

## Reforming United Nations: The scandal of Oil-for-Food corruption

**PhD (C.) Alban Nako**  
*Epoka University*

**PhD (C.) Geri Pilaca**  
*Epoka University*

### Abstract

Why Saddam attacked Kuwait? The Security Council, alarmed by the invasion of Kuwait, immediately (the same day) adopted Resolution 660 in which condemned the invasion and demanded from Iraq to withdraw all his military forces.

Iraq failed to comply with Resolution 660 and the Security Council acting under Chapter VII of the UN Charter concerned by the loss of human life and material destruction, determined to restore sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Kuwait, decided to impose economic sanctions to secure Iraq compliance.

The theory of embargo toward Iraq raised many supporters as an effective international tool that could "bring democracy to the Iraqi people". Although years later it produced quite the opposite effect.

On 14 April 1995 Security Council created the framework for Oil-for-Food Programme, by allowing Saddam's regime to sell oil not exceeding a total of 1 billion US dollars for 180 days, exclusively for humanitarian aid for the Iraqi people.

The tempo that the United Nations eased the purchase volume raised ethical problems in the endeavour of pursuing international peace. There was a proactive role to widen these sectors of intervention to justify the volume of oil purchased, while Iraq lacks the technical capabilities to keep up with the growing demand. Where can we draw the line between exploitation and humanitarian aid?

**Keywords:** United Nations, Security Council, Iraqi Regime, Volcker Commission, Corruption.

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