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Global Security & Human Rights





Themes of Discussion

- **Globalization**
- **Hegemonic Nations**
- **Human Rights Principles**
- **Recommendations**



Globalization

- **Globalization** altered security environment
- **Violence Shifted** from:
 - State war to protracted warfare
 - Non-state actors & local militias & state militaries



Globalization

- *Climate change*
- *Forced migration*
- *Gender-based violence*
- *Humanitarian emergencies*
- *Terrorism, etc.*



Globalization

- **Securitized** - states, intergovernmental institutions & NGO's
- **Broadening** global security agenda
- **Limitations** of these responses



Globalization

- Human rights context
- International law codification
- Implementation often inhibited



Definitional Problems

- Global Security - many definitions
- Ideological battleground
- Differing influencers

Definitional Problems

- Perspectives – how acquired
- Coverage fluid – consent manufactured
- In “Name of Security” . . .





Ideological Perspectives

Deep Tensions:

- *Peace & Justice*
- *Politics & Law*
- *Power & Norms*

Aspirational v. Reality

ICC

- International criminal law
- Peace & security entire world
- U.S. – non-signatory - Rome Statute



U.S. - Exceptionalism

- U.S. non-member in global community
- Support -aligns with national interest
- Largest military assistance around world
- Jurisdictional exposure



Counterterrorism: Global Security

- Post 9/11 Congress - military force (“war”) against those “identified” responsible
- War morphed - expanding conflict
- Human rights abuses

Kofi Anan - ICC

- **Global nature**
- *“demand that those who claim the mantle of global leadership accept the duties of promoting global values”*
- **Universality**



ICC – Multiplicity of Problems

- **No** American - ICC
- ICC – Western court
- **Imperialism - hijacked** by West
 - ***Neocolonial instrument of manipulation***



US “Security” - Human Rights Abuses

- Torture
- Indefinite detention
- Unjust military commissions
- Drone strikes



National (Global) Security Threatened

- “Terrorist” use them to win support
- US credibility damaged
- Innocents hurt
- Human rights principles violated

Example: US Objectives in Afghanistan

- US: Part of War on Terror
- Goal- defeat Al-Qaeda & Taliban
- Intent - quick & decisive show of force
- Longest, costliest & deadliest war



Costs of Afghanistan War



- **Human cost** - over 200,000 deaths
(including American service members, U.S. contractors, Afghan military/police, other allied service members, Afghan civilians, Taliban and other opposition fighters, aid workers, journalists)
- **U.S. Financial cost** – over \$2.3 trillion



What is the Real Issue Here?

- National interests **stifles** human rights
- **Misguided** in theory & practice
- **Any** violation of human rights threatens human security



Declaration of Human Rights

- **Article 1 of (UDHR)** - “**All** human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights.”
- **Universal** & **unalienable**



True Global Security

- **Ultimate goals**: global security & human rights
- **Human rights**: provision & defensive of rights – all human needs guaranteed

True Global Security

- Hegemonic nations:

- eliminate false narratives
- accountability for rights violations
- halt exploitations





Multi- dimensional Rights

- Human rights – multi-dimensional rights
- Basic understanding of (global) human security:
 - protection from threats &
 - provision of safe environment

Evidence Failure: Example

- Blackwater - private mercenaries
- Private security companies– UN
- Poses threat to UN & to local populations





Who are the Rulers?

- Hegemonic & neoliberal interests
- Security - powerful political tool
 - preservation of norms, rules, institutions & values of society



Global Security & Absence of Human Rights

- Victim nations - examples
 - Afghanistan, Iraq, Haiti, etc.
- U.S. relations: hegemonic perpetration
 - often exploitation not support



The Problem

- U.S. policy
- Powerful entity: moral compass?
- Maximize self interest produces more just world?



Different Path

- Building links with other states
- Global security initiatives
 - human rights as key
- OCHA's definition of security - range of security areas

United Nations - OCHA



- **OCHA** - human security elements have wider dimension
- Established 1992 - **GA**
 - beyond military protection
 - engage **threats to human dignity**

Leadership from Below

- Real democracy
 - rejection of hierarchical rule
 - principle over power

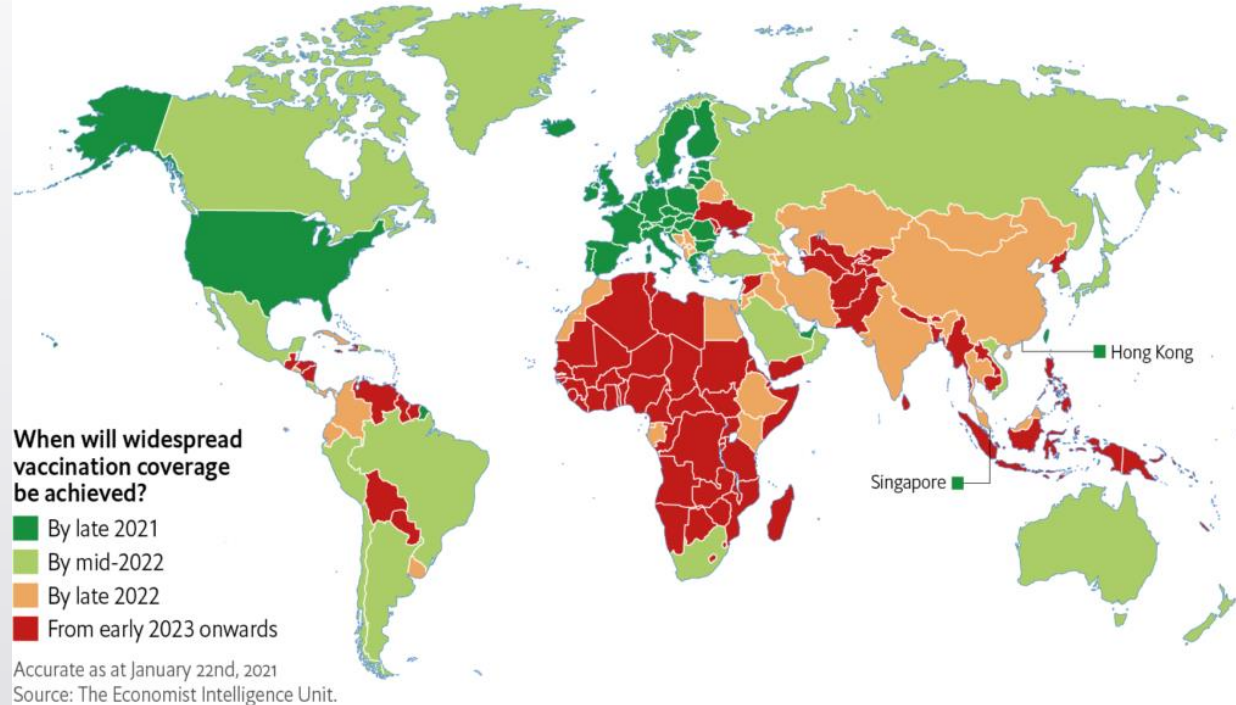


Failure of Global Security

- **Utilitarian** human rights perspective
- **Accountability** - hegemonic perpetration
- **Global interconnection** & interdependence
 - COVID-19

Pandemic & Vaccinations

Rich countries will get access to coronavirus vaccines earlier than others





OCHA- Categories of Rights

- *Economic, Food, Health, Environmental, Personal, Community, Political*

Global Collaboration & Cooperation

- Climate change



Global Collaboration & Cooperation

- Disarmament & non-proliferation of weapons
 - major threat to national & global security



States Are in Competition

- National leaders – believe security based on **military power**
- New spirit of oneness needed
- Well-being & security of each determine - what is best for **system as whole**

What is Best for All ?

- **Intra-states** collaboration & cooperation
 - build trust & confidence



Hegemonic Accountability

- Example: U.S.



Recommendations – U.S.

- **De-militarize**: Close US bases abroad; 50% cut defense budget
- **Policy changes**: Repeal PATRIOT Act; abolish CIA, NSA, ICE; ban drones
- **De-corporatization**: Reduce terrorist threat by ending foreign exploitation



Recommendations

- **World-wide employment support**: transfer billions from Pentagon budget to jobs
- **De-nuclearize**: end nuclear testing; zero nuclear weapons
- **Reimagine CJS**: end mass incarceration; abolish police and prisons



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Questions