

The United Nations: Its Origins and Milestones



How It All Began: A Chronology

Inter-Allied Declaration

Signed in London on 12 June 1941, the Inter-Allied Declaration "to work together, with other free peoples, both in war and peace" was the first of a series of steps which led to the establishment of the United Nations.

Atlantic Charter

On 14 August 1941, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt of the United States and Prime Minister Winston Churchill of the United Kingdom proposed a set of principles for international collaboration in maintaining peace and security. The document, signed during a meeting "somewhere at sea", came to be known as the Atlantic Charter.

Declaration by United Nations

On 1 January 1942, the representatives of 26 nations that were fighting against the Axis proclaimed their support for the Atlantic Charter by signing the "Declaration by United Nations". This document marked the first official use of the term "United Nations", which was suggested by President Roosevelt.

Moscow and Teheran Conferences

In a declaration signed in Moscow on 30 October 1943, the Governments of the USSR, UK, US and China called for an early establishment of an international organization to maintain peace and security. That goal was reaffirmed at the meeting of the leaders of the US, USSR and UK at Teheran on 1 December 1943.

Dumbarton Oaks Conference

The first blueprint of the UN was prepared at a conference held at a mansion known as Dumbarton Oaks in Washington, D.C. During two phases of meetings which ran from 21 September through 7 October 1944, the representatives of the USSR, UK, US and China agreed on the aims, structure and functioning of a world organization.

Yalta Conference

On 11 February 1945, following their meetings at Yalta, President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and Premier Stalin declared their resolve to establish "a general international organization to maintain peace and security".

San Francisco Conference

On 25 April 1945, delegates of 50 nations met in San Francisco for the conference known officially as the United Nations Conference on International Organization. The delegates drew up the 111-Article Charter which was adopted unanimously on 25 June 1945. The next day they signed it in the auditorium of the Veterans' Memorial Hall.

1945—1995

الذكرى السنوية الخمسون
لإنشاء الأمم المتحدة

联合国五十周年纪念

*Fiftieth Anniversary of
the United Nations*

*Cinquantième Anniversaire
de l'Organisation des
Nations Unies*

Пятидесятая годовщина
Организации
Объединённых Наций

*Cincuentenario de las
Naciones Unidas*

