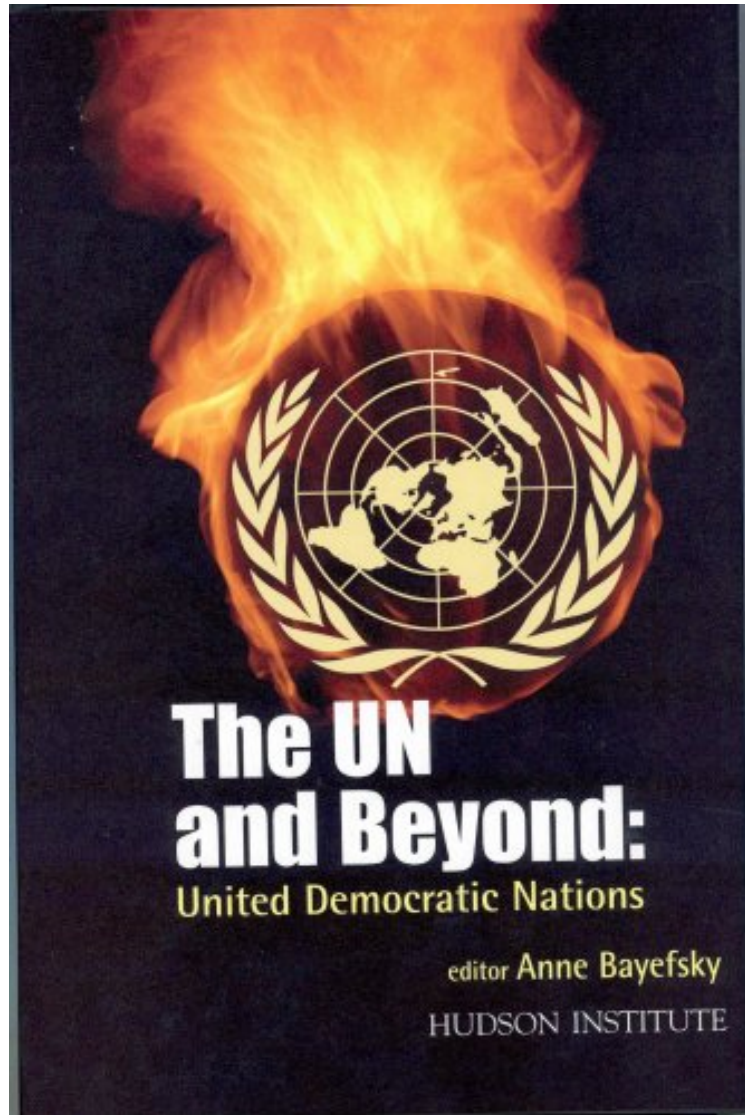


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The UN and Beyond: United Democratic Nations

Anne Bayefsky

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Anne Bayefsky : The UN and Beyond: United Democratic Nations before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The UN and Beyond: United Democratic Nations:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Fantastic!!By Joseph BorghesThis amazing collection of essays makes a tremendous contribution to the world of international politics. It makes ever more clear why the United States should always bear in mind that democracy comes first. The United Nations pits democracies against each other and has a negative effect on US foreign policy and freedom all over the world. I particularly liked the opening chapter by Anne Bayefsky and the incredibly insightful poll by Frank Luntz in the annex which provides a very enlightening view of the UN's inability to fight the war on terrorism and contribute to international poeace and security. The book is

beautifully illustrated. Its essays are from a powerful conference that made a tremendous impact for posterity. A very good education on the UN!!5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Some good ideas about a bad organization

By Jill Malter

The contributors in this small volume have done a good job. They have shown how far the United Nations has strayed from its original goals. They have shown the UN to be a perverse institution that is incapable of reform. And they have a recommendation, namely to work towards creating some sort of "United Democratic Nations." Let's look at this idea for a minute. Why would a United Democratic Nations work any better than the UN? Well, it might not. But a key aspect could be the concept of a "coalition of the willing." That's what Herbert London discusses at the start of the book. And this coalition could begin with just a few nations, say the US, Canada, the UK, Japan, and Australia. I think London is on the right track, but I still do not fully agree. After all, the problem with the UN is that it got itself a good name and then became perverse. It was not only unable to solve new problems; it became a contributor to them. I see the solution as something else: have no standing organization at all. If problems arise, come up with ad hoc coalitions of the willing who are determined to solve them and then disband. Most of the work among nations can be performed individually or bilaterally, and the rest can be done without having a prior established organization. I think the lesson of the UN is that such organizations make matters worse. Many of the contributors show that the UN has been corrupt, ineffective, and wasteful. And some deplore the fact that we Americans pay for so much of it. But I think this misses the point. Even if the US stopped paying for any of the UN, and even if the UN stopped being corrupt somehow, it would still be perverse and irresponsible, and it would still support the some of the most aggressive and counterproductive nations and gangs. I do not wish to see the UN "reform" in such a manner. Instead, I wish to see it outlawed. That suggestion may seem outrageous and extreme on my part. But my answer is that one can not keep selling poison as food indefinitely: eventually people will quit buying it, one way or another. If civilization is destroyed, the UN will go with it. If civilization survives, sooner or later the UN will vanish. And I hope it is sooner. We won't miss it. Some of the contributors make a few points that are worth special notice. Anne Bayefsky, a human rights expert who truly does support human rights for all, says that it is tragic that the UN is against us, "but the tragedy will be far greater if we refuse to say: enough." Ayann Hirsi Ali says that the UN "has been outright complicit in a great many conflicts and human rights abuses." Natan Sharansky says that "moral clarity is the key" and shows how one can put pressure on nations by adopting a moral stance. Claudia Rosett states that the model that best explains the UN is the Soviet Union, adding that if one spends enough money, some of it may accidentally be used to accomplish a few good things. Of course, it is better to use money to do a lot more good things, on purpose! Jed Babbin shows how the UN, by removing diplomatic options, leaves us with the unappetizing choices of appeasement and war. Michel Gurfinkel tells us that while immigration can be good or bad, it is bad for democratic countries when immigrants do not want to abide by democratic necessities and also bad when immigrants are "under the sway of ochlocracy" (mob rule, which often demands conformity or death). And he also points out that the UN "is the chief world producer of political and geopolitical lies." He finishes by quoting Francois Mitterand who, upon deciding to disband the State Security Court, said "You don't reform bad things. You just scrap them." Bernard Lewis shows why he realized the UN was hopeless back in the 1940s: it refused to respond to the Arab use of force against its Mandate in the Levant. He mentions that the reason the partition of the Levant, although so much smaller than the one of India, failed while the one of India and Pakistan has pretty much worked "is that the United Nations was not involved in the partition of India." He shows how silly it is for those who support Arab tyrants to be called people with a "pro-Arab point of view." As he says, such a view is in no way pro-Arab, instead showing "ignorance of the Arab past, contempt for the Arab present, and unconcern for the Arab future." And he finishes by warning us that we need to make the effort to help the Arab nations become free, even though it won't be easy and even though the UN will not help, "because either we free them or they destroy us." I'd rephrase that as "either they become free or they will hurt everyone, including themselves." Norman Podhoretz shows us that the League of Nations deserved contempt, given the way it did nothing in the face of aggression. However, as he says, the UN is much worse: it "manages to compound every evil it confronts or that the UN was founded to prevent." The book is dedicated to four great Americans who served at the UN: Eleanor Roosevelt, Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Jeane Kirkpatrick, and John Bolton (who is also a contributor to this volume). I recommend this book.

The UN and Beyond: United Democratic Nations is a muscular indictment of the United Nations five years after 9/11. A compilation of essays from nineteen experts in government, politics, journalism, and academia, the book challenges the assumption that there is no alternative to the UN. The central argument is passionately argued and delivered: the UN today is a political battlefield where democracies (89 to 103) are outnumbered and outgunned; despotic regimes, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, and the Non-Aligned Movement call the policy shots; and power-grabs by EU back-benchers subvert coordinated action among free nations jockeying for influence and dominance within their own sphere. The authors turn the spotlight on escalating anti-Americanism and anti-semitism within the UN, where Islamic countries manipulate shifting coalitions to transform every and any platform - the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, the Commission on the Status of Women - into launching pads for political, policy, and public-opinion strikes against Israel and the United States. The answer, according to this battleplan, lies in the creation of an

alternative to the UN, a "United Democratic Nations" (UDN) in which genuine democracies might reclaim and refocus the world's attention on the ideas so bravely articulated in the original UN Charter. TABLE OF CONTENTS
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Quotes from the Book The lack of moral clarity has been the ruin of the United Nations. If the UN did not exist, then America could now go to its democratic allies and determine how jointly to defend democracy. Natan Sharansky, former Soviet dissident and Israeli Member of Parliament; The UN, like Falstaff, is not only confused and feckless itself, but contributes to confusion and fecklessness in others. William Bennett, former U.S. Secretary of Education; Host, Morning in America; As a tool of conflict prevention, the United Nations has been worse than ineffective. It has been outright complicit in a great many conflicts and human-rights abuses. Ayaan Hirsi Ali, former Dutch Member of Parliament; Human Rights Activist; On the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations we observed fraud and corruption on a massive scale in the UN oil-for-food program. Little or nothing has been accomplished since those findings. Norm Coleman, U.S. Senator (R-MN); The United States has roughly 44 times greater share in the budget of the UN than it does in voting at the 192-member General Assembly. John Bolton, former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations; We must attach a rider on every penny that goes to the United Nations requiring the following: transparency. Tom Coburn, U.S. Senator (R-OK); The only answer is to bring freedom to today's adversaries, for either we free them or they destroy us. That path will not be helped by the UN. Bernard Lewis, Professor Emeritus, Princeton University; An organization composed of tyrannies and democracies cannot prevail. Interests and perspectives are so different as to be incompatible. Herbert London, President, Hudson Institute; Five years to the day of the 9/11 attack on America, an international gathering of leading diplomats, scholars, journalists and elected officials was convened within the shadow of the UN barely five miles from Ground Zero. History will record that the insight, wisdom and intellectual firepower gathered in one place at one time for one purpose was instrumental in helping the democracies of the world, and the billions of people they represent, find their way following the moral collapse of the United Nations. Lawrence Kadish, Trustee --the Hudson Institute About the Author Anne Bayefsky is a Senior Fellow with the Hudson Institute, founder of EYEontheUN and Director of the Touro College Institute on Human Rights and the Holocaust. EYEontheUN is the only independent watchdog headquartered in New York dedicated to making transparent the UN's record on its fundamental promise to identify, condemn, and protect against human rights violations and to confront and respond to threats to international peace and security. EYEontheUN seeks to expose the UN's egregious violation of that promise, including impotence and neglect in the face of genocide, terrorism and nuclear proliferation, discrimination against Israel and support for anti-semitism. In addition to research, analysis and the production of regular reports on the UN record, EYEontheUN promotes the development of an organization for international cooperation serving democracies and individual victims of abuse the world over a United Democratic Nations. Currently on leave from York University, is a member of the International Law Association Committee on Human Rights Law and Practice, and Editor-in-Chief of the series "Refugees and Human Rights", published by Brill. She holds a B.A., M.A. and LL.B. from the University of Toronto, an M.Litt. from Oxford University, and is a barrister and solicitor of the Ontario Bar.