

UN Sanctions: A Tool of Peace, Security and Human Rights?

UN sanctions are intended to stop wars, save lives, and alleviate suffering

In other words, only Article 41 measures are sanctions.

To achieve these essentially humanitarian objectives, the UN Charter prescribes in:

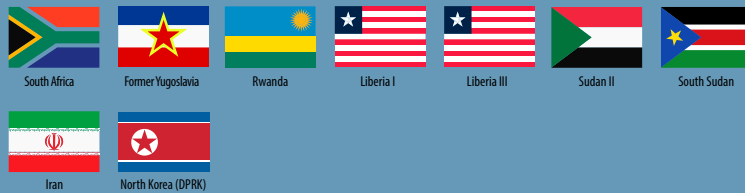
- Article 39/40, circumstances under which the Security Council can impose UN sanctions.
- Article 41, sanctions measures such as embargoes, or disrupting economic and diplomatic relations.
- Article 42, provisions for the use of military force when measures under Article 41 prove inadequate for maintaining or restoring international peace and security.

Of the 30 UN sanctions regimes ever adopted by the UN the distinction between Articles 41 and 42 is often ignored, or undermined by the unilateral actions of individual states.

The following 13 UN sanctions cases were undercut by the **use of military force**:



These 9 UN sanctions cases were partially **undermined by unilateral sanctions and related policies**:



These 8 UN sanctions cases appear to **have achieved or are achieving their political and humanitarian objectives** largely on their own merits:



Why do UN sanctions not receive the political, diplomatic, and economic support to prevent or end conflict and human suffering?



FIND OUT MORE IN THE NEW BOOK:
[The Evolution of UN Sanctions: From a Tool of Warfare to a Tool of Peace, Security and Human Rights.](#)

