• Agenda of middle ranking powers (Italy, Canada) blocking SC reform – Uniting for Consensus to reject bid of G4 for SC seats
• Kosovo – post-NATO strikes had to pick up the pieces – civil administration; institution-building; humanitarian aid; reconstruction – but Matheson “practical capability of the UN to perform this role” and “long term political viability of relying on the UN to bear such a burden”
• Founded with a different world view in mind
• Tries to be everything
• Failures of the ICJ – US reviews on a case by case basis; cannot regulate SC
• “Ultimate approval of the UN” categorically unnecessary, as proved in Kosovo, Iraq, Gulf War – US General reported to the US President
• No authority or real enforcement at the end of the day
• Behind the scenes negotiations – e.g. Syria, came to table already planned (US and Russia)
• Rhetoric of sovereign equality blatantly does not match up with structure or actions of UN
• Bureaucracy of the UN, little desire for innovation or 'boat rocking' – with problems, another body is created
• UN Charter as outdated?
• Paralysis during the Cold War – failure of the system
• “State security” approach successful in terms of strictly military aims, but not so in countering threats of global terrorism etc
• Security Council research agenda set by members themselves – can choose what to focus on
• Pease: Preventive diplomacy role of the UN
• Makinda: Platform for power politics
• SC and ECOSOC membership expanded
• Lack of coherent guidelines or regulations on new security challenges, e.g. peacekeeping not envisaged by original architects of the treaty
• UN resolutions ignored – on Israel, North Korea
• Former Under Secretary General Inga-Britta Ahlenius: end of term report commented on bureaucracy, inefficiency, lack of transparency, fear of rocking the boat
• Haiti 2010: UN caused 'outbreak of cholera' in the country whilst administering aid – sued
• Biggest problem in incapacity for self-reform: Charter cannot be amended