

Abstract

The study is trying to show the retreats in role of the United Nations as an actor in the international system in the period that followed the events of 11th Sep. 2001. For the benefit to the major countries, especially the United States compared with the effective role that the United Nations played after the end of the Cold War.

This study is based on a hypothesis which is "The role of the United Nations has regressed in the international arena regarding to impose respect of international legitimacy resolutions, rules of international law, and keeping international peace and security, after the events of 11th Sep. 2001 compared with its active role during the period following the end of the Cold War and the collapse of the Soviet Union. This regress of the role of the United Nations occurred for the benefit of some superpowers, especially the United States of America."

The study depends on a comparative historical approach, based on the realist theory, and the Liberal theory to explain the relationship between the United Nations and the superpowers. This study will consist of four chapters; the first chapter will discuss the international relations theoretical theories, the international regulation, the United Nations in addition to Bilateral and uni-polar system. The second Chapter will deal with the role of the United Nations' political presence during the periods of the study; the third chapter handled the socio-economic role of the United Nations, and the initiatives of Boutros-Ghali and Kofi Annan for activating and reforming the United Nations. The fourth chapter is

a comparative case study Examine the role of the United Nations dealing with the Iraq-Kuwait crisis in 1991, and its role in the Iraq crisis in 2003.

In the end, many factors contributed to the failure not to adopt the basic hypothesis on this study the First one, the study concluded that ignoring the resolutions of international legitimacy after the events of 11th Sep. 2001 was not a precedent, but the nineties of the twentieth century had witnessed transgression of the United Nations and the states individual decisions. The Second factor, we can not consider the period from the end of the Cold War until the events of 11th Sep. 2001 as an era of one trait in respect of the role of United Nations, as that era witnessed ups and downs because of the changes in the international arena, especially since the middle of the nineties, which witnessed regress of the role of the United Nations in favor of the States and international financial institutions, this regress was continued and strengthened after the events of May 11th Sep. 2001.