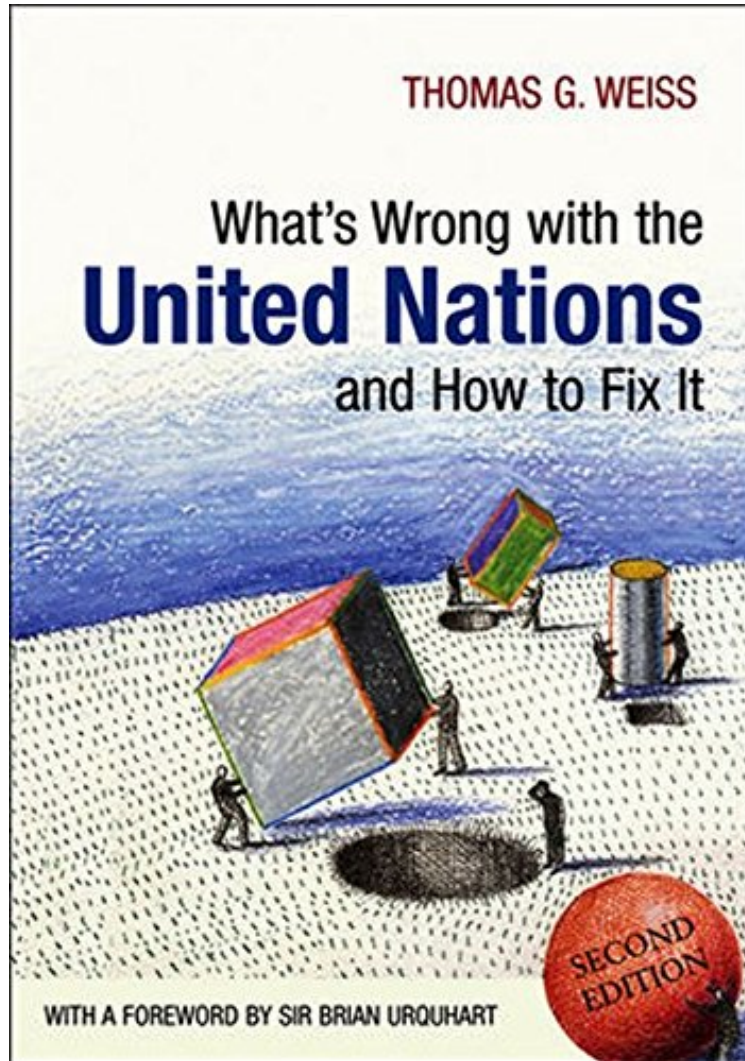


(Download) What's Wrong with the United Nations and How to Fix it

What's Wrong with the United Nations and How to Fix it

Thomas G. Weiss

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Thomas G. Weiss : What's Wrong with the United Nations and How to Fix it before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised What's Wrong with the United Nations and How to Fix it:

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Just rightBy Douglas GardnerThe guy knows his stuff! Good analysis... the UN is still our best hope. US readers and US citizens have to wise up that the UN matters greatly.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. The United Nations - A Dysfunctional FamilyBy Jeri ZerWhat's Wrong with the United Nations and How to Fix It, by Thomas G. Weiss, is an in-depth introspection into the history of the United Nations and the challenges it has faced in meeting the challenges of the post Cold War era. Weiss, a

Presidential Professor at The City University of New York's Graduate Center, blames self-interested membership and artificial divisions between the industrialized North and the global South as major barriers to the efficacy of the United Nations. Although the author devotes nearly half of this book to performing diagnostics on the problems within the United Nations, he devotes the last 4 chapters to "suggestions" on how the United Nations could be retooled as an effective and functional international body. Weiss calls upon world leaders to redefine national interests in terms of international responsibility. He also calls upon the UN to move beyond the "North-South Divide" and forge creative partnerships, overcoming long-standing and counterproductive divides. The author further advocates that the United Nations "Deliver as One", through centralizing authority and coordinating responses among UN agencies. Finally, Weiss calls for the re-invigoration of the International Civil Service, through the recruiting of a more mobile and younger staff, to provide better career development for the twenty-first century world organization. Thomas G. Weiss is a world renowned expert on the United Nations and has authored many publications on the UN and international affairs. This second edition book is a great read for students of international affairs, but may be slightly academic for the casual non-fiction reader. I also recommend *The United Nations and Changing World Politics* by Weiss. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Strong analysis. By Greeny Weiss comes across as a supremely levelheaded yet optimistic thinker on the United Nations. He just lays it out and the only logical conclusion is to liquidate the institution and start over and with much more responsibility and cost-effectiveness. This author worked at the U.N. for ten years. He explains why the international civil service system is a complete, irredeemable mess. There was a time when it was probably in our nation's interests to keep the regime going as it is. Also, appointment to senior level positions at the U.N. is dysfunctional as it's based exclusively on politics as the book describes. The vision presented for world governance was positive although it didn't move me. Unlike the author, I'm not sufficiently optimistic to believe that good world governance is within our grasp. I want to believe more than I do.

Six decades after its establishment, the United Nations and its system of related agencies and programs are perpetually in crisis. While the twentieth-century's world wars gave rise to ground-breaking efforts at international organization in 1919 and 1945, today's UN is ill-equipped to deal with contemporary challenges to world order. Neither the end of the Cold War nor the aftermath of 9/11 has led to the next generation of multilateral institutions. But what exactly is wrong with the UN, and how can we fix it? Is it possible to retrofit the world body? In his succinct and hard-hitting analysis, Thomas G. Weiss takes a diagnose-and-cure approach to the world organizations inherent difficulties. In the first half of the book, he considers: the problems of international leadership and decision making in a world of self-interested states; the diplomatic difficulties caused by the artificial divisions between the industrialized North and the global South; the structural problems of managing the UN's many overlapping jurisdictions, agencies, and bodies; and the challenges of bureaucracy and leadership. The second half shows how to mitigate these maladies and points the way to a world in which the UN's institutional ills might be cured. His remedies are not based on pious hopes of a miracle cure for the UN, but rather on specific and encouraging examples that could be replicated. With considered optimism and in contrast to received wisdom, Weiss contends that substantial change in intergovernmental institutions is plausible and possible. The new and expanded second edition of this well-regarded and indispensable book will continue to spark debate amongst students, scholars, and policymakers concerned with international politics, as well as anyone genuinely interested in the future of the United Nations and multilateral cooperation.

"Alas, Thomas Weiss has written a very good book - he makes clear how badly the UN is broken." *Economic and Political Weekly* "By any standard, this is a work of unusual ambition, scope, and insight. Only Tom Weiss, one of the UN's most prolific and experienced observers, could so adroitly capture the world body's perils and promise with such a winning combination of clarity, rigor, and wisdom." Edward C. Luck, Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General "A comprehensive and extremely thoughtful analysis by the leading scholar of the UN in the United States, this should be on the required reading list for the US president, and the leaders of other nations as well." Craig N. Murphy, Wellesley College and University of Massachusetts Boston This is a very timely book, given the broad spectrum of growing difficulties facing the international system and the United Nations. It provides an analytically powerful and empirically rich account of a UN in crisis, followed by a range of sensible suggestions to place the world organization on a more sound footing in its address of deepening challenges. It speaks to issues of profound scholarly and policy relevance in a way that is eminently accessible to a wide range of readers. S. Neil MacFarlane, St Annes College, University of Oxford About the Author Thomas G. Weiss is Presidential Professor at the City University of New York's Graduate Center and Director of the Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies.