

- 1968 July
(cont.) Soviet Union, United States and Britain—and 50 non-nuclear-weapons states—sign Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. *Quid pro quo* was Article VI, obliging nuclear weapons states to pursue negotiations “for cessation of nuclear arms race at an early date.” NPT entered into force in March 1970.
- August Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia, after the Dubcek efforts “to give socialism a human face.” Security Council resolution calling for Soviet troop withdrawal and condemning invasion is supported by 10 of 15 members (India and Pakistan both abstained), but vetoed by Russia. Ignatieff co-ordinates effort.
- 1969 January Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination comes into force. All signatory states undertake to guarantee equality before the law in the enjoyment of human rights. A committee meets twice yearly to review reports from states on measures to implement Convention.
- International Labour Organization celebrates its 50th anniversary and is awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. It launches its World Employment Programme, which falters from lack of funds.
- Eighteen Nation Disarmament Committee is enlarged to 26 members and becomes Conference of Committee on Disarmament (CCD). Is given task of drafting a Seabed Treaty.
- September Sir Robert Jackson (of Australia) produces his “Capacity Study”—a monumental analysis of the operational capacity of the UN system to carry out a larger role in development. He termed the United Nations Development Programme “a main gear wheel” and suggested ways in which all the other agencies could mesh together with it. His controversial study led to reforms in New York and to better co-ordination in the field.
- 1970 January An International Development Strategy (IDS) is ready for the Second Development Decade. Taking an integrated view of development problems, it foreshadows the North-South dialogue and debate over a New International Economic Order.
- March Non-Proliferation Treaty comes into force, with first review conference set for 1975.
- In Venice, UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) stages inter-governmental conference of ministers on institutional, administrative and financial aspects of cultural policies.