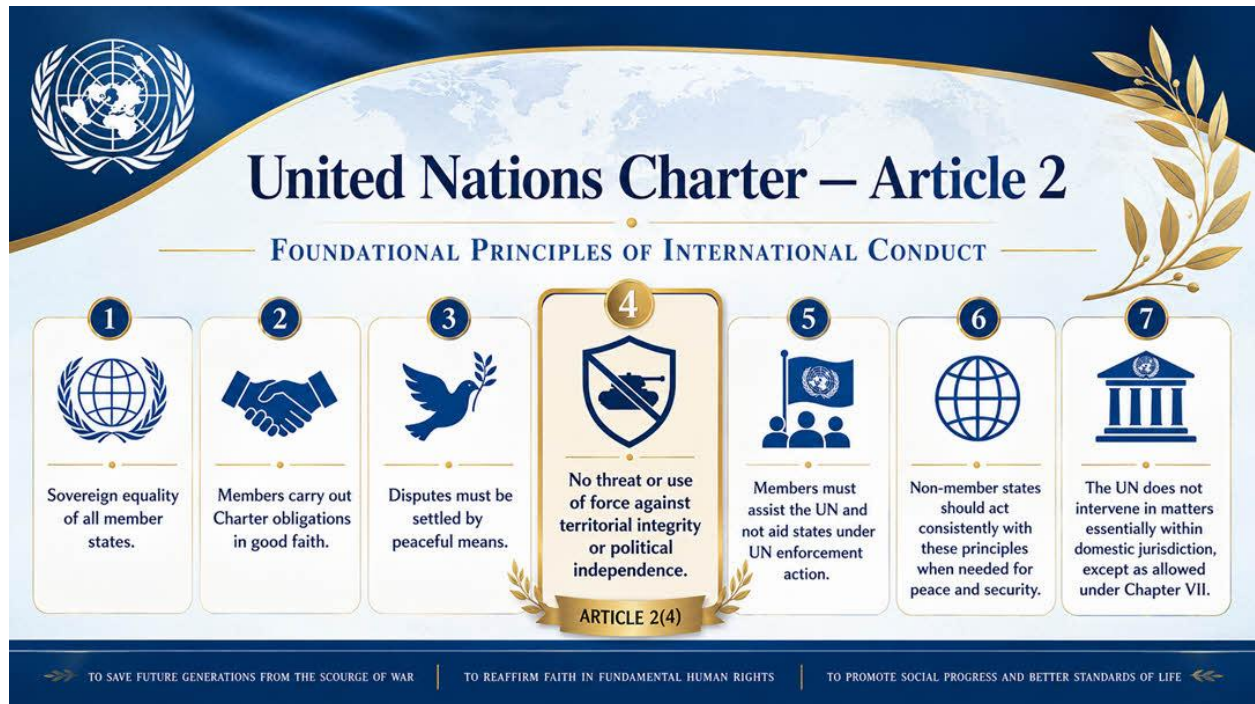


Summary of Article 2



Article 2 of the United Nations Charter lays out seven basic principles governing how UN members—and, in some circumstances, non-members—are expected to behave.

In summary:

1. **Sovereign equality:** All UN member states are legally sovereign equals, regardless of size or power.
2. **Good-faith obligations:** Members must honestly carry out the commitments they accepted under the Charter.
3. **Peaceful dispute settlement:** Countries must resolve international disputes by peaceful means, so they do not endanger international peace, security, or justice.
4. **No threat or use of force:** States must not threaten or use military force against another country's **territorial integrity or political independence**, or in any other way inconsistent with the purposes of the UN.
5. **Assistance to the UN:** Members must assist the UN when it acts under the Charter and must not assist a state against which the UN is taking preventive or enforcement action.

6. **Non-member states:** The UN may seek to ensure that countries outside the organization follow these principles when necessary to maintain international peace and security.
7. **Domestic jurisdiction:** The UN generally may not intervene in matters essentially within a country's domestic jurisdiction, although this limitation does not prevent enforcement measures authorized under **Chapter VII**.

For the Strait of Hormuz discussion, **Article 2 (4) is the crucial provision**.

It establishes the general prohibition against acquiring or controlling another state's territory through the threat or use of force. It does not mean territorial changes are never possible, but simply declaring Iranian or Omani territorial waters to be U.S. territory because America has military power there would run directly against the fundamental principle Article 2 is designed to protect.