The Fog Of Peace: A Memoir Of International Peacekeeping In The 21st Century
No small number of books laud and record the heroic actions of those at war. But the peacekeepers? Who tells their stories? At the beginning of the 1990s, the world exited the cold war and entered an era of great promise for peace and security. Guided by an invigorated United Nations, the international community set out to end conflicts that had flared into vicious civil wars and to unconditionally champion human rights and hold abusers responsible. The stage seemed set for greatness. Today that optimism is shattered. The failure of international engagement in conflict areas ranging from Afghanistan to Congo and Lebanon to Kosovo has turned believers into skeptics. The Fog of Peace is a firsthand reckoning by Jean-Marie Guéhenno, the man who led UN peacekeeping efforts for eight years and has been at the center of all the major crises since the beginning of the 21st century. Guéhenno grapples with the distance between the international community's promise to protect and the reality that our noble aspirations may be beyond our grasp. The author illustrates with personal, concrete examples—from the crises in Afghanistan, Iraq, Congo, Sudan, Darfur, Kosovo, Ivory Coast, Georgia, Lebanon, Haiti, and Syria—the need to accept imperfect outcomes and compromises. He argues that nothing is more damaging than excessive ambition followed by precipitous retrenchment. We can indeed save many thousands of lives, but we need to calibrate our ambitions and stay the course.

**Book Information**

Paperback: 331 pages  
Publisher: Brookings Institution Press (May 12, 2015)  
Language: English  
ISBN-10: 0815726309  
Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.8 x 9 inches  
Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)  
Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars  
Best Sellers Rank: #800,631 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)  #80 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Public Affairs & Policy > Intergovernmental Organizations  #573 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Specific Topics > War & Peace  #820 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > International & World Politics > Diplomacy

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Recommended by a friend who works internationally, this book is an excellent resource on a number of conflicts in our world. Well written and engrossing!

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