

is needed:

- the rate of participation
- geographical representation
- the democratic character of the Council
- efficiency
- transparency.

William Maley (Australian Defence Force Academy, Canberra, Australia) drew attention to the need to change the culture at the Security Council, besides amending the Charter and improving the Council's procedures. Canvassing of how states perceive problems and addressing the dichotomy between the need for responsible global governance and the persistence of old diplomacy may be necessary to usher in change.

The challenges facing the Security Council today are diverse and include interstate and intrastate conflict as well as "creeping invasion" – "the challenge to call a spade a spade." While some lessons were learnt in respect to managing intrastate conflict in the 1990s, such as the realisation that instituting elections does not automatically lead to developing democracy, the challenges related to creeping invasion were not addressed. The reality that one state may influence another indirectly or covertly through providing mercenaries with salaries, for instance, have not been registered at the Security Council.

A case in point is the covert involvement of Pakistan in Afghanistan. While there is no evidence of an invasion, there are no illusions about Pakistan's support for the Taliban. The Security Council should devise a mechanism to tackle such problems – a step which will require a decidedly non-state-centred approach. It will also require squaring UN political objectives (i.e., mediation) with UN humanitarian goals, made difficult by the fact that Pakistan serves as a staging point for the delivery of humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan. How should the Security Council react when confronted with an outright lie about a UN member state's actions?

Media and public opinion may play a role in addressing creeping invasion. However, there is a need, in the context of the New Diplomacy, to avoid surrealism and call things how they are. The Security Council needs to adjust to the risks posed by the possibility that creeping invasion will snowball if not adequately dealt with.

John Groom (University of Kent at Canterbury, UK) addressed the possibilities and limits of the UN reform in the European context. He drew attention to the challenge of balancing the structural power of European states at the Security Council. Specifically, he noted the continual discrepancy between the relatively powerful positions of United Kingdom and France and the relatively weak position of Germany, Italy, and Spain, despite dramatic political and socio-economic developments since 1945.

Turning to efforts directed at reforming the Security Council, John Groom pointed out the 1986 Anglo-French initiative aimed at relieving Cold War tensions and moving on some key