring the desired or expected world peace with it. Instead, since the 1990s wars are more and more regional but not fewer in number. At the same time small weapons and other war objects are more widely spread. The consequences of which can be observed in the conflicts in the Middle East and Africa which appear to be aggravating. "Peace has also two sides: absence of personal violence, and absence of structural violence. We shall refer to them as negative peace and positive peace respectively" (Galtung, 1969). Thus, to keep a sustainable peace in all aspects from daily small conflicts such direct human interaction to macro conflicts such as international disputes, the conflict parties have to discuss the problems with each other. Therefore, negotiations as a means are more essential to international relations than ever

before. This analysis tries to clarify how negotiation theories affect modern diplomacy strategies and its role in the UN peace building agendas since the end of the cold war. The United Nations reports have been created to provide detailed documentation, also for cases in which negotiations were not successful. Consequentially, they not only include valuable information on what negotiations accomplished, but also on what they were not able to resolve.

This paper gives a small overview about negotiations and the theories on which they are based. Essentially, three different negotiation theories for conflict situations are applied: the first two are the International Multilateral Negotiation and the Ripeness theory both by William I. Zartman. The third theory is the Transcend-Method according to Johan Galtung. After a theoretical introduction, key UN documents on the subjects of peace keeping, peace building, and peace concerning are analyzed in light of the afore mentioned theories. The conclusion will then elaborate on how theoretical negotiation concepts can be (more) valuable means in the UN decision and implementation process concerning peace keeping and building operations.

BACKGROUND

The solutions of conflicts in our era are evidently has to made through the diplomatic way. In fact, the United Nation was founded to monitor and solve the international conflicts which could turn into armed conflicts.

As already stated - since the world is full of conflicts, their study and solution have been a key element in the subjects of not only the executive political organs but also of any social sciences. To begin with, the key documents of the UN were subjects of many articles and books over the last six decades, since it's foundation. As an overview

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