



World Chronicle

UNITED NATIONS

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"THE UN: IRRELEVANT, INDISPENSABLE OR NEITHER?"

In Washington –and elsewhere – the word “irrelevant” has accompanied many a discussion of the United Nations, especially in the context of the crisis over Iraq. But rarely have defenders of the United Nations been more adamant about the central role of the world body. What impact does the “relevance debate” have for the organization’s operations to help suffering civilians in conflict areas? Will it affect the UN’s effectiveness as the world’s forum for collective decision-making? For this very special 900th anniversary edition of **World Chronicle**, the guest is one of the UN’s most eloquent defenders, Shashi Tharoor — the Under-Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information.

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