The U.N., the U.S., and the Security Council: Regulating the Use of Force in Pro-Democratic Intervention

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In this Article, the Author comments on the use of force by "bigger and stronger" nations to intervene in domestic matters concerning usurpation of legitimate governmental powers, allegedly in the name of "restoration of democracy."

In this Article, the Author argues that pro-democratic intervention may be permitted only in limited situations and should always be under the auspices of the United Nations, as mandated by the U.N. Charter. In pursuing this argument, the Author first gives an overview of the ongoing debate for and against the use force to liberate a country from its despotic government. Then, the Author follows this up with a brief survey of the instances where unilateral pro-democratic intervention, particularly by the United States of America, was made.

The Author concludes with an analysis on the U.N. Security Council's practice in authorizing or subsequently endorsing democratic regime changes in countries in light of fundamental norms contained in the U.N. Charter and general international law.