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“We stress the importance of the central role of the United Nations in global economic governance,” the regime and more than 130 others said in the joint “New World Order” declaration last ...The United Nations came into being in 1945, following the devastation of the Second World War, with one central mission: the maintenance of international peace and security. During this time period, dozens of newly independent countries in Africa, Asia, and the Middle East joined the United Nations and sought to redirect the energies of the organization toward easing the transition to independence. 5 ^5 5 As a result of the activism of states referred to during the Cold War as the “Third World,” the UN took on additional responsibilities for economic, political, and social development, and the monitoring and enforcement of fundamental human rights. United Nations Intellectual History Project Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies The CUNY Graduate Center [www.UNhistory.org](http://www.UNhistory.org) that define, constitute, and mediate trans-border relations between states, cultures, citizens,