

SZENT ISTVÁN UNIVERSITY

**STRATEGY OF INTERNATIONAL AND LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR
THE RECONSTRUCTION OF WAR-TORN COUNTRIES, WITH
SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE REBUILDING OF SYRIAN SOCIAL
CAPITAL**

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dr. Samir Zaien

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Title: Doctoral School of Economics and Regional Science

Discipline: Management and Organizational Sciences

Vezetője: Prof. Dr. József Popp, Corresponding member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences
Szent István University, Doctoral School of Management and Organizational Sciences

Supervisor Prof. Dr. József Popp, Corresponding member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences
Szent István University, Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences

.....
Approval of the head of the school

.....
Approval of Superviso

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1. BACKGROUND OF THE WORK

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1.1. Justification and significance of the choice of topic

After the end of the Cold War, the world order changed, the threat of wars between nations diminished, and at the same time, the potential of creating peace grew steadily.

Instead of a peaceful transition from a planned economy to a market economy and from a system of communism to a democratic system, new types of conflicts have emerged in developing and former colonial countries.

Among the trends that emerged in the 1990s, the latter emerged in different parts of the world in the form of a new, enduring phenomenon. In the first period, during the Cold War, it was limited to the Persian Gulf region. However, at the same time as the fall of one of the two superpowers, wars broke out in most countries in the region.

This new form of war was mainly driven by ethnic and religious issues, natural resources, and energy resources. As before, this broke the previous rules of war organized by non-state groups in support of the principle of self-determination, not closely linked to countries.

These conflicts have led to the disintegration of societies, declining trade, and the destruction of agriculture, and in parallel, high unemployment rate and a lack of foreign direct investment (FDI) had to be tackled.

As there was no legitimate governmental structure after the conflicts, the traditional means of exercising power were destroyed or significantly weakened. Meanwhile, in the law enforcement and judicial bodies, which were often part of the problem, the democratic institutional system operated at a low standard or was completely non-existent.

Under these circumstances, the conflicts became permanent, quickly spread to neighbouring countries, and thus affected the entire region. As a result of the trends, the United Nations (UN) has assessed how the situation affects the functioning of the international community and individual countries, including the likelihood of conflict circulating. Increasing conflicts have also been a matter of concern to the international community, seeking answers to prevent extreme violence and humanitarian crises, as well as to address human rights violations within and between states.

The nature of the commitment enshrined in the UN Charter and the responsibility to intervene, as well as the increase in the capacity to carry out its tasks, have enabled the UN to address the issue of state sovereignty and take steps to prevent war.

Article 2 of the UN Charter states that the organization shall refrain from interfering in the internal affairs of states. This raised several issues due to the lack of appropriate plans and intervention programs. Yet the devastating effects of the wars convinced the organization and the Security Council, which is part of it, that a new approach to intervention and participation is needed.

Thus, in the beginning, peacekeeping operations were designed on the basis of mechanisms established during colonization and after World War II to deal with conflicts. Basically, they tried to regulate world affairs in accordance with the interests of the victors (GAZDAG, 2013) and served as a means of filling the power vacuum resulting from the lack of colonial powers. In

addition, a negotiation mechanism has been set up to facilitate a lasting settlement of postcolonial conflicts.

It is important to note that since the beginning of the XIX. century, there have been NGOs that have focused on issues such as the fight against slavery. In recent years, there has been a major change and significant shift in the way these organizations operate. Based on the trends, one of the political scientists dealing with the field is LESTER (1999), who called this phenomenon "I. Global Association Revolution". Within the framework of the development discourse, all this meant redefining the role of non-governmental organizations and at the same time a real and noble approach to the representation of marginalized groups.

In another approach, some researchers consider that non-governmental organizations have a number of comparative advantages which, compared to the functioning of the state and the market, make them more efficient in terms of both the allocation of resources and the reconstruction process. The primary reason for this is to use more effective methods to access areas affected by conflict, to operate in a flexible way (as opposed to a bureaucratic institutional system operating under strict rules) and thus to adapt more easily to the needs of emerging, fragmented, divided communities. They also have more innovative skills in problem management and public services, and the cost of the operations they perform is low. They are also in a favourable position to attract investment and access finance. Finally, they engage directly with individuals using a bottom-up, participatory approach.

International organizations have played an important and distinguished role in recent years, especially in the provision of services. In almost all countries, they functioned as an integral, structural element of functioning systems. Great efforts have been made to take action against international practices and policies based on the exploitation of individuals, thus alleviating the very difficult living conditions experienced in these societies. They also performed important tasks during and after the war. One of the organizations' objectives was to respond quickly to the demands of current situations and to the needs of the local community through the enforcement of fundamental rights enshrined in international human rights standards. Their responsibilities included detecting and publicizing abuses and violations through a number of initiatives and activities and implementing rapid response assistance programs to address the consequences of conflicts.

International organizations are undergoing a major transformation, not only in terms of form of operation or institutional structure, but also in terms of guidelines and ideology. New generation organizations are created, the goals of which are primarily determined by profit-making, international influence and prestige.

The goal of international organizations operating today, whether public or non-governmental (based on legal classification), international or supranational (if we accept geographical features), is to work with governments in war-torn countries to establish key institutions and strategic frameworks which remain operational not only during periods of war but also after war. Their work is aimed at rebuilding societies within a framework that is united economically, culturally, and socially, and that helps deter states from engaging in another war.

Emphasizing the importance of reconstruction and peace-making by highlighting the positive aspects, in particular the problems of growing interstate or intra-state relations and the emergence of international organizations as partners and key players in the reconstruction process. This process expresses a new relationship between the democratic world and those who aspire to the world of democracy, in which elements of a liberal approach also appear.

This idea, which has been the focus of experts since the implementation of the European Reconstruction Project (Marshall Plan), has not brought anything new to this day, but the procedures by which international organizations have been involved as partners in reconstruction have made the process more dynamic. During the work, on the one hand, the advanced methodology of each role had to be assigned, and on the other hand, priorities had to be set. Based on all this, the scientific significance of the research can be summarized below:

- Contribute to the identification of strategies for international reconstruction organizations in war-torn countries through key analysis of strategies and the involvement of organizations in a coordinated and hierarchical manner.
- Compares organizations' strategies and identifies all elements of challenges and potentials.
- Provides research that helps with accurate interpretation and paves the way for future work.
- Researching the concept and importance of social capital as one of the elements that creates a favourable environment for achieving sustainable economic growth after the war.
- To get to know the role of non-governmental organizations in rebuilding social capital. Finding out how they apply standards of transparency and integrity in the process of building social capital.

1.2. Hypotheses of the research

The **first part** of the research focuses on the analysis of the phenomenon of reconstruction and the strategies of international organizations working in the field of post-war reconstruction. Accordingly, the following question is in the focus of the research:

“To what extent have reconstruction strategies contributed to the work of institutions in practice in developing a perspective that creates the plannability of post-war projects?” For a more efficient approach, I formulated two hypotheses:

H1: The contribution of international non-governmental organizations to reconstruction is more effective than that of international governmental organizations because the former is much closer to local communities, interacting with social capital.

H2: Regional organizations contribute more flexible strategies to the planning of reconstruction policies than international organizations because of their interest in resolving the conflict as soon as possible.

However, in order for the hypotheses to be correct, a number of other issues need to be considered:

- a) What do we mean by post-war reconstruction?
- b) How effective are the strategies of active international organizations in reconstruction?
- c) Were NGOs and INGOs able to develop such building models that rival those of international institutions?
- d) What challenges do these organizations face in the peace-making and reconstruction process?

In the **second part** of the research, focusing on the programs of the Syrian Society for Social Development - in a case study - I try to explain the importance of the role of NGOs in rebuilding social capital, which would contribute to the post-war community development process.

Accordingly, I place the following question at the centre of the research:

„ What is the role of NGOs (in this case the Syrian Society for Social Development) in rebuilding social capital in Syria?“

For this, I formulated a third hypothesis:

H3: The resources increase of the human-centered development projects has a positive effect on the social capital.

For example, in the role of the Syrian Society for Social Development, there is a direct statistically significant relationship at the 0.05 significance level, represented by the following independent variables: volume of funding for economic involvement and human capital development, number of projects to strengthen economic actors, human capital, number of family development and gender-based projects and the number of project beneficiaries.

H4: It will be developed for each independent variable, as follows:

- A) The volume of funding for economic participation (X_1) is a “quantitative variable”.
- B) The volume of funding for human capital development (X_2) is a “quantitative variable”.
- C) The number of economic participation related projects (X_3) is a “quantitative variable”.
- D) The number of human capital development projects (X_4) is a “quantitative variable”.
- E) The number of beneficiaries of economic participation projects (X_5) is a “quantitative variable”.
- F) The number of beneficiaries of human capital development projects (X_6) is a “quantitative variable”.
- G) The gender-based development (X_7) is a “dummy variable”.

2. OBJECTIVES

This research aims to achieve comprehensive results from different perspectives, which can be defined as follows:

O1: Expository objectives

Due to the growing commitments of international organizations, it has become warranted to examine them in more detail in order to learn about their new roles and their impact on the global balance of power and the national sovereignty of war-torn states. This sheds light on the issue of post-war reconstruction, which, in its constant timeliness, coincides with the new generation of wars and has a major impact on international conditions. In times of conflicts, basic humanitarian intervention, such as the provision of food aid, shelter, and health services, is an important consideration for both national and international actors.

O2: Exploratory objectives

Through the exploratory goals, I want to provide a clear and objective picture of peace concepts and the peace-making strategy used by the UN. The signing of the peace agreements marks the official end of a war and marks the beginning of the reconstruction phase. In this process, international organizations work with nation states to decide how to manage and what to use available resources for in the economic and social reconstruction of war-torn countries. However, the transition from war to peace is not as simple and smooth as it seems: it becomes the subject of both local and international power relations.

O3: Descriptive objectives

The descriptive aims are to present the collapsed Syrian reality and to determine the impact of the civil war since 2011 on the stability and security of the state, while outlining the motivations for the approach to international aid.

This includes expanding the role of international organizations, but especially the UN in Syria. Description of decisions made by related international law and international organizations such as the UN General Assembly, the UN Security Council, the European Commission, the Council of the European Union, etc. Despite the failure of the UN to resolve the crisis, it has an important role to play in alleviating the situation.

This topic is therefore of great practical importance because it linked the UN's peace-making activities in Syria to the beginning of post-war reconstruction. It also discusses UN practice and methods that can be realistically applied in the Syrian model, highlighting the actual role of the UN and international organizations. It addresses factors affecting the effectiveness of UN peace-making activities in post-conflict areas. Finally, the practices and initiatives presented in the context of peace-making in Syria, the promotion of democratization and the identification of the real situation in an unstable environment are among these objectives too.

O4: Practical objectives

Through these objectives, I seek to demonstrate that not all theories of reconstruction and peace-making can be put into practice. From a constructivist approach, through Syrian reality, I define the role that local NGOs and civil organizations of simple people play in restoring order, legislating, guaranteeing security, and initiating reconstruction processes through social capital.

The existence of civil society, of which NGOs are an important and effective part, is based on rebuilding social capital. It is an important part of the countries because it contributes to the

formation of an important human cadre and to the process of economic and human development within them.

The purpose of my related research is to focus on the following issues:

- a) Presentation of a review of the literature on the role of NGOs in building social capital.
- b) Analysis and assessment of the impact of NGOs and their role in rebuilding social capital.
- c) Knowledge of the extent to which NGOs apply standards of transparency and integrity in rebuilding social capital: how do they make fair use of the resources and capabilities available to them?
- d) To learn about the impact of NGOs operating in Syria (focusing on the applied research case) on the balance of society's capital through the development projects it provides. Emphasizing the importance of the diversity of these societies as well as the services provided to beneficiary groups to alleviate poverty.
- e) To learn about the role of NGOs in achieving gender-based development in rebuilding social capital.
- f) Presenting a standard model structure, in which the role of NGOs in economic participation and human capital development can be assessed. The amount of funding that affects this and the integrity of the targeting of beneficiaries. Through this, the role of NGO-supported projects (case studies) in rebuilding social capital can be assessed.
- g) Making practical recommendations in the light of research results.

3. LITERATURE REVIEW

The topic of post-war reconstruction represents a new direction in the study of conflict and peace. Reconstruction is not a new topic in itself, as it has already been studied in the Marshall Plan. However, a new factor is the emergence of international governmental and non-governmental organizations as well as sub-state organizations as partners in the process. In recent years, the topic has received a great deal of attention among both research centres and scientists. The most important of them is the International Peace Institute (IPI), where, among other things, the following studies and books have been published, organizing further forums on the subject: RIKHYE and SKJELSBAEK (1990) explored the achievements, obstacles, and prospects of the UN and peacekeeping. BALLENTINE (2004) dealt with the economic agendas of the Civil War, based on theoretical research findings and guidelines. CHESTERMAN (2005) examined the role of the UN in establishing transitional administration and state-building.

WOODHOUSE (1999) makes an attempt to explore some of the critiques of conflict resolution that have appeared in the scientific literature in recent years. The essence of these criticisms raises serious questions about the ability of outsiders (and especially those from the West) to influence and secure peace processes through negotiations and agreement. LEWER (1999) reviews these key concepts and ideas from the literature that may be useful in development for International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs) when thinking about techniques and methodologies for peacebuilding strategies. JOHNSTON (2001) explains how the process of peace-making takes place in torn nations. It covers the diversity of contributing parties and the impact of funding sources in order to achieve internal balance in the post-conflict period.

GALTUNG (1990, 1996) distinguishes between positive and negative peace (Table 1). He believes that peace does not mean the absolute absence of war, but the absence of all forms of violence and the constructive recognition of conflict. Thus, peace is present in non-violent interactions between individuals, disputes are resolved in a positive way, respecting the legitimacy of needs, and satisfying the interests of all parties involved (BALJIT, 2003).

Table 1. Consequences of differences between positive peace and negative peace

Positive peace	Negative peace
<p>Depends on the followings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • calmness, harmony, well-being • security, justice • strengthening human ties • common human values • common human emotions 	<p>Depends on the absence of the followings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • war • conflict • violence • repression • hostility and aggression

Source: Own editing based on Paix positive - Paix négative (2007), 2018

LAMBOURNE (2004) addressed post-conflict areas and peace-making attempts within them. Her study focused on humanitarian need in line with the principle of justice and the commitment to national reconciliation, as these basic elements have a positive impact on the peace-making path. The researcher limited her analysis to human needs. In doing so, she ignored other elements that need to be addressed in an integrated way so that there is no shortcoming in the peace-making process.

LLAMAZARES (2005) analysed a critical exploration of general approaches to post-war reconstruction. MASON and MEERNIK (2006) try to distinguish between negative and positive peace. They also address the role of international organizations in implementing the latter and influencing the progress of the construction process. ABDALLA (2009) presents the principles of peace and conflict (Figure 2). Negative and positive peace are linked to violent conflict and conflict prevention to determine what type of peace has been achieved in a given or post-conflict period. Peacekeeping, peace-making and peacebuilding all have specific characteristics, but at the same time these processes overlap and together shape peace processes. Similarly, crisis management, conflict management, conflict resolution and conflict transformation are intertwined in different phases of peacekeeping, peace-making and peacebuilding. The development of conflict and peace are not independent processes but are linked as part of a larger process.

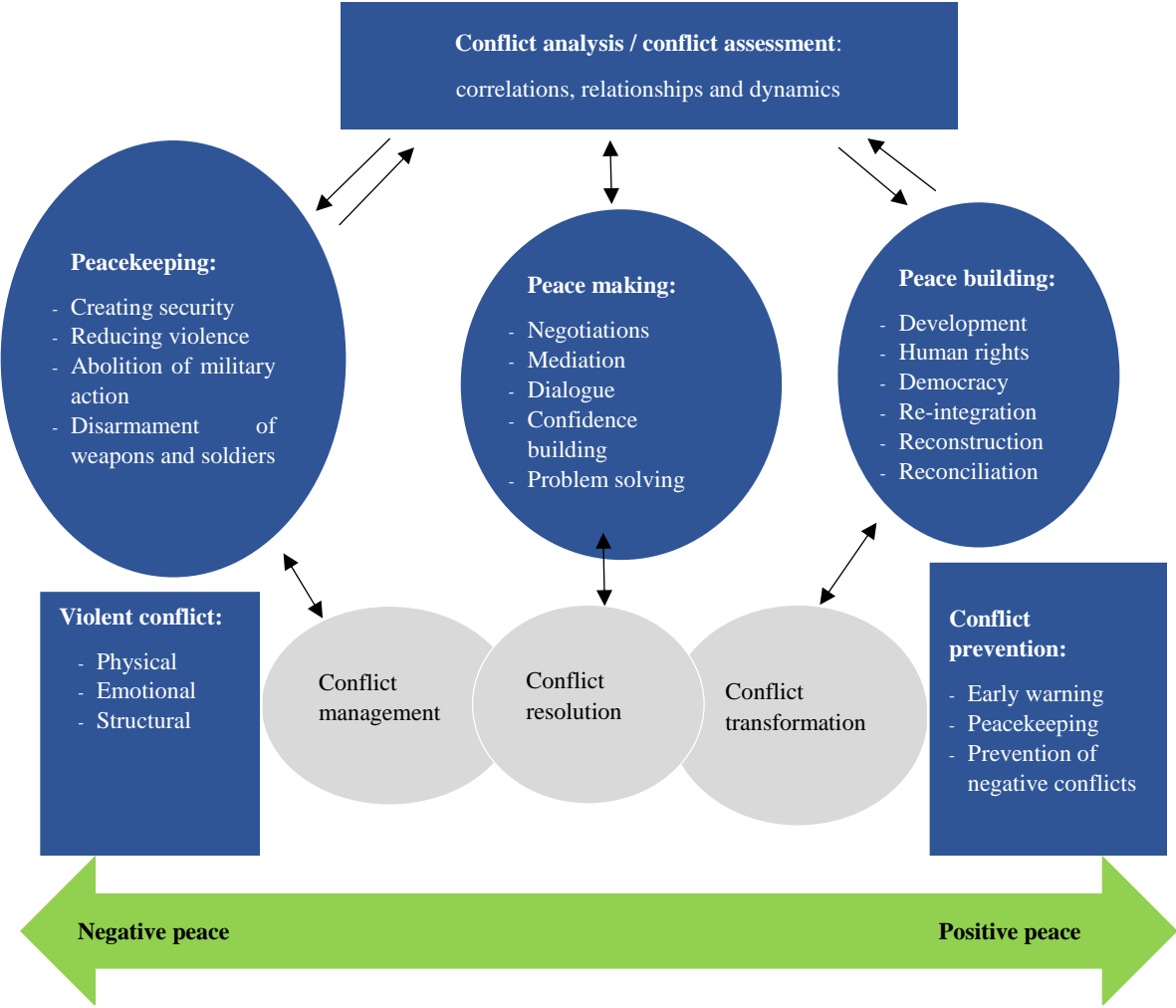


Figure 1: Peace and conflict - Overviewing studies
Source: Own editing based on ABDALLA (2005), 2018

AZIMI (2009), a senior adviser to the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, published a study on the challenges and lessons of reconstruction as well as issues to be taken into account in the post-war period and lessons learned. He dissected the main issues that represent a radical turning point in the process towards positive or negative peace.

BENNETT (2014) studied “Rebuilding Syria” after the war and how to restore trust in the humanitarian system. At a conference hosted by IPI under the title of “Women Peace and Security” in New York on 27 May 2014, participants discussed the issue of women and children facing increasing sexual violence in post-conflict crises. It can be concluded from the studies that the Institute has produced a number of periodic studies, evaluations and reports on the challenges that hinder the work of organizations working in the field of peacebuilding.

International organizations have always been seen as complementary actors and partners in setting agendas and shaping global policies, as they represent countries whose advocacy is not always directly achievable. But as the world order has changed, so have the laws of international relations. The collapse of the Soviet Union and the emergence of a new generation of wars (ethnic, religious) gave a strong impetus to international organizations to play a prominent and influential role because they have much more flexible and effective strategies than the classical international bureaucracy.

I try to elaborate on these ideas below by defining the role of international organizations and non-governmental organizations and explaining the concept of reconstruction.

According to FRANCIS (2008), since international organizations are the result of international consensus between the governments of the states concerned, NGOs fall outside their competence, even though NGOs have had an impact on human rights organizations, for example. It has become clear that this type of civil society organization has an influence on international politics, so United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) called on the Member States to take appropriate measures and procedures regarding the consultation of non-governmental organizations dealing with matters within their competence and that the Council should take appropriate measures to facilitate consultation.

Furthermore, it sees that an organization is, by definition, a group of individuals with a defined purpose who use one or more paths for their purposes. A legal entity that is independent of its founders and is governed by a body elected by the general meeting of members.

VAN TONGERON (1998) and CHESTERMAN (2007) believe that organizations fall into two categories: governmental and non-governmental. Governmental organizations are divided into national governmental bodies established by the state, which are managed and supported on a functional basis. In addition, there are intergovernmental international organizations, the creation of which is due, for example, to the idea of an international conference. These international organizations operate independently of the Member States.

Intergovernmental organizations are established by the states by concluding an international agreement, the members of which are the states concerned. They have international legal personality, which means that the international law determines their rights and obligations. They participate in the elaboration of the rules and norms of international law, they operate in accordance with the rules of international law and cannot be classified under the national laws of the states.

They exist in several forms:

- Universal: Their membership, responsibilities and tasks extend to the whole world. Such as the UN.
- Closed organizations: international organization covering a specific field, such as the World Health Organization (WHO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).
- Regional organizations, such as the European Union (EU), the League of Arab States, the African Union (AU), the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).
- Particular organizations: a special function holds them together, such as NATO or the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).
- Special closed organizations: held together by a unique common interest. E.g., the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) or the Danube Commission.

In contrast to NGOs, intergovernmental organizations are mandated by governments, so it is up to the Member States to determine what activities they can carry out. They are subject to special operating conditions, which in the diplomatic language are called “privileges and immunities”. They therefore have individual powers.

WEISS and GORDENKER (1996) define non-governmental organizations as voluntary, non-profit interest groups organized by civic communities at the local, national, or international level. If an organization's membership or activities are limited to a particular country, it is considered a national NGO, however, if its activities extend beyond the country's borders, it becomes an International Nongovernmental Organization (INGO). Examples of organizations known as INGOs include Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch (HRW) and Oxfam, which is one of the world's largest humanitarian organizations. In other words, NGOs are organizations of individuals that are not subject to international law but to the domestic law of states. The organizations have legal personality and are governed by the laws of the country in question. An example of such an organization is the Iraqi Red Crescent (the equivalent of the Red Cross aid organization).

According to EL-BAZ (1998), international or state NGOs maintain close relationship with intergovernmental organizations such as the UN, as there are about 2100 NGOs active in the field of economic and social development worldwide. These organizations enjoy advisory status in the main economic decision-making body on economic and social issues in ECOSOC. Many NGOs have official representation at the UN headquarters, providing the UN with valuable links to the peoples of the world.

4. MATERIAL AND METHODOLOGY

4.1. Research issues

It focuses on analysing the phenomenon of reconstruction and the strategies of international organizations working in the field of post-war reconstruction. Accordingly, the following question is the focus of the research:

Constructive building is becoming more important in societies where formal institutions are unable to meet the needs of all social groups. This encourages NGOs to reduce this gap between what they offer and those offered by formal institutions.

So, the research problem lies in the following 2 main questions:

- a) **To what extent have reconstruction strategies contributed to the work of institutions in practice in developing such a perspective which creates the predictability of post-war projects?"**
- b) **What is the role of NGOs (with a focus on the Syrian Society for Social Development) in rebuilding social capital in Syria?**

4.2. Research approaches

Historical approach

The importance of this approach is to provide qualitative benefits which help to explore the historical context underlying the emergence of international organizations, especially in the field of reconstruction. At the same time, we can more easily interpret the development of political relations between organizations and states, as well as how individual actions are implemented on the international scene, what motives are behind them and what results are achieved.

I also see it necessary to apply innovative approaches that make it possible to study international relations from a practical point of view. These are characterized by diversity, complexity, and context, as well as approaches which examine coherence and the principle of complementarity between factors influencing the international situation and the motives of states. It is also questionable what are the so-called contemporary approaches to the study of international relations that determine the status of international organizations as actors in international relations.

International systems analysis approach

This approach originally stems from systems theory, of which KAPLAN (1957) is one of the most significant supporters and thinkers in the science of international relations. The scientific purpose of this approach is to define regularities and repetitive models in the operation of systems, identifying the sources and manifestations of necessarily established systems of rules. In addition, it draws general conclusions about the factors of balance and imbalance. These examples of international systems include the balance of power system and the bipolar system, as well as the multilateral system of international area including international organizations.

International approach to international political studies

This approach assumes that the international order is a central phenomenon of international politics. It aims to develop a comprehensive theory of international relations that has evolved based on the observation and understanding of international patterns developed over five thousand years. (BARRY and RICHARD, 2000) in their joint book of International Systems in World History presented a multi-element vision of the international context: units, interactivity, interoperability. These factors relate to the governments, organizations, and individuals, as well as to the ability to build an international order, which help us to understand the reconstruction as a process of harmonization.

Comparative approach

This renewed approach, known as classic, had to be used to compare international governmental organizations with non-governmental organizations on the one hand, and to compare international organizations as a whole with the strategy of the work of regional organizations on the other hand.

Content analysis approach

A method used to analyse various letters, decisions, documents, the aim of which is to obtain results that support the elaboration of the research topic. I have used this approach to analyse the content of decisions taken by the UN Secretariat, the UN General Assembly, and the UN Security Council.

Case study approach

I use a descriptive and analytical approach in order to achieve the objectives of the research. To study the reconstruction of social capital, I use a specific model with the help of NGOs, examining it over a specific period of time. Revealing the relationship between variables guarantees the achievement of objective results and logical analysis. I use Eviews7 for statistical analysis.

4.3. Measurement methodology and model

In my dissertation, I take over the detailed definition of economic variables. Based on this, the standard model is built with the aim of studying the effect of an independent group of variables on the dependent variable represented. The research also reviews the research method used in the analysis and the standard methods I relied on in estimating the study model. I also used descriptive methods as a basis which I used to describe the study variables based on data obtained from the sources.

In my research, I relied on advanced statistical methods to examine the effect of a group of independent variables on a dependent variable to identify the most influential variables, the weakest variables, and the non-influencing variables and to explain their behaviour.

5. RESULTS

5.1. Test results of hypotheses

Table 2. Decisions on hypotheses

Hypothesis	Questions used for the research	Accepted / Rejected
H1:	The contribution of international NGOs to reconstruction is more effective than that of international governmental organizations because the former is much closer to local communities.	Accepted
H2:	Regional organizations contribute more flexible strategies to the planning of reconstruction policies than international organizations because of their interest in resolving the conflict as soon as possible.	Partially Accepted
H3:	The resources increasement of the human-centered development projects has a positive effect on the social capital.	Partially Accepted
H4:	There is a statistically significant correlation at the significance level of 0.05 between the volume of funding spent on human capital development and social capital.	Accepted
	There is a statistically significant correlation at the significance level of 0.05 between the number of economic participation projects and social capital.	
	There is a statistically significant correlation at the significance level of 0.05 between the number of beneficiaries of economic empowerment projects and social capital.	
	There is a statistically significant correlation at the significance level of 0.05 between the number of beneficiaries of human and social capital development projects.	
	There is a statistically significant correlation at the significance level of 0.05 between the number of human capital development projects and social capital.	Rejected
	There is a statistically significant correlation at the significance level of 0.05 between gender-based development and social capital.	

Source: Own editing, 2020

H1: The quantitative results obtained from the questionnaire confirm, so I consider it accepted that NGOs are significantly more effectively involved in reconstruction processes through direct contact than international governmental organizations.

H2: Examined through the Syrian case study, it leads to the conclusion that regional organizations are much more motivated to implement a settlement of a neighbouring conflict, however, they are not always more effective than international organizations that have failed anyway.

H3: The role of NGOs is influenced by independent variables which are reflected in the volume of economic involvement based on human projects.

For example, in the role of the Syrian Society for Social Development, there is a direct statistically significant correlation at the significance level of 0.05, represented by the following independent variables: volume of funding for economic involvement and human capital development, the number of projects to strengthen economic actors, the number of human capitals, family development and gender-based projects and the number of project beneficiaries.

The results of the sub-hypotheses for each independent variable:

H4: The results of the analysis in Table 9 show that the regression coefficient of the volume of financing for economic participation is 0.669. Thus, it becomes clear that there is a statistically significant relationship between the volume of financing for social capital and the volume of financing for economic participation at the level of $\alpha \leq 0.05$. **As expected, the correlation is positive.**

The result of this hypothesis is consistent with the study of Morris (1998). According to this, social capital shows economic returns, especially in local development projects. It is an instrument of social protection, while international funding for social capital has not affected the country's ability to reduce poverty. There are opportunities for the Organization to alleviate poverty.

The results of the data analysis in Table 10 show that the regression coefficient of the volume of funding for human capital development is 0.70. This makes it clear that at the significance level of $\alpha \leq 0.05$, there is a statistically significant relationship between the amount of funding for development of social capital and human capital. **As expected, the correlation is positive.**

This finding is consistent with NAN's (2002) study, which states the importance of social capital and social relationships. The degree of access to resources unfolds through connections and communication. Together with human capital to achieve the goals of individuals, social groups, organizations, and societies.

The results in Table 11 show that the regression coefficient for the number of economic participation projects is 2.84. Thus, it is obvious that at the significance level of $\alpha \leq 0.05$, there is a statistically significant relationship between social capital and the number of economic participation projects. **As expected, the correlation is positive.**

Table 12 shows that the regression coefficient for the number of human capital development projects is 0.962. Thus, as the number of human capital development projects increases, this increases the logistical rate of social capital by 0.962 times (the logarithm of the preference of the dependent variable is multiplied by this). Given that the variable (Prob. = 0.20315) is greater than the 5% significance level, the variable is not statistically significant. This means that the variable number of human capital development projects **do not have a fundamental impact on increasing social capital.**

Table 13 shows that the regression coefficient for the beneficiaries of economic participation projects is 1.11. Thus, there is a statistically significant relationship between social capital and the number of beneficiaries of economic participation projects at the significance level of $\alpha \leq 0.05$, which means that **the correlation is positive, as expected.**

This finding is consistent with Nan's (2002) study because social capital shows what we know and need to know in order to make a difference in life and society.

The results of this hypothesis are also consistent with the report of the UN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (2018): "Assessing the Needs of Potential Beneficiaries through the Economic Empowerment Program for Disadvantaged Families". The aim of the program was to define the social and economic characteristics of families for economic participation, linking them to the effective fight against poverty. Thus, it becomes clear that this variable has significant statistical significance in the impact on social capital. **The correlation is positive, as expected.**

The results of the analysis in Table 14 show that the regression coefficient of the beneficiaries of human capital development projects is 0.783. With this, as the number of beneficiaries increases, this increases the logistical rate of social capital by 0.783 times on the logarithm of the preference

for the dependent variable. Thus, it becomes clear that there is a statistically significant relationship between the number of beneficiaries of social capital and economic participation projects at the significance level of $\alpha \leq 0.05$. **The correlation is positive, as expected.**

The results of the analysis of Table 15 show that the regression coefficient of gender-based development is +0.405. Thus, as gender-based development increases, it reduces the logistical rate of social capital by 0.405 times on the logarithm of the preference for the dependent variable. The value of this variable (Prob = 0.3667) is higher than the significance level (5%), therefore this variable is not statistically significant. This means that the variable of gender-based development has no fundamental effect on the impact on social capital.

6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1. Recommendations to the Syrian Society for Social Development

- Raising public awareness of the role and importance of institutions in order to maximize the benefits available and achievable.
- Orientation towards community partnership for coordination between the organization and other relevant NGOs. To cooperate and make use of available resources.
- Strengthening the role of the groups involved in the structure and management of the work of the organization.
- Supporting activities aimed at transforming organizations into places that support women. The relationships within it are based on equal opportunities in order to raise social capital.

6.2. Recommendations to NGOs operating in Syria

- Strengthening services to prevent citizens from falling into poverty and misery. Providing protection in the event of disasters and emergencies.
- Seeking for more sources of funding and strengthen the organization's local financial resources.
- Staying away from multiple, sometimes contradictory opportunities of funders. Adherence to the national plan as a basis for dialogue with donors. Ensuring the principles of development work by identifying needs.
- Looking for regional and international sister organizational agreements that, according to certain principles, require the improvement of society's intervention mechanisms.
- Building partner institutions (NGOs and microfinance institutions) in the program to help the poor, building, and developing the skills of those working in these institutions to study the situation of poor families.
- Focusing on the productive area of micro-projects of agricultural enterprises, due to their importance in development.
- Paying attention to integrated programs when developing smaller women's projects.

Establishing and providing a database based on common standards that meets the needs and priorities of beneficiaries.

7. NEW SCIENTIFIC RESULTS

In the post-war reconstruction strategy of international organizations, I would highlight the following results:

R1: As a first result, it can be concluded that the main challenge facing international organizations is to maintain relations within the conflict lines, especially during periods of recurrence of violence. NGOs have more room for manoeuvre in this area.

R2: I noted the increase in the future challenges of international organizations involved in reconstruction, based on the current international context.

R3: After reviewing past international intervention strategies, I came to the following conclusion: Reconstruction now focuses on institution building strategy. The objectives of the peace-making and development strategy in the countries concerned are as follows:

- Strengthening and reforming administrative systems.
- Improving financing systems and taxes.
- Establishing conflict management institutions.

R4: I have found that the obstacles to the work of international organizations in the reconstruction process are as follows:

Obstacles related to state systems and governments:

- Lack of political and social democracy.
- Lack of participation of people and the public in community governance and political decision-making leads to patriarchy and political tyranny, along with consequent confiscation and restrictions on the work of organizations.
- Legislation that hinders the role of the individual and society and is incompatible with democracy and human rights.

Problems related to the organizations themselves:

- Underdeveloped work programs and organizational structures.
- Weaknesses in administration and institution building.
- Weak internal democratic practice.
- Competition, duplication, repetition, and division between international governmental and non-governmental organizations.
- Lack of a media dimension in informing the public and limitations of the information system.

Regarding the challenges of post-war reconstruction in Syria, I have reached the following results:

R5: In my research on “Reconstruction of Syria”, I found that there are countless different reconstruction initiatives, plans and strategies. What we have discussed is just a simple model that outlines a hidden war in post-conflict reconstruction competition at the international level.

The importance of rebuilding social capital in the post-war period. Based on the results of the case study and the research conducted, I came to the following key result and conclusion:

R6: Results of the descriptive approach:

- The performance of the Organization related to the administrative structure influences social capital, both through work and monitoring mechanisms.
- Social capital is influenced by people's willingness to share common values and customs. This enhances social justice and reduces corruption.
- Social capital contributes significantly to the interest in the cooperative social dimension. Involving community groups in setting priorities and monitoring their implementation in order to be a determinant of the organization's success can maximize its results.
- Social capital is influenced by a number of economic, social, and political dimensions, which have important implications for the country's economic and social policy.
- Social capital encourages the investment and productive activities that usually occur among people as a result of the formation of NGOs.
- Changes in social values create barriers to community interaction, social solidarity, and the realization of the values of justice and integrity.
- Social capital contributes to reducing inequalities and supporting the poor.
- The diversity of organizations and the participation of everyone (women and men) in their activities contribute to enhancing the concepts and values of social capital.
- The socio-economic and demographic characteristics of poor target households are identified in their economic engagement in order to understand their needs. In this way, they can be linked more effectively to programs designed to fight against poverty.
- Social capital contributes to raising awareness of social and political participation and learning about democratic methods.
- Informal social relations are the most significant source of social capital.
- The high level of social cohesion and solidarity, the level of social values and the level of political participation are the results of trust in civil society organizations.
- Social capital is a tool of social protection that provides a special economic return on development projects.
- Social capital provides access to resources in parallel with human capital through effective social communication and relationships.
- Social capital enables the leaders of business organization to learn what can be done to encourage effective employee relations. How to increase trust among them in order for the social organization to remain prosperous within the institution and the local community.
- Social capital provides many benefits to organizations:
 - Commitment to the values of the organization.
 - Achieving efficient and effective work.
 - Increasing creativity, enhancing the power of individual and collective learning.
 - Developing the intellectual capital.
 - Supporting the values of teamwork.
- Adopting different criteria to measure the effects of social capital:
 - Community trust.
 - Building social networks.
 - Enhancing social participation in institutions.

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