

Revision Summary Sheet – UK and its relations with the wider world.

International Organisation	A group of countries that agree political and economic priorities and set up organisations that enable them to work together	Mediation	To work with countries to help them settle a dispute
Intervention	interference by a state in another's affairs.	Sanctions	Penalties applied to member states in attempt to encourage compliance with UN declarations.
International Partnership	Cooperation between countries around the world. They are important for peace and wealth.	Millennium Development Goals	International Targets, coordinated by the UN, to meet the needs of the worlds poorest people
International Law	a body of rules established by custom or treaty and recognized by nations as binding in their relations with one another.	International Humanitarian Law	A set of rules that aims to protect people's rights in times of war. It protects civilians and those armed personnel no longer fighting. Puts limits on the weapons and tactics that can be used.
LEDC	Less Economically developed country	MEDC	More economically developed country

North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO)

Foundation year: 1949

Purpose: a counterweight to Russia and it's allies after WW2. A military alliance of western democratic countries. Each country in the alliance agrees to support other members who are attacked.

Membership: 28 independent member countries in Europe and North America. Turkey is also a member.

UK contribution :The UK was one of 12 founding countries. The UK is the 2nd biggest contributor of personnel and weapons to support NATO-led operations.

Government Policy: (2016) NATO membership is he main element of the UK's defence policy and strategy. The UK will work with NATO partners to respond effectively to security threats and crises.

Commonwealth

Foundation year: 1931

Purpose: established to maintain relationships between the UK and former colonies as they became independent. To encourage and safeguard: cultural understanding, links between people and communities, democracy, human rights, economic development, sport, improve the quality of teaching and school leadership in all member nations.

Membership: 53 developed or developing countries with historic ties to the UK – most are former British colonies.

UK contribution: The UK is a founding member. Each member country has and equal say in decision making. All members contribute financially. Wealthier countries pay a larger membership. The British monarch is head of the commonwealth as well as head of state in many commonwealth nations.

Government Policy: (2016) strengthen the commonwealth to promote democracy in member states. Support sustainable development in the commonwealth. Encourage the strengthening and promotion of human rights, democratic values and rule of law.

Council of Europe

Foundation year: 1949.

Purpose: To promote human rights and justice for all citizens and prevent threats to democracy. Supports the rule of law. The European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) enforces the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR)

Membership: 47 member states in Europe including all 28 members of the EU. All members have signed up to the ECHR.

UK contribution: The UK was a founding member and has a permanent representative on the COE to represent British interests.

Government Policy: (2016) increase the effectiveness of the COE and the UK's influence within it. Encourage the COE to do more to imprpve Human rights democracy and respect for the rule of law.

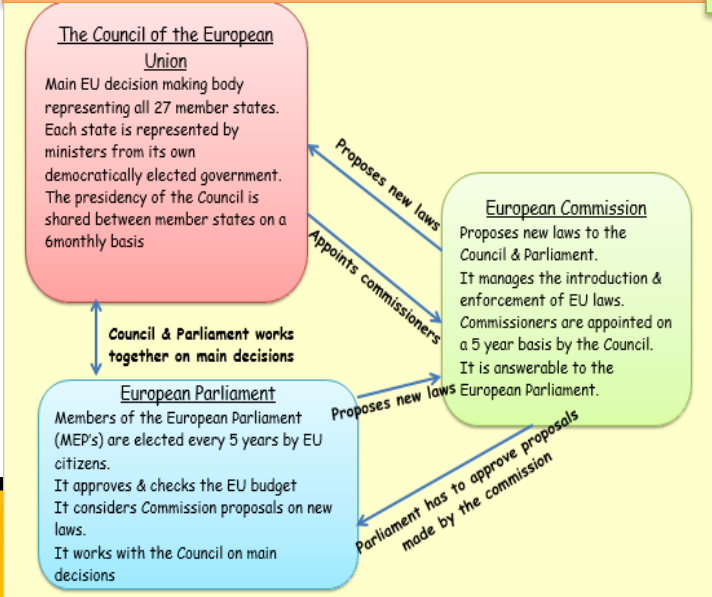
Revision Summary Sheet – UK and its relations with the wider world.

World Trade Organisation
Foundation year: 1995
Purpose: enables member countries to agree the rules of world trade, settle any trading disputes fairly and promote free trade. The aim is to help producers of goods and services, exporters, and importers to trade efficiently.
Membership: 162 members including MEDCs and LEDCs from all continents.
UK contribution: The UK does not have its own seat on the WTO, participating through the EU block. The UK has made a financial contributions to support least developed countries' efforts to stimulate trade.
Government Policy: (2016) Encourage free trade and oppose attempts by governments to protect their countries' businesses from competition. Support LEDCs to help them access global markets and increase their capacity to trade.

European Union
Foundation year: 1957. Originally set up with 6 member countries in 1951.
Purpose: Originally to prevent another war and encourage cooperation. Encourages and safeguards: cross boarder trade and cooperation, economic development, political cooperation, security, cultural links.
Membership: the UK joined in 1973. 28 European countries. Including a mix of wealthy (the UK, France) and less wealthy countries (Greece, Poland)
UK contribution: UK parliament holds regular meetings with their MEP counterparts. 78 MEPS represent the UK. The UK makes a financial contribution to the EU. We also get money back in rebates and grants.
Government Policy: (2016) The government is against the "ever closer" union" favoured by some EU members. The UK did not adopt the Euro and has no plans to do so. We are in the process of leaving the EU following the EU referendum.

Advantages
The EU insists that all member states respect the human rights of their citizens
Member states are less likely to go to war with each other.
It is easier to member states to buy and sell things (to trade) with each other
By working together, EU member states have more power in global politics and trade.
Citizens of EU member states can move around more easily for both work and pleasure.
Citizens of EU member states can get help from the embassy of any other member state when they are travelling outside the EU.
The EU forces member states to take a more global approach to issues, e.g. pollution.

Disadvantages
Member states aren't free to act alone in some situations.
The EU costs money to run.
National governments don't have the final say on some issues affecting their citizens (loss of sovereignty).
The original aim of the EU was to prevent further war in Europe by bringing the European nations together into a co-operative alliance. EU member countries have more power in the world as a group. They can take joint action to solve problems and aim to promote human rights and democracy in its member countries and around the world. The EU aims to bring the laws and systems of each member country closer together and integrate them. This makes it easier for people to move between countries and for business and trade.



NGO's – Non Governmental Organisations.
 Not funded by the government. Most of the time they are a charity funded by donations from the public. NGO's go where they are needed most. This might be areas of conflict, areas where there are refugee camps, areas that have suffered from natural disaster. They help to support people in rebuilding their lives, support them in getting an education, better access to clean water and other resources.

Examples of NGO's are:
 Save the Children; UNICEF; OXFAM; Age Concern
 Amnesty International; Children in Need; Cancer Research; The Diana Princess of Wales Memorial Fun

United Nations (UN)

Foundation year: 1945. The UN's predecessors was the league of nations, originally founded in 1920 following WW1.

Purpose: The UN provides a forum for dealing peacefully with international issues. They have prevented a third world conflict since WW2. The aim is to protect human rights by taking action on issues such as: Peace and security; climate change; sustainable development; terrorism; humanitarian and health emergencies; gender equality and food production.

Membership: 193 member states. Only 3 states in the world aren't members (Vatican City, Taiwan and Kosovo)

UK contribution: The UK is 1 of 5 permanent seats on the UN security council – responsible for trying to resolve conflict between states, protect human rights and prevent war. The security council mediate and impose sanctions or even use force to maintain or restore international peace and security. The UK makes financial contributions of over £90 million towards running costs and contributes UK troops to UN peace keeping missions.

Government Policy: (2016) The UK government supports: UN declarations and agreements; UN development goals; UN environmental targets (e.g. climate change and carbon emissions); target of contributing 0.7% of national wealth towards overseas development.

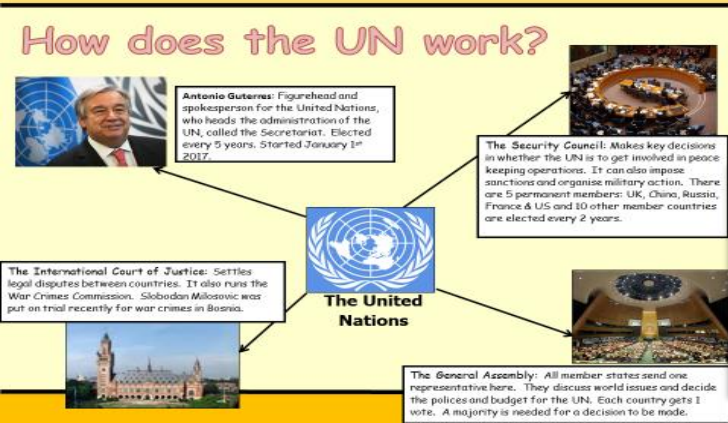
- The seven basic international rules of conflict**
1. People not taking part in fighting should have their lives protected by all sides in the conflict.
 2. An enemy who surrenders should not be killed or injured.
 3. Wounded and sick people should be collected and cared for by whichever side comes across them. The Red Cross or Red Crescent emblem is the sign of such protection and must be respected.
 4. All captured fighters and civilians are entitled to respect for their lives, dignity, personal rights and convictions. They shall have the right to contact their families and to receive aid.
 5. Everyone shall be entitled to a fair trial if they are accused of doing something wrong. No one shall be physically or mentally tortured, or given physical punishment or cruel or degrading treatment.
 6. Weapons or methods of warfare should not be used if they cause unnecessary losses or excessive suffering.
 7. Fighters should always respect civilians and their property. Civilians should not be attacked. All attacks should be against other fighters or military targets.

The United Nations (UN) aims to achieve the responsibilities set out in the Charter:

- Maintain international peace and security
- Develop friendly relation among nations
- Cooperate in solving international problems
- Promote respect for Human Rights.

 1 ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY AND HUNGER	 2 ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION	 3 PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN	 4 REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY
 5 IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH	 6 COMBAT HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND OTHER DISEASES	 7 ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY	 8 GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT

Millennium Development Goals



Arguments for intervening:

- The UK has the strongest economy in the world.
- A permanent seat on the UN security Council.
- 1 of 9 countries with Nuclear Weapons.

Arguments for not intervening:

- The UK has a smaller army, navy and air force than in the past.
- UK governments have been involved in international conflicts and crises which has split public opinion and caused heated public debate.

