

# Accountability for human rights violations by UN peacekeepers

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## The Accountability for Human Rights Violations by UN Peacekeepers: A Legal and Theoretical Perspective

1. Allowing for immunities on the grounds that actors within international law make a positive contribution, in general, sets a dangerous precedent. It leads to a lack of accountability and changes legal reasoning into legitimacy-based reasoning.
2. An overly formalistic approach to international law may leave it unable to offer the accountability that it was supposed to guarantee.
3. If it looks like an orange, smells like an orange, tastes like an orange, it might, even when considering international legal reasoning, actually be an orange.
4. Approaching law from a purely formalistic viewpoint can make legal reasoning a moot point. Especially within international law, what and how we intend to accomplish the underlying goals should form a key question.
5. The effect of international law on victims of violations should be a primary consideration of all international legal research.
6. Accountability is always difficult—this should, however, only affect the form and not lead to a rejection of the concept.
7. Often, international law is simply the translation of established concepts to new situations.
8. Peace without accountability is not a statement that should only apply to warring parties but also to parties that guarantee that peace.
9. Manoeuvres and chapter deadlines are strange bedfellows.