

Expenditures for United Nations peacekeeping operations from July 2002 to June 2003 are expected to reach about \$2.6 billion—slightly less than in the previous reporting period.<sup>1</sup> (See Figure 1.) This contrasts with military expenditures worldwide of \$839 billion in 2001.<sup>2</sup> Some 47,000 soldiers, military observers, and civilian police served in peacekeeping missions during

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2002, but the number dropped to below 40,000 by the end of the year.<sup>3</sup> (See Figure 2.) In addition, the missions were aided by 10,929 civilians.<sup>4</sup> Two missions—in Bosnia and Croatia—ended in December 2002.<sup>5</sup>

In addition to peacekeeping operations with strong military and police components, the United Nations also maintained 13 small “political and peace-building” missions during 2002, involving 1,073 mostly civilian staff.<sup>6</sup> The largest of these is the U.N. Assistance Mission in Afghanistan set up in March 2002.<sup>7</sup>

The permanent members of the Security Council have been reluctant to make significant troop commitments to peacekeeping missions. The leading contributors of personnel are Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nigeria, India, and Ghana, together accounting for 43 percent of the total.<sup>8</sup>

By far the largest current operation, with more than 16,000 peacekeepers, is in Sierra Leone, where a gruesome civil war fueled by diamond wealth has now wound down.<sup>9</sup> In December 2002, the Security Council decided to raise the authorized personnel strength of the mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo from 4,250 to 8,700.<sup>10</sup> Following the withdrawal of foreign armies, there is hope that a December 2002 peace accord will end violence among domestic combatants in eastern Congo.<sup>11</sup>

In four other locations, the United Nations maintains missions that each deploy 3,000–5,500 peacekeepers.<sup>12</sup> In addition to Kosovo, the Ethiopia-Eritrea border, and southern Lebanon, this includes the U.N. Mission in Support of East Timor, a follow-on to the transitional administration that facilitated East Timor’s May 2002 independence.<sup>13</sup>

The Sierra Leone mission costs about \$700 million a year, followed by the Congo operation

at \$608 million.<sup>14</sup> Expenditures for the Kosovo and East Timor deployments run to more than \$300 million each, and the Ethiopia-Eritrea observers cost more than \$200 million.<sup>15</sup>

As of 31 December 2002, U.N. members still owed the organization \$1.34 billion for peacekeeping operations.<sup>16</sup> The United States accounted for 40 percent of unpaid dues, or \$536 million.<sup>17</sup> The next-largest amounts were owed by Japan (\$312 million), Italy (\$41 million), China (\$39 million), Spain (\$32 million), and Brazil (\$28 million).<sup>18</sup>

A substantial number of peacekeeping missions are also being carried out by regional organizations such as NATO, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), and the Economic Community of West African States, as well as by ad hoc coalitions of states.<sup>19</sup> In recent years, there have been 30–40 non-U.N. missions, involving a far larger number of peacekeeping troops than the United Nations deploys.<sup>20</sup> (See Figure 3.) Although information is incomplete, the combined cost of these operations is likely in the range of \$8–12 billion a year.<sup>21</sup>

NATO-led deployments in the Balkans, where more than 50,000 soldiers are patrolling Kosovo and Bosnia, are by far the largest.<sup>22</sup> The OSCE maintains about a dozen small missions in Eastern Europe and former Soviet republics, involving about 1,500 people.<sup>23</sup> A multinational observer force of roughly 1,900 soldiers has been deployed since 1982 in the Sinai Peninsula.<sup>24</sup> Russia keeps some 5,000 troops in Moldova and the Caucasus.<sup>25</sup> And in Afghanistan, the International Security Assistance Force was created in December 2001 to ensure security in Kabul.<sup>26</sup> It has about 4,800 soldiers from 28 countries.<sup>27</sup> Governments have shortsightedly rejected suggestions that this force be extended beyond Kabul, even though much of Afghanistan is again falling under the sway of warlords and lawlessness.<sup>28</sup>

The personnel devoted to all forms of peacekeeping—some 110,000 persons in 2002—is dwarfed by the more than 400,000 soldiers deployed abroad for traditional military purposes, more than half of whom are U.S. troops.<sup>29</sup>

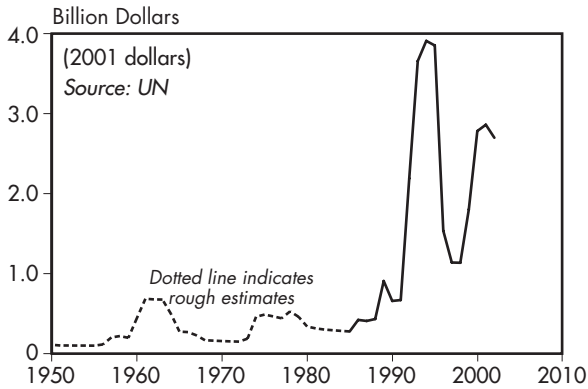


Figure 1: U.N. Peacekeeping Expenditures, 1950–2002

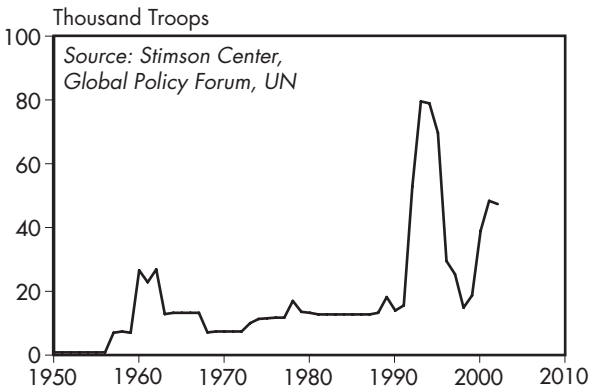


Figure 2: U.N. Peacekeeping Personnel, 1950–2002

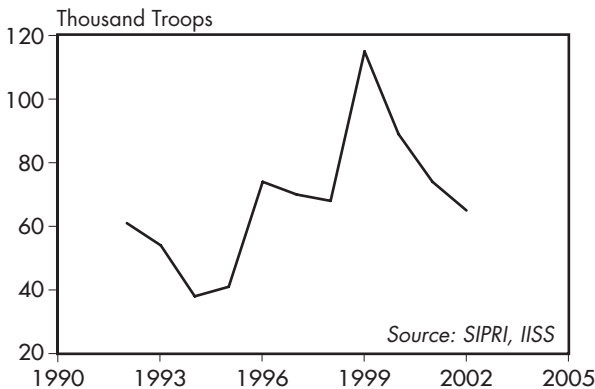


Figure 3: Non-U.N. Peacekeeping Personnel, 1992–2002

U.N. Peacekeeping Expenditures, 1986–2002

Year	Expenditure (billion 2001 dollars)
1986	0.352
1987	0.339
1988	0.363
1989	0.834
1990	0.587
1991	0.598
1992	2.105
1993	3.559
1994	3.809
1995	3.752
1996*	1.456
1997*	1.063
1998*	1.060
1999*	1.721
2000*	2.692
2001*	2.770
2002*	2.609

\* July to June of following year.

Source: U.N. Department of Public Information and U.N. Department of Peacekeeping Operations.

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6. UNDPKI, op. cit. note 1.
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9. UNDPKO, at <[www.un.org/Depts/dpko/unamsil/UnamsilF.htm](http://www.un.org/Depts/dpko/unamsil/UnamsilF.htm)>; UNDPKO, op. cit. note 3.
10. United Nations, “Security Council Expands Authorized Troop Level in Democratic Republic of Congo to 8,700, Noting ‘Encouraging Developments’ on Ground,” press release (New York: 4 December 2002).
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12. UNDPKO, op. cit. note 3.
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