



**UNA-UK**

**International Day of  
United Nations Peacekeepers**

**Remembrance Ceremony**

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**The Cenotaph, Whitehall, London**

**1.15pm, 23 May 2019**

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The Band of the Parachute Regiment and the Colour Guard of the United Nations Veterans Association will lead members of the diplomatic corps and other wreath-layers from the Royal United Services Institute to the Cenotaph.

## The Ceremony

**Address:** David Wardrop, Chair, Westminster United Nations Association

**Prayer:** The Reverend KJ Adolphe CF, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion The Scots Guards

Bugler sounds *Last Post* and UN flag dips. After a period of silence, the bugler sounds *Reveille*.

*Wreaths are then laid in the following order:*

**In memory of Count Folke Bernadotte**

Count Edward Bernadotte (grandson)

**On behalf of UN servicemen and women**

Kieran Ryan, Chair, UN Veterans Association

**In Memory of Commandant René de Labarrière**

Lieutenant Colonel Grégoire de la Bernardie,  
Defence Attaché to the French Embassy

**On behalf of Her Majesty's Government**

The Rt Hon Penny Mordaunt MP, Secretary of  
State for Defence

**On behalf of Her Majesty's Armed Forces**

The Rt Hon Mark Lancaster TD MP, Minister of  
State for the Armed Forces

**On behalf of Her Majesty's Police Forces**

Assistant Commissioner Martin Hewitt QPM,  
Chair of the National Police Chiefs Council

**On behalf of Members of the Diplomatic  
Corps in London**

In alphabetical order by country

**On behalf of Widows of UN peacekeepers**

Moira Kane, Secretary, War Widows  
Association

**On behalf of UK civilian staff**

David Irwin

**On behalf of the British Association of Former  
UN Civil Servants**

Mr Haroutune Karaian

**On behalf of the Royal United Services  
Institute**

Dr Karin von Hippel, Director General of the  
Royal United Services Institute

**On behalf of the United Nations Association**

Tessy Antony, Princess of Luxembourg

**On behalf of the Youth of the World**

Students of Grey Coat Hospital School for Girls  
& Westminster City School for Boys

**Prayer:** Dr Wendi Momen JP, Bahá'í Community

**Address:** David Wardrop

After the ceremony, the Colour Guard of the United Nations Veterans Association will lead the procession back to the Royal United Services Institute.

Students from the Grey Coat Hospital School for Girls and the Westminster City School for Boys will serve as marshals throughout the ceremony.



UNA-UK and RUSI are pleased to partner with the High Commission of Canada in support of this event.

# About United Nations Peacekeeping



More than 102,000 UN peacekeepers are currently deployed across the globe in some of the most fraught regions. They stand between civilians and the forces of violence; between crisis and peace. Their bravery and commitment exemplify the UN's mission "to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war".

The UN's 14 peacekeeping operations cost around \$6.7 billion a year, about a half a percent of global military spending. UN Peacekeeping has a proven track record of preventing conflict and atrocity crimes. Academic studies have shown that the presence of peacekeepers significantly reduces the risk of renewed warfare and the number of civilian deaths.

## **International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers**

3,832 UN peacekeepers from 119 nations have lost their lives; of these, 106 were British. The International Day was first observed in 2003 on 29 May, the date in 1948 when the first mission began operations in Palestine, to pay tribute to all those who died in the line of duty.

## **Peacekeeping and the UK**

Once the largest contributor of troops to UN peacekeeping missions, the UK currently contributes around 600 peacekeepers. The UK is the sixth largest financial contributor to peacekeeping.

## **About those we remember:**

### **Count Folke Bernadotte**

Count Folke Bernadotte, head of the Swedish Red Cross during World War II, led a relief expedition to Germany, saving 30,000 concentration camp prisoners. Serving as the UN's mediator in Palestine, he was assassinated in Jerusalem in 1948, becoming the first member of United Nations staff to be killed in the line of duty.

### **Commandant René de Labarrière**

The French officer, Commandant de Labarrière, was the first United Nations peacekeeper to lose his life. Serving as a Military Observer in Palestine, he was killed by a landmine in 1948.

## **About the ceremony:**

### **The Band**

The Band of the Parachute Regiment is the official musical band for the Regiment and attends a variety of formal, commercial and commemorative events. Highly trained musicians, they are recruited from Bandsmen and women across the Army. After selection, entitled to wear the coveted Airborne Forces Maroon Beret in uniform.

### **The Contingent**

As in previous years the ceremony will be led by the Colour Guard of the United Nations Veterans Association, retired United Nations peacekeepers who served in the Irish and British armed forces. This year they are joined by a contingent of recently returned UN peacekeepers from the British armed forces. This contingent is made up of members of the Defence Medical Services, who served for the UN in South Sudan, and members of the Scots Guards, who served for the UN in Cyprus.

### **The organisers**

The United Nations Association – UK (UNA-UK) is the only charity in the UK devoted to building support for the UN.

We believe that a strong, credible and effective UN is essential if we are to build a safer, fairer and more sustainable world. We push for government support for the UN, find ways to make it work better, and demonstrate why it matters to people everywhere.

Westminster United Nations Association initiated this memorial service and the accompanying conference in 2004. From 2015, both events have been jointly organised with UNA-UK and the Royal United Services Institute.

More information at [www.una.org.uk](http://www.una.org.uk). Search #PKDay19 on twitter.

### **Future Events**

3 June 2019 – UNA-UK – Kofi Annan: His Life & Legacy.

For full details, please visit [una.org.uk/kofi-annan-event](http://una.org.uk/kofi-annan-event)

19 June 2019 – UNA-Westminster – It's my language, it's my life!

For full details, please visit [unawestminster.org.uk/future\\_events](http://unawestminster.org.uk/future_events)