

Abstracts

Peter Viggo Jakobsen
**Mission Impossible:
UN peace operations**

UN peace operations are in trouble because memberstates, particularly the Western ones, have demanded the impossible of the organisation. The UN has been asked to undertake a new and more difficult type of operations without getting the troops and funds necessary for success. The critics blaming the UN for the failures in Somalia, Bosnia and Rwanda are therefore barking up the wrong tree and should point their fingers at the memberstates instead. Reforms to make the UN more effective have been proposed but whether they will be implemented depends upon the will of member states to put their troops at UN disposal and to foot the bill.

Poul Engberg-Pedersen
**Bureaucracy and Idealism:
The UN and Development**

UN development activities suffer from weak effectiveness and declining financial contributions. The Danish involvement is significant, at DKK 4-5 billion annually. Theories of international politics and organization cannot quite explain the UN's development activities that are marginal and operational in a highly turbulent field with a unique organizational culture. This impacts differently on the UN's intervention forms: debate, negotiations, technical and financial assistance, and emergency relief. A coherent vision is offered which exploits the UN's room-to-manoevre, and which can be supported through Danish "active multilateralism".

Hans-Henrik Holm
**A Dying Dream
The UN Crisis in a Changed
International System**

The international system has changed in fundamental ways. Is it the „End of History“, the „Clash of Civilizations“ or the „Coming of Anarchy“ that will shape the future international system? Each scenario offers different requirements for reform of the United Nations. It is concluded that fundamental, structural reform is necessary.

Knud Erik Jørgensen
**Theoretical Approaches to the Study
of International Organizations**

International organizations are in a phase of flux. The end of the Cold War has triggered a comprehensive reconsideration of their purposes and organizational features. From this novel development follows almost naturally a reconsideration of the theoretical tools which have been developed for theory informed research on international organizations. The article accounts for five theoretical approaches, and then proceeds to outline a research agenda for future research.

Martin Marcussen
The EU-Budget: A Functional Monster?

Budgets of unitary and federal states are typically said to have the following functions in society: (1) authorization function, (2) control function, (3) financial- and expenditure function, (4) finance function and (5) accountability- and information function. In democratic terms it is crucial that a budget executes all of these functions in a satisfactory way. However, scrutinizing the EU-budget it is clear that none of these functions are exercised in an acceptable manner which may worry as the European Union is developing into a European Federation.