

DIPLOMACY AS A TOOL FOR CONFLICT PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT

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ABSTRACT

The European continent and the whole world has been accompanied by civil wars within nations - revolutions, secessionist wars, a numerous conflict between states and different ethnic groups. Meanwhile, because of the conflicts, incomparable economic damage has been caused, suffering, bloodshed, and great loss of human lives.

This article highlights the meaning of Preventive Diplomacy in International Relations, the role and importance of preventing conflicts, and their management. Then is elaborated the role, importance of engagement International Organization, Regional Organization, and other mechanisms, including other forms of states engagement in Preventive Diplomacy.

In short, the authors emphasized the forms by which the various mechanisms in international relations, achieve the prevention, management of conflicts, and the establishment of peace in the hotbeds of conflicts. In the end, authors mentions the challenges and elements for success which followed preventive diplomacy on conflict prevention.

Key words: Preventive Diplomacy, International Relations, International Community, International Organizations



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1. Introduction

The continent of Europe, but unfortunately also the rest of the world has been accompanied by civil wars within nations - revolutions, secessionist wars, a numerous conflict between states and different ethnic groups. Meanwhile, because of the conflicts, incomparable economic damage has been caused, suffering, bloodshed, and great loss of human lives.

Ideas aimed to prevent a war, date back to the nineteenth century, so that isn't something new in International Relations (hereinafter IR). In some conferences and congress, the main topic was the steps and measures that should take to prevent the war "The Congress of Vienna set the pattern of substituting the aim of managing a consensus among the great powers - in what today we would call preventive diplomacy (Weisbrode, Kenneth 2014, p. 33)".

Conflict prevention (hereinafter CP), but only as a term and unfortunately not as a concept, is also found in the Covenant of the League of Nations. To maintain peace between nations, threats and war were considered a concern for the League of Nations, and measures aimed at preventing conflict were envisaged. Article 16 of The Covenant of the League of Nations also outlines the measures that will be taken against any member of the League of Nations in the event of war, disregarding Articles 12, 13, or 15.

To the state in question, will be acted immediately, starting to subjugate it until the termination of all commercial or financial relations, the prohibition of all relations between them, the prevention of all financial, commercial, or personal relations. (Evans, D, Malcolm 1991, p.16). In the absence of such a concept, World War II breaks out, which determines the failure of the League of Nations, and as a result the end of its existence.

Witnesses of great tragedies that the world experienced from the two World wars, the need for the existence of an international mechanism, was seen and valued as immediate in the international community (hereinafter IC). In this context, the IC took concrete action in this direction, and in 1945 the United Nations (hereinafter UN) was established, as the successor to the League of Nations, which had as its main goal world peace, and based on which it was created.

2. The Meaning, role, and importance of Preventive Diplomacy

The term Preventive Diplomacy (hereinafter PD) is recent in the context of its use in IR. As a notion, but also in the context of the innovative idea, it originated and articulated first time by the former Secretary General of the UN, Dag Hammarskjöld during his leadership of this mechanism in the period 1953-1960 (Ramcharan, G, Bertrand, 2008 p.1).

PD from the end of the Second World War, until today, has evolved in its concept, in relation to the prevention of conflict and its management. In the period of the Cold War, the IC has faced tensions, threats, and wars of an interstate character. With the end of the Cold War and the creation of a new order in the IC, another nature of conflicts begins to emerge “the phenomenon of intra-state conflicts has been a dominant feature of international relations since the end of the Cold War, the international community seems to have been caught off-guard by the proliferation of sub-national ethnic claims (Murithi, Tim 2009, p. 4)”.

As a result of the new circumstances created in the IC, the need arose for a new and more pragmatic approach of PD. Some definitions are given in relation to the notion of PD, Example cause, Michael Lund defines PD as “actions taken in vulnerable places and times to avoid the threat or use of armed force and related forms of coercion by states or groups to settle the political disputes that can arise from destabilizing effects of economic, social, political, and international change (Swanström, P.L Niklas & Weissmann, S. Mikael 2005,p.22)”.

But extraordinary role and contribution regarding PD, including the notion, the approach that should be used by the PD according to the new circumstances created in IR, the new circumstances created in IR, has given by former Secretary General of the UN Boutros Ghali in his report: An Agenda for Peace, An Agenda for Development and An Agenda for Democratization. In his report Agenda for Peace (1992), Boutros Boutros Ghali emphasizes the notion of PD as: “Preventive diplomacy is action to prevent disputes from arising between parties, to prevent existing disputes from escalating into conflicts and to limit the spread of the latter when they occur. —Boutros Boutros-Ghali, An Agenda for Peace (1992) - (Steiner,H, Barry 2004, p.3)”.

The report Agenda for peace of the former UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros Ghali, marks an important turning point in international

relations in terms of approach to conflict prevention, first through Preventive Diplomacy, then another step for lasting and permanent peace. Referring to conflict prevention, it contains a multi-dimensional concept including “diplomacy to relax tensions before they result in conflict, direct repression of the conflict in its early stages, and preventing the recurrence or reversal of the suspended conflict (Marina Mitrevska & Anton Grizold at all 2009, p.65)”.

During addressing to Security Council, through his rapport the An Agenda for Peace, at the request of the latter, referring to new conflicts, former UN Secretary General Boutros Ghali foresees and argues the proactive approach of the UN towards peacemaking. Among other things, Boutros Ghali mentions four major areas of activity for lasting peace, that UN should respond quickly and effectively to threats to international peace and security like, “preventive diplomacy; peacemaking; peacekeeping; and post-conflict peacebuilding (Murithi, Tim 2009, p.87)”.

As an idea in IR, the concept of third-party peacebuilding as a method of conflict management dates to the seventies. It was Swedish sociologist Johan Galtung (1976), who argued during the 1970 s that peacebuilding – along with peacekeeping and peacemaking – was one of the “three approaches to peace (Mason, David & Meernik, D, James 2006 p.54)”. But in addition to the discussion that this idea conveyed to the IC, it was ignored till 1992, respectively until the report of the UN Secretary General- Boutros Ghali in Agenda for peace.

The forms used in PD in terms of CP are various and numerous. In general, PD uses different methods in prevention conflicts, like good offices, facilitation, mediation, conciliation, adjudication, arbitration, human rights etc to resolve disputes before they become violent. Inter alia, the Boutros Ghali Agenda for Peace, contains a range of ideas for the use of PD at the UN.

- To ease tensions before they result in conflict.
- If conflict breaks out, to acts swiftly to contain it and resolve its underlying causes.
- Preventive diplomacy be performed by the Secretary-General personally or through senior staff or specialized agencies and programmed, by the Security Council or the General Assembly, and by regional organizations in cooperation with the United Nations.
- Preventive diplomacy requires measures to create confidence.

- Preventive diplomacy needs early warning based on information gathering and informal or formal fact-finding.
- Preventive diplomacy may involve preventive deployment and, in some situations, demilitarized zones. (Ramcharan, Bertrand & Ramcharan, Robin 2020, p.x).

The role and contribution in advancing the ideas of Boutros Ghalit in relation to the PD, has given almost every subsequent secretary to the UN. The next UN Secretary General, Kofi Annan, has done much to advance the idea and practices of preventing violent conflicts. Annan has done much to advance the idea and practice of preventing violent conflicts, among his more crucial initiatives has been to move the UN from a 'culture of reaction to a culture of prevention (Ackermann, Alice 2003, p. 340).

The transition from a culture of reaction to a culture of prevention by the IC is very important in CP. This approach implies early warning conflict and then use of that entered in the domain of the PD, like problem identification, rapid collection of information, problem recognition, analysis, clear conclusions then proceeding with conflict management towards peacemaking, peacekeeping, and peacebuilding.

In all this process, is necessary that following actions by IC should, be a rapid and unified nature in conflicts. Another point to achieve lasting peace is the will of the parties involved in the conflict to achieve peace, and that is very important and necessary in this process.

3. International Organisation on Preventive Diplomacy

Peace, stability, and security are concepts that are intended to be achieved by states and international organizations. Conflict resolution is a responsibility of all subjects of international law, (Nuredin, A, 2016 p.18) and of course, each mechanism carries its own role of responsibility in creating and guaranteeing an environment that offers freedom, security, and prosperity. In the ic operate a considerable number of regional, inter-regional organizations, various ngo-s, and various groupings of states, which for the purpose have cp.

Based on this goal, many organizations, the CP, and peacekeeping is one of the primary goals and objective in the field of their action, thus placing it in their preamble and statutes.

In the meantime, the UN is the largest organization in terms of the number of members, the extent, but above all the role and responsibility it has and carries in relation to CP and peacekeeping in the world. Example causa, in Chapter I : Purposes and Principles: Article 1, the UN undertakes: “To maintain international peace and security, and to that end: to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace”.

Charter of the UN contains a large number of articles, by which it authorizes, at the same time obliges the Security Council, as provided in Article.24 / 1 as the main body in the maintenance of international peace and security to take action in the direction of conflict prevention, peacekeeping, encouragement, but also an obligation to the parties to the conflict, to respect the measures taken by the UN. This is provided for in Article 40: “In order to prevent an aggravation of the situation, the Security Council may, before making the recommendations or deciding upon the measures provided for in Article 39, call upon the parties concerned to comply with such provisional measures as it deems necessary or desirable. Such provisional measures shall be without prejudice to the rights, claims, or position of the parties concerned. The Security Council shall duly take account of failure to comply with such provisional measures”.

International mechanisms, namely the UN, through preventing tools within the PD, for example, causa mediation, have been crucial in preventing some conflicts in the post-World War II period. We can emphasize the crisis during the Cold War period, when thanks to the use of preventive diplomacy, namely the mediation and intervention of former UN Secretary General Thant, a dramatic success was achieved, thus avoiding a conflict nuclear known as the "Cuban crisis". “There have been dramatic successes, such as in the Cuban missile crisis of 1962, when preventive diplomacy by Secretary-General U Thant helped head off a nuclear confrontation between the Soviet Union and the United States (Ramcharan, G, Bertrand 2008, p.1)”.

The UN has been involved in the prevention of conflicts through other means which enter the framework of preventive diplomacy, respectively have been points within the Agenda for Peace of Boutros Ghalit. Specifically, referring to the inter-ethnic conflict in Macedonia, the UN to react for the first time through “preventive deployment” like a preventive tool, through a body called the United Nation Preventive Deployment Force (UNPREDEP) “as e first UN peacekeeping operation that has a preventive mandate (Özçelik, Sezai 2006, p.105)”.

Regional, inter-regional organizations and other mechanisms can undoubtedly contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security.

In this context, the Charter of the United Nations in accordance with Chapter VIII, Article.53 and Article.54 allows regional organizations to take measures that lead to the maintenance of international peace and security, but with the obligation that in advance for any of their actions inform the Security Council. Article 54: The Security Council shall always be kept fully informed of activities undertaken or in contemplation under regional arrangements or by regional agencies for the maintenance of international peace and security.

Partnership and cooperation that has started between the UN on the one hand, with regional and inter-regional mechanisms, as well as coordination and interaction between regional mechanisms themselves, like Europe Union (here in after EU), North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (hereinafter NATO) and Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (hereinafter OSCE) has led to the establishment of mutual relations and at the same time are seen as complementary in the prevention of conflicts, various crises, and their management.

Among the inter-regional organizations, the OSCE like an NGO, is the largest organization in terms of both membership and cross-continental alignment. The OSCE works to build and sustain stability, peace, and democracy for more than one billion people, through political dialogue and projects on the ground.

In the last fifteen years of the Cold War, the OSCE and for the period we refer to as the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (here in after CSCE), according to the author Alexandra Gheciu has been a bridge of communication and a key factor in maintaining balance and managing the contradictory situation between east and west.

This has been achieved “by establishing a framework for continuous dialogue and elaborating a comprehensive set of principles and commitments, followed by practical steps for their implementation (Gheciu, Alexandra, 2008, p.119)”.

The EU also increased its role last decades in CP, the EU has legitimized the cooperation with the UN in statement No. 14, Protocol No. 10, and a series of provisions of the TEU and TFEU.

In fulfilling the objectives that lead in the direction of protection of values, preservation of peace and security, human rights, etc. among other things, he has foreseen the prevention of conflict, which entered the domain of measures in the PD. Article.21 -2 -C according to TEU or TFEU, EU: (c) to maintain peace, prevent conflicts and strengthen international security, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the principles of the Helsinki Final Act and the purposes of the Paris Charter, including those relating to external borders;

NATO, in accordance with Article 7 of the North Atlantic Treaty, signed in Washington on 4 April 1949, has expressed its readiness to "assist fruitfully, in the prevention of conflict and to engage vigorously in crisis management." including crisis response operations (Manual i NATOs, 2006 p.272)”.

In the nineties, in the Western Balkans, because of the changes that resulted after the end of the Cold War, appeared many hotbeds of crises with real potential for escalation into armed conflict, which later followed by wars. In the context of CP, NATO together with the Western European Union (WEU) has been involved in coercive operations, in order of implementation the Security Council resolutions aimed at preventing the spread of conflict in the former Yugoslav Republics by imposing arms embargoes (Manual I NATOs, 2006 p.272).

In addition to regional, inter-regional organizations and other mechanisms mentioned above, contribution to the CP and making the peace, there are other actors, for example, causa individual states with influence in the region have made an indisputable contribution in this regard.

Example of diplomacy, effective mediation as a tool in the PD, by Tanzania, as well as the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in the civil

war of 1992-1993 in Rwanda, ended a bloody conflict where they were killed about 800,000 people in a four-month period between April and July 1994.

On the success of Diplomacy and mediation in resolving conflicts in Africa, referring to the conflict in Rwanda, as well as the possibility for Africans to solve their own problems through diplomacy, respectively mediation, very optimistic was also declared Salim Ahmed Salim, Secretary-General of the OAU in August 1993 “Rwanda is a complete African product, a clear example of mediation done for Africa by the Africans themselves. This is a triumph of reason, a triumph of African diplomacy. We have proved that it is possible for the OAU to find a solution to most of our problems. We intend to build on this experience and use mediation as a means of ending conflicts on our continent (Druckman, Daniel & Donohue, William 2007 p.58)”.

The role and contribution of regional actors - inter-regional, government organizations, NGOs, experts, individual actors in empowering the PD, by the IC but also by the regional actors themselves - is seen and understood as a need and necessity in peace building, so their integration is very important, and one of the main tools in strengthening the PD.

The need for regional and inter-regional integration is a conclusion of the various conferences, example causa this finding, like a conclusion came from the Mediterranean Conference held in Spain in May 2016 “One of the key tools for strengthening preventive diplomacy is regional integration. There is a strong correlation between regional integration, peace, and sustainability. Therefore, investing in regional integration means investing in peace and stability (Report of Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Spain, pg.5)”.

However, there are cases when the PD, namely the international community was seriously challenged in conflict prevention, and in certain cases, it has failed.

We can mention some conflicts throughout the world, for example, causa conflicts in the Balkans, Kosovo, Bosnia, and Herzegovina, and on the other parts like Afghanistan, Chechnya, Colombia, Ethiopia / Eritrea, Lebanon, Nagorno-Karabakh etc.

But in general, regional organizations have had a positive impact on CP through the PD. It is also cited by Autor Dennis J.D.Sandole “It is even more important to view the OSCE as an organization that along with other

regional organizations, especially the European Union, has played a major part in long-term peacebuilding and conflict prevention in Europe (Sandole,D,J Dennis, 2007 p.XII)”.

4. Measures in Preventive Diplomacy

Conflicts in the IC come because of various factors, evolve, varying by the threat and the nature of reflection. In this context, the UN as a key mechanism in maintaining security and peace, but also other regional mechanisms, inter-regional, etc, in addition to preventive measures have provided additional measures that will fully support the process, defining platforms and agendas in this direction.

In the framework of the UN Charter, respectively Chapter VI-Article 33, are foreseen some forms which are used by the UN in the context of conflict prevention such as:“The parties to any dispute, the continuance of which is likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security, shall, first of all, seek a solution by negotiation, inquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement, resort to regional agencies or arrangements, or other peaceful means of their own choice”.

Growing disputes between the parties in the international community increase the need for strengthening mediation as a preventive tool in conflicts. In the UN to support the Department of Political Affairs (DPA) in terms of increasing effectiveness-capacity was created the Mediation Support Unit, as a center of expertise and a resource on mediation for the Department of Political Affairs (DPA), but the UN in this process of mediation will be as supportive actor (Murithi, Tim 2009 p.88).

As support measures by international mechanisms in support of PD, in direction of post-conflict peacebuilding are many, and should be in continuity. In this context, the UN has undertaken concert actions, through different programs in separate fields, for example, causa: Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR), Security-Sector Reform (SSR) human rights etc.

On the importance of demilitarization, arms control, human rights, etc., the former secretary Boutros Ghali was also declared

“Demilitarization, the control of small arms, institutional reform, improved police, and judicial systems, the monitoring of human rights, electoral reform, and social and economic development can be as valuable in preventing conflict as in healing the wounds after conflict has occurred (Meernik, D, James & Mason, David 2006, p.81)”

In the following, the table will reflect the steps taken by the international community within the GDR in different countries which were hotbeds of conflict (Robert Muggah 2009, p.5).

Table I.1 A typology of contexts for DDR

Context	Typical intervention	Financial support	Examples
Pre-crisis/ conflict	Military/policing downsizing or 'right sizing	Bilateral defence cooperation, and/or multilateral/ loan/credit, nationally led	CAR, South Africa, Djibouti Uganda(1992-1995)
During conflict	Limited demobilization and reintegration combined with amnesty and prosecution	Nationally led, multilateral funding	Colombia, Northern Uganda, Cote, Divoire, Mindanao (Philippines)
Post 'cross border' conflict	Demobilization reinsertion and reintegration	Nationally led, multilateral/bilateral funding	Ethopia, Eritrea, Iraq, Afganistan
Post 'Internal' conflict	Disarmament, demobilization reinsertion and reintegration together with reconciliation and rehabilitation	UN or World Bank-led DPKO or regional involment, multilateral/bilateral financing, nationally led	Angola, DRC, Rwanda, Timor-Leste, Aceh, El Salvador, Kosovo, Sudan

In support of the measures to be used in the DP, the UN has opened Regional Offices for CP on the Continent of Asia and Africa, for example, causa UNOCA - UN Office for Central Africa, UNOWAS – UN Office

for West Africa and the Sahel, UNRCCA - UN Regional Office for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia.

On the agenda of these Offices will be, among other things, the promotion of dialogue between the parties to the conflict, the building of trust, and genuine partnership. The opening of the UNRCCA for Central Asia took place on May 16, 2007. Terrorism, as a threat that had already crossed national borders, extremism, drug trafficking, organized crime, and environmental degradation were some of the threats that pushed the countries of Central Asia to agree by consensus on the establishment of this Center in Ashgabat (Ramcharan, Bertrand & Ramcharan, Robin 2020 p.85).

Specialized agencies within the UN, like United Nations Development Programs (UNDP) through various programs in more than 100 countries around the world. The purpose of UNDP is to support Justice Institutions, Institutions that promote and protect human rights, help in building national capacities aimed at conflict prevention, dispute resolution, economic assistance and access to justice for women and girls. "For instance, in 2003 and 2004, UNDP and the Department of Political Affairs collaborated in supporting key national actors in Niger in developing a common vision of national priorities through the National Forum on Conflict Prevention and then implementing the recommendations from the forum. This program of support was executed through the UNDP country office (Ramcharan, G, Bertrand 2008, p.53)".

UNDP's commitment and contribution continue to be consistent in conflict-affected countries, in a multidimensional sense. Beginning in restoring justice and security services during and in the immediate aftermath of conflict, crisis, or largescale violence to rebuild confidence in national systems, reinforce political settlements, and contribute to peace dividends and community resilience (Ramcharan, Bertrand & Ramcharan, Robin 2020, p.21).

The presence of weapons, including weapons of mass destruction, conventional arms, and new weapon technologies, is seen as an obstacle to peace and security in the future. So, the disarmament process, demobilization was seen as immediate in terms of creating a safer environment, creating a new moment towards a generation with

perspective, serious multilateral dialogue, as a goal of joint efforts for peace and security.

According to these issues the Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, on 24 May 2018 launched “Securing our Common Future”. The Agenda for Disarmament, as summarized by United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs. The Agenda for Disarmament rests on four pillars: Disarmament to save humanity, disarmament that saves lives, Disarmament for future generations, and strengthening partnerships for disarmament (Ramcharan, Bertrand & Ramcharan, Robin 2020 p.14).

AU in cooperation with UN offices in the African continent, and other Regional Organizations has worked hard to strengthen the Agenda for Disarmament, as well as various diplomatic agendas that focus on sustainable development, the proper justice system, etc in its preventive strategies. In this context, UNOWA reflects by action in a broad framework for peace and security.

UNOWA together with UN offices in Africa, ECOWAS, and other regional Organizations, like with European Union (EU), adopted a framework of action for peace and security. Except the DDR- Inter alia the Framework contains:

- Improving governance and protecting
- Electoral assistance and observation
- Conflict management coordination human rights
- Peace agreements

As we mentioned earlier, involving as many actors as possible, including those at the local level in preventive diplomacy is essential to preventing conflict and building lasting peace. In this regard, the AU has paid attention to the role of women as ambassadors in peacebuilding “The AU now has a cadre of female ambassadors for peace, and we are adding more and more prominent names to our cadre (Ramcharan, Bertrand & Ramcharan, Robin 2020 Ch.VII)”.

After transformation by CSCE in Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, it determined her internal restructuring, through the creation of institutions, as well as a new approach to the concept of PD through early reaction methods.

Early warning threats, conflict prevention, crisis management, and post-conflict rehabilitation are the main purpose of OSCE, so regarding this “The OSCE already has unique and well-tested structures and processes for early warning and conflict prevention in place: institutions, field operations, the Conflict Prevention Centre, the High Commissioner on National Minorities (Sandole, D, J, Denis 2007, p.16)”.

The measures taken by the OSCE to build and maintain peace and security are multidimensional but can be defined in three: "political-security, economic and environmental and human dimension. OSCE assistance to conflict-affected countries is continuous through various programs, through trained personnel, providing funding in the short, medium, and long term, for example, causa in Croatia 1992, the OSCE has supported the annual plan of the Croatian Government in the direction of judicial reform (Mason, David & Meernik, D. James 2006, p.95).

In the decade we have entered, it is a very hopeful long-term goal set by the UN, in conflict prevention and peacekeeping, and a step forward to a more secure future for humanity.

Respect for human rights, promote the rule of law, strengthen relevant national institutions, sustainable development is some of the points set out in the UN Agenda, known as the UN Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 16.

Inter alia, the SDG 16 maintain:

- Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related deaths rates everywhere.
- Promote the rule of law at the national level and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all.
- Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime.
- Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development.

(Bertrand Ramcharan • Robin Ramcharan, 2020, p.16)

5. Challenges and elements for success

PD is accompanied by various challenges in CP and management, and this comes because of many factors in IR.

The end of the Cold War, inter-state conflicts, those of interethnic character, the creation of new states which resulted in changes in the geographical aspect, reforms in the socio-political system, then terrorism, extremism, climate change, poverty, cybercrime, possession of nuclear weapons, etc are just some of the existing problems faced by the PD in conflict prevention. "The withering away of the Cold War and simultaneous transformation of political communities around the world presents new challenges as far as conflict resolution and peacebuilding are concerned (Murithi, Tim 2009 p.44)".

The creation of new states, meanwhile, increases the appetite of different ethnic groups in their independence, if we take into account the fact that a large number of different ethnic groups live in multi-ethnic societies, then new hotbeds of crisis should be expected "The existence of the multi-ethnic state around the world means that this issue is bound to continue to be a recurring problem for the international community and a challenge to efforts to promote and build peace (Murithi, Tim 2009, p.51)".

Failure to treat ethnic groups by nation-states, fairly, not seeing cultural and ethnic diversity as a value in multi-ethnic societies, but applying the prevailing practice, certainly the likelihood of conflict will always be present and tend to shift to conflict.

The lack of quick reaction in the hotbeds of conflict, the underestimation of the situation, respectively the lack of serious treatment of the problem by the international community, and the non-unification of the international factor are also challenging that accompany preventive diplomacy. "Many states and regional organizations see little or no point in working with conflict prevention since there are no military conflicts. The old saying "why fix it when it is not broken" becomes a sad reality. This is the same as saying "why to buy insurance if you are not sick". The simple answer is that when you need the insurance, it is too late to get it (Niklas, L.P. Swanström & Mikael S. Weissmann, p.27-28)".

An element of success in the DP is undoubtedly the logic of thinking differently, respectively the change of approach by the IC in relation to CP.

The transition from a culture of reaction to a culture of prevention means early access of the IC to the pre-conflict hotbeds, not allowing the conflict to start, going to discover the roots of the conflict, not just solving the problem, coming down to the parties to the conflict, their involvement as an actor in solving the problem, since the parties to the conflict know better the roots of the problem will certainly be one of the elements of success in the PD ” People caught in a violent conflict know their particular challenges better than any outsider. Thus, empowering those people and listening to them is an important element of planning project interventions (PASTRANA, A. & Solimano at all)”.

An element of success is also the platform developed by the IC, respectively the UN in the long run in the prevention and management of conflict, known as the Agenda for Peace which includes many activities in this regard.

The Agenda for Peace includes various projects by international organizations, NGOs and other actors through assistance in various forms, including that with trained staff as well as financial assistance.

Conclusions

The period after the Second World War, as well as the one after the Cold War, has marked new developments in the international community, and at the same time has determined new approaches, new methods in relation to preventive diplomacy, respectively the creation of a concept within Preventive Diplomacy to prevent conflicts.

The main purpose of Preventive Diplomacy will be action to prevent disputes from arising between parties, to prevent existing disputes from escalating into conflicts, and to limit the spread of the latter when they occur.

Extraordinary role and contribution regarding these issues in Preventive Diplomacy, has given by former Secretary General of the

United Nations Boutros Ghali in his report: An Agenda for Peace, An Agenda for Development and An Agenda for Democratization.

In the context of conflict prevention, the Agenda for peace of the former UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros Ghali, marks an important turning point in international relations in terms of approach to conflict prevention, also regarding new threats to peace and security have been identified four major areas of activity have that United Nations should respond quickly and effectively, like preventive diplomacy, peacemaking, peacekeeping, and post-conflict peacebuilding.

The tools used in preventive diplomacy are diverse and numerous, like mediation, good offices, arbitration, deployment, etc. In this context, the international community has taken a very important step towards conflict prevention, going through “culture of reaction to a culture of prevention”.

Within the culture of prevention, early warning conflict, problem identification, rapid collection of information, problem recognition, analysis, and clear conclusions are a clear view for International Community for the way how to approach the conflict.

Also, rapid and unified nature actions by the International Community in conflicts, the will of the parties in conflict for peace, are a key towards preventive diplomacy, peacemaking, peacekeeping, and post-conflict peacebuilding.

The contribution of the United Nations, as well as other mechanisms in conflict prevention through Prevention Diplomacy, conflict management has been crucial in some conflicts in the post-World War II period, and after Cold War.

The investment of the International Community in conflict prevention, respectively the measures that have been taken in terms of conflict prevention are various and numerous. In this regard, important is the legal framework that has been created within these mechanisms, and the creation of internal mechanisms for the implementation of prevention tools within the Preventive Diplomacy.

Mediation Support Unit, Commissions, various Departments as well as Regional Centers on different continents are some of these mechanisms. The investment of the international community will continue through the support in the establishment of Institutions in post-conflict

countries, the financing of various projects, cooperation, and assistance through experts in various fields.

Strengthening preventive diplomacy in the international community is seen, and understood as a need and necessity in peacebuilding, so the integration of regional actors - inter-regional, government organizations, NGO- s, experts, individual actors, but also groups of different entities in is very important, and one of the main tools in this direction.

Of course, Preventive Diplomacy in the future will be challenged in conflict prevention, and this comes because of many factors in international relations. Interethnic problems, inter-state ones, reforms in the socio-political system, new forms of violence such as terrorism, extremism, then climate change, poverty, cybercrime, possession of nuclear weapons, etc, are just some of the existing problems.

The creation of new states, meanwhile multi-ethnic societies increase the appetite of different ethnic groups in their independence, failure to treat ethnic groups by nation-states, the lack of quick reaction in the hotbeds of conflict, the underestimation of the situation, respectively the lack of serious treatment of the problem by the international community and the non-unification of the international factor are also challenges that accompany preventive diplomacy.

The transition from a culture of reaction to a culture of prevention, involving as many actors as possible, in preventive diplomacy to preventing conflict are only some elements of success.

Quick reaction in the hotbeds of conflict, the serious treatment of the problem by the international community, unification of the international factor, and the platform known as the UN Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as the mechanisms that will take care of the implementation of these measures, will be an element of success in Preventive Diplomacy.

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