

2016 Baylor University Model United Nations High School Conference Delegate Guide



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Distinguished Delegates and Advisors,

Welcome to the 2016 Baylor Model United Nations Conference! It is our pleasure to hold a conference for high school students that will challenge their skills as delegates and as academics. Every year Baylor presents students with the opportunity to hone skills such as public speaking, research, writing, and negotiating. These are all imperative life skills that students can benefit from for years to come, whether it is in college or within a professional capacity. As many of us on the Baylor Model United Nations staff have witnessed, the benefits from participating in conferences like that of Baylor's are invaluable.

This conference will empower you to step up as a leader to fight on behalf of your country's ideals. An issue that was once no more than a headline to you will become your trying cause. You will come prepared to debate, challenge, and persuade your fellow delegates of your opinions. You will learn to listen, consider, and compromise. To succeed, you will need to collaborate with and challenge your fellow delegates while staying true to your country's views. This will require research and examination of your committee's topics, your country's position, and the structure of the United Nations. The more time you devote to your preparation, the more successful and convincing you will be as a delegate.

Perhaps above all, you will learn the significant role you play as a citizen of the world. You will tackle real world issues and discover what goes into developing solutions on the international stage. Today, people can communicate instantly across the globe, making the world stage more accessible to everyone. It is our pleasure to aid you in facilitating these discussions and attempting to resolve challenging questions. It is our hope that you leave this year's conference with new friends, new perspectives, and new dreams for the future.

On behalf of all of the Baylor Model United Nations staff I want to welcome you to our 2016 conference. You have the tremendous power and responsibility to help improve and elevate the world, and I look forward to seeing you take advantage of that opportunity at our conference.

Sincerely,
Megan Rollag
Secretary General,
2016 Baylor University High School Model UN Conference

Table of Contents

Committee Background Guides

Research Tips	5
General Assembly 1 st	6
General Assembly 3 rd	18
World Health Organization	33
Economic and Social Council*	44
Contemporary Security Council*	56
Historical Security Council I, Rwanda 1994*	67
Historical Security Council II, Iraq 1995*	72

Delegate Handbook

Baylor MUN Delegate Policies	77
Baylor MUN Parliamentary Procedure Rules	79
Resolution Writing	83
Position Paper Guidelines	86
Acknowledgements	87

*ECOSOC and the Security Councils are committees that do not have representation from every member state. Check the country matrix on the Baylor MUN website to be sure your member state is seated on these committees before preparing for conference.

Committee Background Guides



Research Tips for Delegates

Each of the committee background guides includes:

- a brief introduction to the committee, including its membership and purpose
- the history and past actions taken by the United Nations for the two topics (one topic in Historical Security Council) your committee will address
- questions and/or possible solutions to guide your research on these topics
- a bibliography, with some key sources annotated, to get you started on your research

In addition to the bibliography provided for each of the committees, the following print and internet resources will also be helpful as you research your topics.

- Full-text of The Charter of the United Nations:
<http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/index.shtml>
- The UN: <http://www.un.org/>
- UN Cyber School Bus: <http://www.un.org/Pubs/CyberSchoolBus/>
- UNA- USA's Global Classrooms: <http://www.unausa.org>

General Assembly 1st Committee



History of the General Assembly 1st Committee

Disarmament and international security (DISEC) are central to the UN Mission, and the General Assembly First Committee (GA1) is responsible for these issues, including assessing threats to global security, dealing with weapons of mass destruction, and eliminating conventional arms. The very first GA resolution in 1946 dealt with nuclear disarmament, and the UN and the First Committee still grapple with these important and complex issues today.

The First Committee maintains an egalitarian structure with all member nations participating, and works towards deliberation, consensus building, and policy. The diverse interest of all member states in one committee encourages the body to search for areas of common ground and is typically successful. In fact, more than 75 percent of the GA resolutions since 1991 have passed by acclamation.

Unlike the Security Council, the General Assembly resolutions are non-binding and thus only as strong as the international support they garner. The GA1 seeks to build peace and security not by force, but through agreements among states for cooperative security, deescalating conflict through disarmament, and other peaceful means. Their goals are therefore often ambitious and long-term and have been criticized by some as ineffective or indecisive. Resolutions sometimes develop or utilize new —language which can help set international law and guide policy-making in member states. It can also put pressure on other states whose aggression and lack of cooperation becomes more transparent in light of the —moral consensus of the international community.

The First Committee also faces a set of challenges: due to their resolutions' non-binding nature, states do not always carry out their resolutions; delegates can choose to merely restate national policies without engaging in substantive debate; states have significant disagreements whereby consensus cannot easily be reached; the body can rush to a premature and impractical consensus; and sometimes the problems of disarmament and international security are so complex that nations cannot find solutions to appease all parties involved. All of these pose obstacles to the First Committee's objective to create a more peaceful world.

GA 1st Topic 1: Nuclear Non-Proliferation

Background

Nuclear non-proliferation refers to limiting and preventing the spread of what are considered the most dangerous weapons on earth. The non-proliferation of nuclear weapons maintains the best interests of both nuclear capable and non-capable nations, as they can lead to catastrophic damage. The United Nations strongly considers non-proliferation an issue of importance to the international community, as the first resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly established a commission to deal with problems related to the discovery of nuclear energy¹.

Since the United States detonated a nuclear bomb in 1945, many nations have taken interest in these weapons for their power and capability. The amount of power a country can obtain and the potential threat they can pose by having one of these weapons is substantial².

Significant Past UN Action:

The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), which entered into force in 1970, is the cornerstone in global security measures. The NPT is a landmark international treaty aimed at preventing

¹ <https://www.un.org/disarmament/wmd/nuclear/>

² <http://richmun.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/DISECBackgrounder.pdf>

the spread of nuclear weapons, furthering the goal of achieving complete nuclear disarmament, and promoting cooperation towards peaceful uses of nuclear energy³. The NPT remains the only binding commitment formed internationally with the goal of disarmament by the Nuclear-Weapon States. On May 11th, 1995, the Treaty was extended indefinitely. Today, a total of 190 parties have joined the NPT, including the five recognized nuclear-weapon States. More nations have ratified the NPT than any other arms limitation and disarmament agreement⁴. However, it has proved difficult to establish this degree of consensus on more recent multilateral treaties regarding nuclear non-proliferation.

The Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) is a global ban on nuclear explosive testing. The CTBT would be yet another binding commitment in regards to nuclear non-proliferation. Under this agreement, 44 “Annex 2” Member States, which are nations that participated in the 1994 and 1996 negotiations yet possessed nuclear reactors at that time, must ratify the Treaty in order for it to be enforced⁵. This has yet to come to fruition, as three Annex 2 Member States: the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), Pakistan, and India have neither signed nor ratified the document. Additionally, five Annex 2 Member States, Egypt, China, Israel, Iran, and the United States, have signed but not ratified the CTBT. The United States and China are the only remaining NPT Nuclear Weapon States that have not ratified the CTBT⁶. Given that the CTBT was opened for signature on the 24th of September 1996, and twenty years later it still has not entered into force is a testament to the lack of international cohesion and cooperation regarding nuclear non-proliferation.

The failure to ratify the CTBT does not spell an end to progress, though. The establishment of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones (NWFZs) addresses the issue of nuclear non-proliferation at the regional level, as opposed to broad, multilateral treaties like the CTBT. Article VII of NPT states, “Nothing in this Treaty affects the right of any group of States to conclude regional treaties in order to assure the total absence of nuclear weapons in their respective territories”⁷. Accordingly, six NWFZs have been established, including Mongolia’s self-declared nuclear-weapon-free status, which has been recognized internationally through RES 55/33S⁸. Any state found to be in violation of the NWFZ’s will face penalties. Also, an international system of verification and control is established to facilitate better disarmament norms and consolidate international efforts towards peace and security⁹.

Issues Facing UN Regarding Nuclear Non-Proliferation:

The situation in Syria

The lack of international cooperation and transparency for safeguarding nuclear materials has proven to be a reoccurring issue among Member States. In 2007, a nuclear reactor was discovered only after its destruction in the Syrian Arab Republic, which was not reported to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Syria claims the item discovered was not a reactor, yet has prevented the IAEA from performing a thorough investigation, leaving the matter unresolved¹⁰. The IAEA has repeatedly stated that it is essential to international security that Syria cooperates. However, the current situation inside Syria does not allow the IAEA to conduct its regular verification activities, much less pursue the outstanding question pertaining to the destroyed reactor¹¹. In situations such as these the international community is concerned about the threat of non-state actors taking advantage of social unrest and lack of transparency.

³ <https://www.un.org/disarmament/WMD/Nuclear/NPT>

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ <https://www.ctbto.org/the-treaty/history-summary/>

⁶ <http://www.nti.org/learn/treaties-and-regimes/comprehensive-nuclear-test-ban-treaty-ctbt/>

⁷ <https://www.un.org/disarmament/WMD/Nuclear/nwzf/>

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ <https://www.un.org/disarmament/WMD/Nuclear/nwzf/>

¹⁰ <https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/statements/meeting-safeguards-challenges>

¹¹ Ibid.

The situation in Pakistan and non-State actors

In 2004, an illicit nuclear suppliers network controlled by Pakistan's A.Q. Khan was discovered, and the international community began to see non-state actors as a legitimate threat to international security¹². In response, the UN Security Council adopted resolution UNSCR 1540 in 2004. The resolution is binding, as it was adopted under Chapter VII of the UN Charter, and it makes it obligatory for Member States to take appropriate measures to ensure nuclear materials do not fall into the hands of non-State actors¹³. Furthermore, the 2010 NPT Review Conference called upon all States parties to the NPT to improve their domestic capabilities to detect and stop the illicit trafficking in nuclear materials throughout their territories and enhance their international partnerships and capacity-building to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons¹⁴. As of 2015, the UN 1540 Committee, which was also created under the resolution of UNSCR 1540, has reported progress in regards to establishing measures against non-state actors, but also affirms that much remains to be done¹⁵.

The situation in North Korea

Additionally, in 2015, Pierre Goldschmidt, a former deputy director-general and head of the Department of Safeguards at the International Atomic Energy Agency submitted a report to the Arms Control Association highlighting loopholes in the NPT. One of the main NPT loopholes is that if a state opts leave the Treaty, as they have a right to do so under Article X, they no longer are required to adhere to IAEA safeguards. As a result, a state may withdraw from the NPT and use previously safeguarded nuclear materials and facilities to produce nuclear weapons without violating any international treaty¹⁶. This scenario occurred in 2003 after the DPRK announced its withdrawal from the NPT. Today, many experts fear Iran could take advantage of the present NPT loophole, too. Also, many believe that it would be ideal to create an agreement with a contingency that requires comprehensive IAEA safeguards to automatically remain if a particular non-nuclear weapon Member State, like Iran, withdraws from the treaty¹⁷. However, proposals to close NPT loopholes inevitably elicit objections on an array of legal, financial, and political matters. You'll want to consider these objections as you prepare to write resolutions at conference.

The Middle East and Nuclear Weapon Free Zones

Today, many states encourage and support an establishment of a NWFZ in the Middle East. This idea has garnered board international support, but realistic progress has been elusive. The proposal of a NWFZ was first introduced and endorsed by the UN General Assembly in 1974. Since that time, numerous resolutions have been passed by acclamation in the UN General Assembly and the UN Security Council calling for the establishment of a Middle East NWFZ. Despite significant international support and a catalogue of resolutions endorsing the Middle East NWFZ, real progress has been impeded by disagreements over the terms and the steps leading to its establishment¹⁸. At the 2010 NPT Review Conference, states party to the NPT worked together with the UN Secretary General to convene a regional conference on the establishment of the NWFZ in 2012¹⁹. However, the conference has experienced multiple delays and postponements. The establishment of the Middle East NWFZ seems to be a difficult

¹² http://www.delhipolicygroup.com/uploads/publication_file/1040_WMD-Brief.pdf

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol.1)

¹⁵ http://www.delhipolicygroup.com/uploads/publication_file/1040_WMD-Brief.pdf

¹⁶ https://www.armscontrol.org/ACT/2015_03/Features/Securing-Irreversible-IAEA-Safeguards-to-Close-the-Next-NPT-Loophole#endnotes

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ <https://www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/mewmdfz>

¹⁹ Ibid.

endeavor but one that appears increasingly necessary to international security as alarming situations arise in Iran, Syria, and Libya.

Questions for Further Research:

As you start your research, keep these two objectives in mind: accurately representing your member state and working alongside other delegates to formulate resolutions proposing new international solutions to contemporary problems. To understand if the proposal is something your member state would support, you need to research your nation's history with respect to the issue at hand. To understand whether or not a proposal is "new," you need to research past UN action. Look to past resolutions and case studies for information about what has proven to be successful and unsuccessful in the past, and build on this in your new resolutions. Here are some questions to guide your preparation:

- Has your Member State signed and ratified related treaties such as the NPT and CTBT?
- How has your Member State's voting record reflected their general stance on non-nuclear proliferation measures?
- In regard to the issues identified above, how has your Member State responded? What language would your Member State support seeing in a resolution on these issues?
- How can Member States improve communication and cooperation in regards to nuclear non-proliferation?
- In what ways could Member States improve upon current NWFZs and work together to potentially establish new zones?
- How can we establish more transparency and cooperation while respecting the sovereignty of each Member State?
- Are there any new measures the international community can establish for non-proliferation?

Bibliography

"UNODA - The UN Disarmament Commission." *UN News Center*. UN, n.d. Web. 08 Apr. 2016.

<http://www.un.org/disarmament/HomePage/DisarmamentCommission/UNDISCOM.shtml>

This site contains the reports compiled by the United Nations Disarmament Commission, an organization of the UN that has the task of providing the General Assembly with recommendations on disarmament issues annually. Statements by nations are regarding the research and recommendations of the UNDC are also found on this website.

Davenport, Kelsey, and Marcus Taylor. "Assessing Progress on Nuclear Nonproliferation and Disarmament." (n.d.): Arms Control Association, Apr. 2013. Web. 8 Apr. 2016.

https://www.armscontrol.org/files/ACA_2013_Nuclear_Report_Card.pdf

This report by the Arms Control Association assesses the progress on Nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament. This reports highlights what is particularly working in a positive and negative manner regarding the initiatives being enacted. This report is released every three years and the 2016 version should become available at either the end of this month or next month.

"UNODA - Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones." *UN News Center*. UN, n.d. Web. 08 Apr. 2016.

<http://www.un.org/disarmament/WMD/Nuclear/nwfz.shtml>

This webpage provides an overview of all of the established Nuclear-Weapon-Free-Zones and provides links to their respective treaties and resolutions leading to their establishment. This webpage offers details on one of the ways the UN states primarily tackle non-proliferation.

A/RES/68/124 (Part 1) "Establishment of a Nuclear-Weapon-Free-Zone in the Region of the Middle East" (2013)

[http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/68/124\(PartI\)](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/68/124(PartI))

The establishment of a NWFZ in the Middle East continues to be a reoccurring notion in the topic of non-proliferation and this report was conducted by the Secretary-General addressing the current problems hindering its establishment. This reports also shows some insight on the position of various member states regarding this issue.

"The Treaty: Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Organization." *CTBTO Preparatory Commission*. N.p., n.d. Web. 08 Apr. 2016

<https://www.ctbto.org/the-treaty/>

This website shows the historical background and the text of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty. Historical developments that have arisen since the creation of the treaty are also listed on this website and can give insight on how the treaty has been effective or ineffective and what can be accomplished to improve in the future.

"The Status of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty: Signatories and Ratifiers." *Arms Control Association*, Mar. 2015. Web. 08 Apr. 2016

<https://www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/ctbtsg>

This fact sheet highlights one of the common issue that arises in the topic of non-proliferation. Many prominent nations have not signed or ratified the CTBT. In fact, only 36 nations have ratified the treaty and 44 nations have yet to even sign it.

"UNODA - Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)." *UN News Center*. UN, n.d. Web. 08 Apr. 2016. <http://www.un.org/disarmament/WMD/Nuclear/NPT.shtml?lang=en>.

This UN website shows the historical background in the creation of the NPT and its current status. A link is also provided on this page to the specific relevant resolutions and the 2015 Review Conference of the treaty.

Goldschmidt, Pierre. "Securing Irreversible IAEA Safeguards to Close the Next NPT Loophole." *Arms Control Association*, Mar. 2015. Web. 8 Apr. 2016.

https://www.armscontrol.org/ACT/2015_03/Features/Securing-Irreversible-IAEA-Safeguards-to-Close-the-Next-NPT-Loophole

This article by Pierre Goldschmidt, a former deputy director-general and head of the Department of Safeguards at the International Atomic Energy Agency highlights some issues with the NPT. This can provide insight on the current with the NPT and ideas on how certain nations can go about improving non-proliferation.

Issue Brief: Weapons of Mass Destruction: State and Non-State Actors. *Delhi Policy Group*, June 2013. Web. 8 Apr. 2016

http://www.delhipolicygroup.com/uploads/publication_file/1040_WMD-Brief.pdf

This issue briefing highlights the status of current WMD and the threat that State and non-state actors pose to the international community. This article helps one better understand the threats surrounding non-proliferation and the need to tackle this problem.

Varjoranta, Tero. "Meeting Safeguards Challenges: International Forum on Peaceful Use of Nuclear Energy, Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Nuclear Security." *IAEA*, 2013. Web. 08 Apr. 2016.

<https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/statements/meeting-safeguards-challenges>

This statement submitted under the IAEA shows the historical challenges faced in regards to striking a balance between maintaining peaceful uses of nuclear energy and insuring non-proliferation. This statement al also gives a detailed account of how safeguards are implemented.

Davenport, Kelsey. "WMD-Free Middle East Proposal at a Glance." Arms Control Association, June 2015. Web. 08 May 2016. <https://www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/mewmdfz>

NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol.1) Final Documents of the 2010 NPT Review Conference
<http://www.un.org/en/conf/npt/2010/>

Nuclear Threat Initiative

<http://www.nti.org/learn/treaties-and-regimes/comprehensive-nuclear-test-ban-treaty-ctbt/>

GA 1st Topic 2: Arms Trade and Firearms Violence

Background

The arms trade industry has been growing in size and value annually, approximating \$100 billion in 2014.²⁰ The alarming strength of arms trafficking presents a challenge to Member States in regulating, preventing, and decreasing the flow of illicit arms. According to the United Nations Small Arms Review Conference held in 2006, small arms and light weapons originate from, "...illicit brokering, weapons left over from conflicts, illicit manufacturing, leakages from military stockpiles, smuggling, [and] theft."²¹ According to the Conference, small arms are broadly defined as: "...weapons designed for individual use." They include: inter alia, revolvers and self-loading pistols, rifles and carbines, sub-machine guns, assault rifles and light machine guns. Light weapons are defined as those weapons "intended to be used by two or three persons serving as a group or unit."²² The prevalence of conventional weapons also concerns the security of the international community. The UN Register on Conventional Arms classifies seven categories of arms:

- battle tanks
- armored combat vehicles
- large-caliber artillery systems
- combat aircrafts
- attack helicopters
- warships
- missiles and missile launchers.

As noted by the Secretary General's Report on Small Arms in 2013 (S/2013/503), the effects of the illicit arms trade and armed violence are inextricably linked. The uncontrolled flow of small arms and light weapons jeopardize international peace and security of civilians, perpetuating violence disproportionately towards women and children.²³

The Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development, a "diplomatic initiative aimed at addressing the interrelations between armed violence and development," published an assessment of this

²⁰ "Killer Facts: The Scale of the Global Arms Trade." Amnesty International, 24 Aug. 2015. Web. <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2015/08/killer-facts-the-scale-of-the-global-arms-trade/>.

²¹ "Frequently Asked Questions." United Nations Conference on Small Arms 2006. United Nations, n.d. Web. <http://www.un.org/events/smallarms2006/faq.html>.

²² IBID.

²³ Report of the Secretary General on Small Arms, S/2013/503. 22 August 2013. <https://documents-ddsny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N13/425/00/PDF/N1342500.pdf?OpenElement>

violence known as the Global Burden of Armed Violence 2015: Every Body Counts. The report reveals the alarming nature of illicit arms trade and how it perpetuates violence worldwide. Firearms are used in 46.3 percent of all homicides internationally and in approximately 44.1 percent of all violent deaths. Of these deaths, about 60,000 women globally were killed every year from 2007 to 2012, composing 16 percent of the intentional homicides statistic.²⁴ As an issue that is impacting all Member States, illicit arms trade and armed violence has created an alarming threat to the security of Latin America, in particular. According to UNDP's most recent Human Development Report on Latin America, one in three Latin Americans were victims of a violent crime in 2012. Firearms, substance abuse, and drug trafficking also drive violence in the region, contributing to grotesquely high level of perception of violence and escalating homicide rates. In 11 of the 18 assessed nations the rate is higher than 10 murders per 100,000 inhabitants, fully illustrating the problem of arms trade and firearms violence, not only globally, but especially in Latin American states.²⁵

International Past Action and Current Efforts:

The *Bamako Declaration on an African Common Position on the Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons* was adopted in Bamako, Mali, on December 1, 2000.²⁶ Drafted by members of the African Union, the Declaration was one of the earliest documents that promoted regional collaboration on arms control. It suggests that Member States create national advisory bodies that coordinate and enforce policy guidelines as well as adopt national legislation that prohibits "...the illicit manufacturing of, trafficking in, and illegal possession and use of small arms and light weapons, ammunition and other related materials."²⁷ The document also promotes regional and continental cooperation, asking for the restriction of arms trade to be between governments and licensed traders. The *Programme of Action (PoA) to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects* was passed at the 2001 UN Conference on Small Arms, which is a non-legally binding approach to regulating and limiting small arms and light weapons (SALW).²⁸ It primarily pertains to the recording, tracking, and manufacturing of SALW; implementation is executed on a voluntary basis.

The *International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons* was adopted on December 8, 2005 by the General Assembly. The International Tracing Instrument's purpose enables Member States to locate and trace illicit small arms and light weapons through international and regional cooperation, exchanging appropriate information promptly between Member States. The Instrument was a tangible step forward towards arms trade regulation, as the issue had not been fully addressed by the General Assembly until the creation of this resolution.²⁹ In November of 2008, the United Nations General Assembly passed A/RES/63/23,

²⁴ "The Geneva Declaration of Armed Violence and Development." The Geneva Declaration of Armed Violence and Development, n.d. Web. <http://www.genevadeclaration.org/the-geneva-declaration/what-is-the-declaration.html>.

²⁵ "Latin America and the Caribbean Human Development Report 2010." UNDP. N.p., n.d. Web. 08 Apr. 2016. http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/hdr/latin_america_andthecaribbeanhumandevlopmentreport2010/.

²⁶ Bamako Declaration on an African Common Position on the Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons. 1 December 2000. http://www.un.org/en/africa/osaa/pdf/au/cap_smallarms_2000.pdf

²⁷ IBID.

²⁸ "The Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects." United Nations Conference on Small Arms 2006. United Nations, n.d. Web. <http://www.un.org/events/smallarms2006/pdf/PoA.pdf>

²⁹ "International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons." United Nations Conference on Small Arms 2006. United Nations, n.d. Web. http://www.un.org/events/smallarms2006/pdf/international_instrument.pdf

promoting development through the reduction and prevention of armed violence. This resolution calls for a collaborative approach to the prevention of armed violence. It also requested for the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on “interrelation between armed violence and development” and, in close consultation with the relevant agencies, funds, and programs of the United Nations system.³⁰

Eventually, the *Arms Trade Treaty (ATT)* was drafted in 2013 and adopted as a treaty that seeks to regulate arms of vary sizes and types- from handguns to tanks. The ATT differs from the PoA in that the agreement was the first unilateral approach to curbing the illicit trade of conventional arms. Unlike the PoA, it is legally binding, as is seen as a vigorous approach to address the illicit trade of conventional arms that jeopardizes human rights and international security.³¹ More recently, the General Assembly has passed two resolutions, A/RES/70/29 (2015), *assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them*, and A/RES/70/49 (2015), *the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects*, which take collaborative approaches to deter the arms trade. A/RES/70/29 invites the Centre for International Crime Prevention further to increase cooperation and coordination with other relevant entities, in particular the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.³² Also, A/RES/70/49 calls for States to submit, on a voluntary basis, national reports on their implementation of the Programme of Action, notes that States will submit national reports on their implementation of the International Tracing Instrument.³³

Although the illicit arms trade has been addressed with greater strength in recent years with several comprehensive resolutions and frameworks, the illicit trade of weapons has grown robust, especially in developing regions such as Latin America. General Assembly resolution, A/RES/70/63 (2015), *United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament, and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean*, aims to promote regional and sub-regional initiatives in agreed upon by nations that include the regulation of conventional arms, in the relationship between disarmament and development in Latin America.³⁴ The breadth of fire arm violence and the illicit arms trade have yet to be addressed by UN action specifically in the Latin American region.

Case Study on the Situation in El Salvador

Central America has some of the highest crime and homicide rates in the world. Although the UN has addressed the problem that this crime presents for Central America’s development (A/RES/57/160), as well as numerous broad attempts to curb the trade of illicit arms, there has been minimal success in addressing the violence that stems from arms trade.³⁵ The homicide rate from non-conflict armed violence

³⁰ General Assembly. *Resolution 63/23, Promoting Development through the Reduction and Prevention of Armed Violence.* 17 November 2008.

<https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N15/413/39/PDF/N1541339.pdf?OpenElement>

³¹ *The Arms Trade Treaty.* 2 April 2013.

<https://unoda-web.s3-accelerate.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/English7.pdf>

³² General Assembly. 70th Sess. Resolution 70/29, Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them. 11 December 2015.

<https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N15/409/67/PDF/N1540967.pdf?OpenElement>

³³ United Nations. General Assembly. 70th Sess. Resolution 70/49, The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects. 11 December 2015.

<https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N15/411/47/PDF/N1541147.pdf?OpenElement>

³⁴ General Assembly. 70th Sess. *Resolution 70/63, United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament, and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean.* 11 December 2015.

<https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N15/413/39/PDF/N1541339.pdf?OpenElement>

³⁵ General Assembly. Resolution 57/160, The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development.

<https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N02/548/71/PDF/N0254871.pdf?OpenElement>

is on the rise at an alarming rate in Central America, even more so than Latin America as a whole. Firearms undoubtedly play a role in femicides,³⁶ nearly 60 percent of all femicides in Brazil, Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras were committed by a firearm, whereas the global average is 30 percent.³⁷ In 2015, 80 percent of murders were carried out by guns in El Salvador. With a lack of judicial legitimacy and a thriving black market, criminal gangs and organizations have easy access to illicit arms in El Salvador.³⁸ Criminal activity thrives from unregulated channels of black market arms, making it harder to deter crime. According to the Small Arms Survey on Armed Violence, “With a violent death rate of 61.9 per 100,000 in 2004-09, the people of El Salvador were more at risk of dying violently than any population around the world.”³⁹ This statistic surpassed violent deaths in Iraq. It is obvious that despite the efforts of the UN, international security is still at risk since the flow of illicit weapons has not been curtailed; arms have enabled gross amounts of violence and seek to threaten future public safety for civilians who reside in regions as hostile as Central America. The case of El Salvador demonstrates the pressuring nature of this issue.

Questions for Further Research:

As you start your research, keep these two objectives in mind: accurately representing your member state and working alongside other delegates to formulate resolutions proposing new international solutions to contemporary problems. To understand if the proposal is something your member state would support, you need to research your nation’s history with respect to the issue at hand. To understand whether or not a proposal is “new,” you need to research past UN action. Look to past resolutions and case studies for information about what has proven to be successful and unsuccessful in the past, and build on this in your new resolutions. Here are some questions to guide your preparation:

1. How can this committee utilize advances in technology to regulate arms trade and provide better security?
2. How can GA1 improve regional and sub-regional confidence building to further international cooperation?
3. How can GA1 improve the public security of groups such as women, children, and the indigenous that are threatened by armed violence?
4. How can States prevent small arms from being acquired for organized crimes such as guerilla groups, gangs etc.?
5. How can UN action aid Member States in curtailing the production of these arms?
6. Which treaties or conventions, like the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), has your Member State ratified? How can your Member State remain in compliance with these agreements?

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³⁷ Nowak, Matthias. “Femicide: A Global Problem.” *Small Arms Survey Research Notes*: 14 (2012). Web. http://www.smallarmssurvey.org/fileadmin/docs/H-Research_Notes/SAS-Research-Note-14.pdf

³⁸ Kinoshian, Sarah. “Arming the Conflict: El Salvador’s Gun Market.” *Latin America Working Group*. 16 February 2016. Web.

<http://www.lawg.org/action-center/lawg-blog/69-general/1585-arming-the-conflict-el-salvadors-gun-market>

³⁹ Gilgen, Elisabeth. “Armed Violence: Spotlight on Lethal Effects.” *Small Arms Survey Research Notes*: 17 (2012). Web.

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<https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N15/409/67/PDF/N1540967.pdf?OpenElement>
"Invites the Centre for International Crime Prevention further to increase cooperation and coordination with other relevant entities, in particular the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights."
12. United Nations. General Assembly. 70th Sess. *Resolution 70/49, The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects*. 11 December 2015.
<https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N15/411/47/PDF/N1541147.pdf?OpenElement>

- Call for States to submit, on a voluntary basis, national reports on their implementation of the Programme of Action, notes that States will submit national reports on their implementation of the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (the International Tracing Instrument).*
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General Assembly 3rd Committee



History of General Assembly 3rd Committee

The General Assembly Third Committee (GA3), formally referred to as the General Assembly Social Humanitarian and Cultural Affairs Committee (SOCHUM), was established in 1948 as a direct result of the humanitarian crises that took place during the Second World War. The Third Committee's scope is broad and can coincide with the issues addressed by the General Assembly Second Committee and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Unlike ECOSOC, however, every Member State has representation in the Third Committee. Due to the large range of affairs it governs, the Committee considers many topics, including:

- Advancement of women and protection of children
- Rights of indigenous peoples and status and treatment of refugees
- Elimination of racism and racial discrimination
- Crime prevention and drug control
- Rights of the elderly and disabled

As these issues are far-reaching and complex, the GA3 works with other UN organs and NGOs, including ECOSOC and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), to ensure that the resolutions passed are properly implemented. With the recent creation of the Human Rights Council (HRC), the Third Committee has taken a special interest in expanding human rights and fundamental freedoms. It is an important liaison between the HRC (based in Geneva) and the General Assembly (based in New York). Although the Third Committee considers many draft resolutions, many have criticized that its time is allocated inefficiently: a large amount of time and effort is put toward amending past resolutions but result in minor textual changes. Additionally, informal negotiating between Member States absorbs much of the energy in the Third Committee.

GA 3rd Topic 1: Personal Data Surveillance and Security

Background:

Much of the global community has entered the digital age. With this introduction, new challenges arise from the regulation, processing, and harnessing of personal data. As more technologies are developed in order to benefit society, Member States have created an array of policies concerning how this data is controlled. In consideration of private companies, the use of cookies and personal data allow international corporations such as Google or Facebook to sell that personal information to other corporations and governments. On the other hand, companies like Apple use the “differential privacy” approach, where they analyze the data of a particular demographic without delving into personal data.⁴⁰ Policies and procedures on the transfer from private entities to governments, or even state-to-state transfers are far from uniform, raising numerous questions about human rights considerations. On the international scale, the use of hacking,⁴¹ cracking⁴², or data surveillance⁴³ leads the violation of privacy and exposure for individuals who are owed the right to privacy⁴⁴. Many governments use surveillance and hire hackers and

⁴⁰ <https://www.wired.com/2016/06/apples-differential-privacy-collecting-data/>

⁴¹ To use a computer to gain unauthorized access to data in a system; gain unauthorized access to (data in a computer). In this text, a “hacker” refers to a person who uses computers to gain unauthorized access to data, rather than an enthusiastic and skillful computer programmer or user, while the latter may turn into the former.

⁴² To find a solution to; decipher or interpret, here referring to the breaking into a computer system without knowing the password. Here, the term “cracker” refers to someone who cracks, rather than any derogatory terminology.

⁴³ Close observation, especially of a suspected spy or criminal, in this case on technological or digital avenues

⁴⁴ The human right of an individual's privacy in reference to their digital life.

crackers to seek out dangers to their country or international organization. However, in some cases, governments utilize these technological means to accuse other nations of cyberterrorism⁴⁵ or crimes by accessing the government's privacy. For example, United States has, in several cases, been accused of surveying private, civilian homes both domestically and internationally.

The Republic of China has been known for many years for its restrictions on Internet for its citizens. Despite being one of the most populous nations in the world, it is also a surveillance state. China is currently in the market for high-powered facial recognition software for the physical world. However, its online presence is more intrusive. While the United States and China recently agreed to rein in Chinese surveillance and hacking of US government agencies, these have actually increased. The anti-fraud department of Shenzhen's Public Security Bureau (PSB) has access to all cell phones with the ability to ping phones that have made a call to a non-Chinese phone number. A Chinese cell phone is also able to know when one has left the country, providing it with welcome message and emergency contact numbers. While this is helpful, it also posits the question as to how much else the government is privy to. China's cyber security laws state that all companies in China must share private data with the government. The United States and the Republic of China have become entangled with several cyber security⁴⁶ scandals, similar to most nations that are fully engaged in the digital era. In 2015, 21.5 million U.S. federal employees' security data became compromised after a hack that was blamed on the Chinese government, causing international conflict.

Under scrutiny for their methodology of hacking and other interferences, the United States is also known for its invasive post-9/11 policies, believing that personal information is vital to national security interests. Both the Republic of China and the United States contest that private companies need not inform each consumer of their privacy policies, because governments can directly benefit from the collection of data via private companies like Facebook or Apple. The United States has gathered immense amounts of data through these mediums and made it legal through the Patriot Act.⁴⁷ However, President Obama has defended the National Security Agency (NSA) in its "modest encroachments on privacy".⁴⁸ The provisions do not impede on governmental processes, but rather the encourage safeguards and interaction between public and private sectors.

This issue spans the scope of the globe, and is not only limited to the likes of the Republic of China and the United States. Recently, it was discovered that surveillance malware that was deployed in Ethiopia, Morocco, Nigeria, Sudan and Somalia was recently found in South Africa and Nigeria. For western nations, malware and other "cheap" surveillance technologies" are not as important. However, in Angola specifically, there is heavy use of these cheap spyware technologies. In Angola, there is a disdain for investigative journalism and the like. A reporter who discovered this was arrested and beaten for his discovery of not only the spyware but for corrupt money laundering within the regime. In African nations like Angola, there is a present threat to freedom of speech in the form of journalism.⁴⁹

Past UN action addresses the aspects of data protection and the use of the Internet as a human rights issue. However, currently there are no UN resolutions addressing the mass collection of personal data by private

⁴⁵ The politically motivated use of computers and information technology to cause severe disruption or widespread fear in society. Someone who participates in this act is known as a "cyberterrorist."

⁴⁶ United States Department of Justice. "The USA PATRIOT Act: Preserving Life and Liberty."

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⁴⁷ Baker, Peter; Sanger, David E. "Obama Calls Surveillance Programs Legal and Limited." The New York Times. 07 June 2013. <http://www.nytimes.com/2013/06/08/us/national-security-agency-surveillance.html>

⁴⁸ Ibid.

⁴⁹ <https://advox.globalvoices.org/2014/02/26/digital-surveillance-in-angola-and-other-less-important-african-nations/>

entities and social media platforms. This collection arguably encroaches on the individual's basic human right to privacy when their data is processed without any regulation.

Past UN Action:

The processing and transfer of personal data has just recently grabbed attention of many international actors as the world becomes increasingly digitalized. However, the United Nations began considering the processing of personal data in 1990 when the General Assembly also passed A/RES/45/95: "Guidelines for the regulation of computerized personal data files" (December 14, 1990). This resolution seeks to update previously established guidelines over the use of personal, computerized data files in order to address concerns from several delegations. It also requests further adoption by local governments. The resolution recognizes resolution A/RES/44/132, (December 15, 1989) which introduces guidelines that refer to the governmental abuse of citizens' private data files and regulations concerning their use. Other United Nations documents mentioned were Commission on Human Rights resolution 1990/42 (March 6, 1990) and ECOSOC resolution 1990/38 (May 25, 1990) which also addressed guidelines for the regulation of computerized personal data files. Additionally, A/HRC/23/40, "Report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, Frank La Rue" (April 17, 2013), gives consideration to states' surveillance and the right to privacy in conjunction with the freedom of opinion and expression. The report was submitted along with A/HRC/16/4. The report finds an urgent need for further studies and reports over surveillance and human rights standards given the rapid advances made in technology utilized by States.

Recently, the United Nations General Assembly ratified Resolution 68/167 (2013), *The right to privacy in the digital age*, in affirming the human right to privacy in relation to technology. This resolution recognizes the potential for human rights to be negatively impacted by surveillance. The General Assembly asks all member-states to recognize the right of privacy in the digital world, as well as in the physical one. The position of Special Rapporteur, created by this resolution, was updated following the Snowden leaks.⁵⁰ This is indicative of the fact that the United Nations is still concerned with surveillance done by the government in regard to the protection of human rights. Due to a fear that the first appointed rapporteur would not be able to critique the United States adequately, the president of the Human Rights Council rejected her, seeking a new rapporteur.

International Law in Other Areas:

European Commission (EC)

The European Commission (EC) and Argentina proposed in 2006 that there is a "right to be forgotten,"⁵¹ as permitted in the EU. In order to strengthen the rights of individuals regarding digital rights, the EC decided that this can be done by allowing people to have their search results' data be permanently destroyed on search engines. Therefore, in 2012, the EC asserted that data must be deleted if there are "no legitimate grounds for retaining" any data. The Vice President of the EC noted that, similar to the freedom of press and freedom of expression, the right to be forgotten is not absolute and cannot be applied in every case.

The European Union and related bodies are relatively up to date with digital privacy initiatives. The Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union states, "every person has the right to the protection of personal data concerning them" (The Treaty on the Functioning of Europe, Article 16). In 1981, the Council of Europe established the Convention for the Protection of Individuals with Regard to the

⁵⁰ Edward Snowden released top-secret NSA documents to the Guardian; this will be discussed later.

⁵¹http://www.nytimes.com/2015/08/06/technology/personaltech/right-to-be-forgotten-online-is-poised-to-spread.html?_r=0

Automatic Processing of Personal Data. The convention contends that member states must obtain data lawfully and only “use it for its intended purpose.” The European Union also created a Data Protection Directive in 1995 that focuses on a regulatory framework concerning protection for individuals and trans-border movements of personal data within the EU. Individuals retain “the right to obtain information, right to access information, and the right to object the processing of any personal information” (Data Protection Directive, 95/46/EC). Recently, a new proposal for data protection reform was initiated in 2012 and was anticipated to be complete in 2015. The updated changes include new rules about police and judicial cooperation in prosecuting those who violate the rights of others.

Edward Snowden and the National Security Agency

In 2013, Edward Snowden, an American computer tech, released documents to the Guardian implicating the United States, the United Kingdom and other European nations in mass data surveillance, releasing top-secret NSA documents. This surveillance violated citizens’ rights in many nations, including millions of the United States’ own citizens. Since these have been leaked, surveillance and data security has been at the forefront of both the UK’s and the US’s minds. Recently, Singapore has been implicated as a “third party” in the Snowden leaks which allowed the United States and Australia access to Malaysia’s communications data. Following the realization that Singapore was utilizing the SEA-ME-WE-3 internet cable, targeting Malaysia and Indonesia, it was discovered that Singapore also has access to citizen’s data using a PRISM-like program. Singapore’s Computer Misuse and Cybersecurity Act has recently been amended to allow the government to compel organizations to do pre-emptive surveillance. Despite the Personal Data Protection Act, which actually exempts government agencies. Singapore has a strong position as one of the highest data seekers per capita.

Case Studies:

Google and the European Commission

In 2012, the EC addressed Google’s usage of personal data as a “controller” of such data, addressing the company’s expansive scope of leeway with user data. The Commission demanded that it must be regulated under the Data Protection Directive. Specifically, Google was given the task of removing links from search results that are potentially private in nature, allowing people to ask Google to remove private links. While Google claimed that they were simply putting out what people were asking for, under EC law, this is not the case. Since this decision was reached, Google has approved 40% of 253,617 requests to remove 920,528 links. Although the EC has made certain strides in an attempt to curb data privacy violations, granting a mere 40% of requests leaves many questioning the effectiveness of current laws and their need to be expanded. In the United Kingdom, the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO) has received 183 complaints from people whose requests to Google were denied. However, Google has won 75% of such suits, leaving only 48 cases in which the ICO deemed Google’s decision incorrect. While Google accepted many of these cases, those remaining few are privy to legal action if not resolved with the ICO. The details of this case have garnered criticism from fellow Internet mind, Jimmy Wales, founder of Wikipedia who deemed Google’s actions as “deeply immoral,” and the EU’s House of Lords believe Google’s actions as “unworkable and wrong.” This comes after the ruling that if a link in question has a clear public interest, then it need not be removed. The ICO defends this believing that it raised a healthy awareness of the benefit of removing links and the extent of the right to data protection that belongs to each person. The image created by some of the world’s most progressive data privacy laws promoted by the European Commission has turned from hopeful to dismal.

In its time, the United States has, in several cases, been accused of surveying private, domestic homes both domestically and internationally. Although under scrutiny for their methodology of hacking and other interferences, the United States is known as one of the most private nations, believing that personal information is highly valuable. Because of the United States’ position as world power and its emphasis on

personal privacy, it has been the victim of almost innumerable cyber security⁵² attacks. In 2015, 21.5 million federal employees' security data became compromised after a hack which was blamed on the Chinese government, causing international conflict.

Questions for Further Research:

As you start your research, keep these two objectives in mind: accurately representing your member state and working alongside other delegates to formulate resolutions proposing new international solutions to contemporary problems. To understand if the proposal is something your member state would support, you need to research your nation's history with respect to the issue at hand. To understand whether or not a proposal is "new," you need to research past UN action. Look to past resolutions and case studies for information about what has proven to be successful and unsuccessful in the past, and build on this in your new resolutions. Here are some questions to guide your preparation:

- How does the General Assembly find a resolution that caters to the needs of both Less-Developed and More-Developed Nations?
- How can the United Nations decide what falls under the human right to privacy and what needs to be known for the public interest?
- How does the United Nations go about creating a litmus test to decide what is of public interest as well as who has sovereignty over the Internet?
- What can we learn about the challenges posed in the case studies provided? How can that help the General Assembly formulate resolutions to prevent future crises?
- How can the General Assembly affirm resolution 68/187 in light of the Sustainable Development Goals and what problems would arise from an enforcement of this?
- Is it the case that an increase in technology requires that there be an increase in the potential for exploitation?
- How has international political relations been affected by breaches in digital privacy across country lines?
- How has your member-state influenced or reacted to the call for the right to privacy, especially regarding human rights and surveillance or data collecting?

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A/C.3/68/167, "The Right to Privacy in the Digital Age," December 18, 2013:
<https://ccdcoe.org/sites/default/files/documents/UN-131218-RightToPrivacy.pdf>

Affirms the right to privacy, the global nature of the Internet, and creates the position of Special Rapporteur to promote and protect this right. This position would work to raise awareness and report on alleged human rights violations especially regarding the collection of personal data.

52

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A/RES/69/197, “Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in Particular its Technical Cooperation Capacity,” December 18, 2014:

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<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=46780#.VwL49BMrJE4>

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“Opening Remarks by Ms. Navi Pillay, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to the Side-event at the 24th session of the UN Human Rights Council How to safeguard the right to privacy in the digital age?” September 20, 2013:

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=13758&LangID=E>

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A look at the way large-scale surveillance contends with personal security and national security as well, identifying parallels and discrepancies with NSA-run functions and presenting policy recommendations to European Parliament.

Nixon, Ron, "Postal Service Failed to Protect Personal Data in Mail Surveillance, Report Says," *The New York Times*, September 24, 2015: http://www.nytimes.com/2015/09/25/us/postal-service-failed-to-protect-personal-data-in-mail-surveillance-report-says.html?_r=0

"Personal Data Protection," *European Courts of Human Rights*, February 2016: http://www.echr.coe.int/Documents/FS_Data_ENG.pdf

Privacy International, "United Nations Adopts Resolution Condemning Unlawful Government Surveillance," *Privacy International*, November 25, 2014: <https://www.privacyinternational.org/node/402>
Reports on the adoption of The Right to Privacy in the Digital Age of the United Nations, noting that the US attempted to water down the rhetoric of their most recent surveillance tactics, but the UN deemed them non-compliant with the right to privacy and without legal framework. The UK recently released a study noting that Internet companies should work alongside the authorities, but this article condemns such things.

Stoppard, Tom, "State Surveillance of Personal Data: What Society We Wish to Protect?," *The Guardian*, December 9, 2010: <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/dec/10/state-surveillance-data-tom-stoppard>

Tom Stoppard posits the question of whether security is worth the lack of privacy which would come alongside it. Further, he questions whether or not lack of privacy is counter to a just society.

GA 3rd Topic 2: Syrian Refugee Crisis and Humanitarian Aid

Background:

Over the past five years, Syria has been torn apart by a civil war that has bred mass uncertainty. In response, hundreds of thousands of Syrians have evacuated their homes in search of safety and security. Since the Arab Spring, many nations have experienced political unrest, forcing many civilians in Sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East to flee their homelands from the threat of ISIS.⁵³

The movement and resettlement of these people has grabbed the attention of many on the international scale. The distinction between the terms “migrant,” “refugee,” and “internally displaced persons (IDP)” have varied in the eyes of Member States, while the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) offers more formal definitions that you should study and keep in mind as you prepare for and participate in conference. According to the UNHCR, refugees are fleeing armed conflict or persecution, whereas IDPs, “...have not crossed a border to find safety. Unlike refugees, they are on the run at home.”⁵⁴ As of now there are 7,632,500 internally displaced persons (IDPs) and approximately 4,200,000 refugees that have fled Syria.⁵⁵ Migrants are defined by the UNHCR as people who chose to move primarily to improve their lives by means of work, education etc. Migrants are not fleeing eminent danger and would be received by their government if they were to return home.⁵⁶

With the increased number of refugees and migrants from escalating military presence and unrest, many have travelled thousands of miles on either land or sea to find peace within the borders of Europe. Since July of 2015, the Mediterranean has been the preferred entry point for refugees.⁵⁷ Lesbos, Greece is the initial entry for many refugees who are then on their way to more long-term locations such as Germany, France, and Eastern European nations that are accepting refugees. Before 2013, asylum seekers arriving in the European Union would have only been allowed to enter into one state and seek asylum there. After 2013, refugees and migrants are now able to arrive in one European state and seek asylum in another state while not being forced to stay in the state of entry.⁵⁸

Many refugees and migrants are seeking asylum in Germany because of promised financial support of the German government. Since September 2015, Germany has pledged €6 million toward the project of accepting and helping Syrian refugees coming to Europe in search of a new life.⁵⁹ German Prime Minister Angela Merkel has stated that Germany is prepared to take “500,000 asylum seekers a year” for several years.⁶⁰ Even though Germany is a primary destination, other EU nations such as Hungary and Greece have accepted an abundance of refugees and migrants.

⁵³ <http://www.cfr.org/migration/europes-migration-crisis/p32874>

⁵⁴ <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49c3646c146.html>

⁵⁵ <http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/page?page=49e486a76&submit=GO>

⁵⁶ Ibid.

⁵⁷ <http://www.cfr.org/migration/europes-migration-crisis/p32874>

⁵⁸ Ibid.

⁵⁹ Ibid.

⁶⁰ Ibid.

In an attempt to lessen the effect of mass migration on Greece and other European states, the EU has made an agreement with Turkey to take on more refugees and migrants. In the terms of the agreement, for every person that is accepted into the EU, another will be sent back to Turkey.⁶¹ When a Syrian refugee or migrant comes on the shore of Lesbos, they are automatically held and placed into detention centers to await a hearing. Upon their hearing, refugees and migrants are then assigned to either the EU or Turkey and are able to appeal any denial of asylum.⁶²

Unfortunately for Europe, Lesbos is not the only place experiencing overcrowding and increased problems with sufficient housing and supplies. Other places around Europe such as Calais, France⁶³ and the Port of Piraeus⁶⁴ near Athens are experiencing overcrowding and insufficient funding. Many refugees are huddling in camps near the sea in hopes to get into United Kingdom and the European mainland, respectively. There are also a number of refugees that are amassing near the border of Macedonia. Impatience and violent injuries are growing among refugees and migrants, and aid to stabilize current camps remains in high demand.

Past UN Action:

Several recent and important General Assembly Resolutions will form the starting point for your research. In February of 2000, the United Nations General Assembly passed A/RES/54/158, “The International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.”⁶⁵ This is an important document to consider when engaging with the refugee and migrant crisis because it recognizes the need to protect migrants and their families as provided by the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference of Human Rights. More recently, in January and February of 2014, resolutions 68/179 and 69/167 have provided more specific suggestions to the broad category of migrants in general.

Resolution 68/179 addresses the protection of migrants, specifically women and children migrants.⁶⁶ This resolution calls for states to work together in order to ensure that the human rights of women and children migrants are upheld, regardless of their status within the nation. Most of what this resolution does is uphold the rights of women and children migrants and ask states create programs to protect these vulnerable people’s human rights and ensure they are protected under the same rule of law.

Resolution 69/167 focuses on eliminating the discrimination of migrants by asking states to ensure that the rule of law is applied to migrants and that their human rights are upheld.⁶⁷ Moreover, the UN asks states to ensure the rule of law is guaranteed during counter terrorism operations. This resolution asks that states consider the UN’s recommendations in fighting human trafficking as well as asks the states to ensure they have institutions to fight human trafficking. Overall this resolution asks states to create mechanisms to ensure that migrants are not discriminated against and that there are safeguards for vulnerable people.

Syrian citizens who are crossing over from Turkey to Europe are defined as refugees under international law. Extensive work has been done by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Human Rights Council (HRC) to advocate for these persons. Even though you are working in the

⁶¹ <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-36058178>

⁶² <http://www.bbc.com/news/blogs-eu-35848181>

⁶³ <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-35693882>

⁶⁴ <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-35940868>

⁶⁵ United Nations. General Assembly. 54/158. International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. United Nations, 8 Feb. Web.

⁶⁶ United Nations. General Assembly. 68/179. Protection of Migrants. United Nations, 28 Jan. Web.

⁶⁷ United Nations. General Assembly. 69/167. Protection of Migrants. United Nations, 12 Feb. Web.

context of the General Assembly, work by these bodies will be relevant, and you should include them in your research. At the foundation of all humanitarian, refugee, and preliminary obligations for IDP's is *The Universal Declaration on Human Rights* (UDHR).⁶⁸ The UDHR states that all persons have protection under international law. Among these rights, persons have rights to seek asylum and freedom from inhuman treatment. Shortly after the adoption of the UDHR, the "*Convention and Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees*"⁶⁹ formed a basis of international obligations Member States are recommended to maintain for refugees and migrants. Among these rights the UNHCR are given extensive rights to obtain information regarding refugees from member states. In 1969, the United Nations adopted a co-opting definition of a refugee under the *Organization of African Unity Convention* (OAU).⁷⁰ Both documents further established the international defining and defense of refugees.

In recent history, the UNHCR created the "DAFI Scholarship Programme" in 2012 that has assisted students misplaced from their home nations and regions. Scholarships are handed to displaced persons and refugees in order to provide funds to be influential members of society. Students anywhere from college to elementary can benefit from this program and have already seen its effects in the current Syrian Refugee Crisis.⁷¹ Member States sponsor students directly though the program once a refugee or displaced person applies.

In 2001, the HRC developed a group of principles called *The Guiding Principles of Internally Displaced Persons*.⁷² Regional governments have found many of these principles to be helpful to them as a way to give support to IDP's. This document also declares that IDP's have full equality under the law and are allowed to partake in requesting humanitarian assistance. IDP's have basic rights such as housing accommodations, education, the right to seek employment, and the right to seek refuge in another country. Regional governments are handed the task of upholding and cooperating with these individuals in order to find accommodations.

Another document that has been made in partnership with the HRC is the *Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons*.⁷³ Many IDP's that flee to another region of their country or leave permanently to another state need long-term solutions. The HRC is working with other agencies around the UN in order to find durable solutions for these persons. One solution would be the fully return to the original region. Ideally, the HRC and the whole of the UNHCR would vouch for such a solution, but unfortunately this does not always occur. The next best solution is fashioning a durable, long-lasting solution in support of the IDP within a new region. ECOSOC plays a substantial role of recommending ways these economic solutions that can be found and formed for long-term support for the displaced persons.

Because of the overlap with GA 3, another body whose work you will encounter as you prepare for conference is ECOSOC. In particular, ECOSOC documents provide helpful reports, including statistics. For example, the report *A/68/x/-E/2013/y* composes a list of ways that ECOSOC has worked with the UN. Lasting and workable solutions are most beneficial not only to the fleeing person but also for the regional governments that receive them. In 2012, ECOSOC called for a collective response to humanitarian aid through *E/RES/2012/3*. This resolution calls upon Member States to respond to emergency aid in order to contribute to durable solutions. Working with primary humanitarian organizations, this resolution calls

⁶⁸ <http://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/>

⁶⁹ <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49da0e466.html>

⁷⁰ <http://www.unhcr.org/45dc1a682.html>

⁷¹ See <http://www.unhcr.org/cgi>

[bin/texis/vtx/search?page=search&docid=5702722a6&query=Syria%20and%20Europe](http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/search?page=search&docid=5702722a6&query=Syria%20and%20Europe)

⁷² E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2

⁷³ A/HRC/13/21/Add.4

upon these groups to contribute and provide detailed information to ECOSOC. Regarding Member States, this resolution encourages further gathering of information to help humanitarian organizations benefit refugees and IDP's effectively.

Questions for Further Research:

As you start your research, keep these two objectives in mind: accurately representing your member state and working alongside other delegates to formulate resolutions proposing new international solutions to contemporary problems. To understand if the proposal is something your member state would support, you need to research your nation's history with respect to the issue at hand. To understand whether or not a proposal is "new," you need to research past UN action. Look to past resolutions and case studies for information about what has proven to be successful and unsuccessful in the past, and build on this in your new resolutions. Here are some questions to guide your preparation:

- How can GA3 partner with UN member states outside of the EU to better manage the crisis?
- Humanitarian aid is fashioned to develop regional governments in order to support refugees and IDP's. Through recommendations and development, what sorts of ways can the international community through GA3 support European regional governments?
- How can GA3 help support long-term education and job employment for refugees in Eastern Europe and Germany?
- How does your Member State define migrants, refugees, and IDPs?
- Which policies or mechanisms does your Member State or regional block use to address migration? Have these proven to be successful, why or why not?
- How can the United Nations better protect specifically women, children, and ethnic minorities that are fleeing conflict?

Bibliography

EC/57/SC/CRP.18, "UNHRC's Expanded Role in Support of the Inter-Agency Response to Internal Displaced Persons," June, 8 2006:

<http://www.unhcr.org/44892fc82.html>

This document maps out the UNHCR's "cluster leadership" response to Internally Displaced Persons (IDP's). I really enjoy this document because of the way that it sets out the accountability and constant communication that the UNHRC wants to have with different groups in the UN such as the Office of Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the United Nations Children's Funds (UNICEF). It will be a helpful framework for delegates to look at and see ways that this framework could be improved in anyway but could also come up with resolutions based on this framework for further implementation.

A/HRC/13/21/Add.4, "Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons," February 9, 2010:

<https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G10/100/49/PDF/G1010049.pdf?OpenElement>

This document answers the question of what is a durable solution for an IDP and the ways to make the most effective durable solution for local and foreign displacement of IDP's. The document also introduces UN jargon such as: "sustainable integration", "sustainable reintegration", and also "durable solutions". Durable solutions are described as "when internally displaced persons no longer have any specific assistance and protection needs that are linked to their displacement and can enjoy their human rights without discrimination on account of their displacement." At its core, this document places a baseline pointing to the "Guiding Principles of Misplaced Persons".

A/RES/67/16, “The Situation in Afghanistan,” December 13, 2012:

<https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N12/479/56/PDF/N1247956.pdf?OpenElement>

This General Assembly resolution gives a detailed description about the Afghanistan situation that occurred during 2012 as of November 27th. Internally displaced persons are mentioned in the Economic and Social integration section of the operative clauses of the resolution. One of the most important thing that it points out is that the resolution thanks and welcomes the international community for the continued support of these internally displaced persons.

PDES/2013/01, “Still Minding the Gap? A Review of Efforts to link Relief Development in Situations of Human Displacement,” February 2013: <http://www.unhcr.org/512cdef09.pdf>

This is a 75-page document that wants to see where there are gaps and ways that the UNHRC can bridge that gap further. The document was created by the Policy Development and Evaluation Services wing of the United Nations High Commissioner of Refugees. Durable Solutions and the Guiding Principles are mentioned in the document but the documents overall goal is to use the international frameworks that have been put in place since the further recognition that the UNHRC has had since 2008.

E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, “Guiding Principles of Misplaced Persons,” June 2001:

<https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G98/104/93/PDF/G9810493.pdf?OpenElement>

Created in 2001, this is basically the constitution on the steps that should be taken when internally displaced persons are involved. This document recognizes the need for internally displaced persons to have full recognition of rights, local economic opportunity, and proper accommodation and also the condemning of discrimination against these persons. Probably the most important document that is on the topic of internally displaced persons.

A/HRC/13/21, “ Report of Representative of the Secretary-General on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons,” January 10, 2010:

<https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G10/101/61/PDF/G1010161.pdf?OpenElement>

This is a report from the Human Rights Council’s Secretary-General that has gone to multiple states to observe the way that rights are being upheld in internally displaced persons. The HRC Secretary-General gives suggestions on how frameworks are doing from his perspective and how they can be improved. The Secretary-General also discusses the topic of internally displaced persons in general and the problems that are faced. He also places importance for regional support of the IDP’s.

A/RES/66/165, “Protection and Assistance of Misplaced Persons,” March 22, 2012:

<https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N11/468/72/PDF/N1146872.pdf?OpenElement>

This GA 3 resolution gives an outlined review of the actions that have been taken by the UN in support of Internally Displaced Persons. The preemptive clauses again uses the Guiding Principles as a cornerstone document in the field of IDP’s and then in the operative clauses calls on regional support for these persons. GA 3 also mentions “durable solutions” in this document and asks the Special Rapporteur to look into the frameworks that have been put in place in order to help support inter-governmental organizations and NGO’s.

A/68/x/-E/2013/y, “Strengthening of Coordination of Emergency Humanitarian Assistance of the United Nations,” July 1-25, 2013: http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/adv2013/sg_report-adv_strengthening_coordination_of_%20humanitarian_assistance.pdf

[Report of ECOSOC](http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/adv2013/sg_report-adv_strengthening_coordination_of_%20humanitarian_assistance.pdf)

This is an ECOSOC document that specifically mentions the overall state of the world by known crises and the ways that ECOSOC and the UN is committing to these crises. The resolution goes

through statistics and further fundamental ways that the United Nations is responding. There is a section on “Humanitarian Effectiveness” and how these frameworks can be improved. ECOSOC then in the end of the document suggests a risk management approach for the UN.

E/RES/2012/3, “Strengthening of the Coordination of Emergency Humanitarian Assistance of the United Nations,” August 16, 2012:

<https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N12/419/65/PDF/N1241965.pdf?OpenElement>

This ECOSOC resolution calls upon member states to continue to invest in humanitarian aid groups and other relevant actors to continue to contribute to the support of durable solutions. Risk management systems are mentioned and ECOSOC suggests additions to those systems. Common mechanisms are suggested in order to have an international community to respond to the challenges. Humanitarian and refugee law is called upon to be upheld.

UNHCR: “German-funded Scholarship Gives Refugees Hope and an Education,” April 4, 2016:

[http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-](http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/search?page=search&docid=5702722a6&query=Syria%20and%20Europe)

[bin/texis/vtx/search?page=search&docid=5702722a6&query=Syria%20and%20Europe](http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/search?page=search&docid=5702722a6&query=Syria%20and%20Europe)

This is a news article that articulates to success stories of four success stories of Syrian students that have received a German-funded DAFI scholarship that gives these Syrian’s the ability to continue education. All of the Syrian young adults that are written about in this article say they would not have been able to have an education if it was not for this scholarship. Possible framework other states could implement?

UNHCR: “DAFI Scholarship Programme,” <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49e4a2dd6.html>

DAFI is a scholarship program that was established by the UNHCR to promote self-reliance and education in competitive fields of study. This is a basic page of the promotion of the program but there is deeper explanation in the Education Strategy of 2012-2016.

UNHCR: “Total number of Syrian Refugees exceeds four million for first time,” July 15, 2015:

<http://www.unhcr.org/559d67d46.html>

UNHCR article gives great baseline statistical information about the crisis and the continued acknowledgement that the civil war has no end in sight. As of 2015 there is an estimated 4.27 million refugees that have fled from Syria and are on their way to Turkey and Europe.

“The Universal Declaration of Human Rights,” 10 December 1948: <http://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/>

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights gives a basis for refugee law that the UN is able to protect refugees. This document is the foundation for human rights, refugee law, and protections for Internally Displaced Persons (IDP’s). Some important rights found in this document are the right to seek asylum, freedom from inhuman treatment, and recognition as a person under law.

UNHCR: “1951 Convention on Refugees and 1967 Protocol for Refugees,” pg. 13-19; 51&52. 1951, 1967: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49da0e466.html>

Back in 1951 shortly after the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, multiple UN states came together to established international law specific for refugees. Both the protocol and the Convention are important foundations for refugee law.

UNHCR: “OAU Convention: Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa,” pg. 1-10. 10 September 1969: <http://www.unhcr.org/45dc1a682.html>

The OAU convention is a co-opting document that lays out the definition of a refugee and the obligations that member states are encouraged to obtain.

“10 Truths about Europe’s Migrant Crisis,” 10 August 2015: <http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/aug/10/10-truths-about-europes-refugee-crisis>

“The Horror of the Calais Refugee Camp: ‘We feel like we are dying slowly’,” 3 November 2015: <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/nov/03/refugees-horror-calais-jungle-refugee-camp-feel-like-dying-slowly>

News article about refugee camps and the plight of refugees; provides further information on what refugee camps are like.

“EU Migrant Crisis: Calais ‘Jungle’ Clearance Work Resumes,” 1 March 2016: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-35693882>

“Migrant Crisis: Asylum Seekers in EU ‘doubled in 2015’,” 4 March 2016: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-35723057>

World Health Organization



History of World Health Organization

“Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.” -World Health Organization, 1948

The World Health Organization (WHO) is a specialized agency in the United Nations led by the World Health Assembly. It provides leadership in understanding, documenting, and addressing the health problems that face the world. From recommending new ways to treat AIDS/HIV patients in Africa to delivering life-saving vaccinations to people in the deepest parts of the Amazon, the WHO’s work is as diverse as it is far-reaching. There are 193 member states that currently follow the Organization’s constitution and support its humanitarian efforts. Each country has its own needs and challenges that the WHO and its 34-member Executive Board try to meet.

The Organization is responsible for fulfilling its core functions of leading in matters paramount to health, determining the needed areas of research and knowledge, specifying standards, producing substantive policy options, providing support to its programs and projects, and monitoring disconcerting health situations around the world. It is especially concerned with combating infectious diseases and promoting general health of people in developing nations. The WHO in order to improve health opportunities worldwide uses a six-point agenda. These include:

- promoting development
- fostering health security
- strengthening health systems
- enhancing partnerships
- improving performance
- harnessing research, information, and evidence

These core functions are the guiding framework for the WHO and are set out in greater detail in the 12th General Programme of Work. Effective from 2014 to 2019, this program aims to focus on the three main components of WHO reform: programmes and priorities, governance and management. Meanwhile, it focuses on reducing poverty, building health security, promoting gender equality, harnessing the developmental powers of science and technology, and other issues that have great potential in making a difference in troubled nations.

The WHO also serves as a primary resource for data and statistics involving water facts, disease, causes of death, life expectancy, mortality, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, immunizations, maternal and neonatal care, nutrition, and more. This information can be accessed on the Internet through the Global Health Observatory (GHO), the WHO Global InfoBase, and the Global Health Atlas. The Organization has all of its positions and opinions on the education, treatment, and prevention of health related issues accessible on the Internet along with its governing constitution and other important documents that are relevant to a delegate’s research and preparation for this committee.

World Health Organization Topic 1: Neglected Tropical Diseases, including Zika

Background:

Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTD) have a profound impact on the world, but the developing world is the most vulnerable to their devastating effects. When discussing NTD's it is important to fully understand the scope of the problem that they present. Tragically, every single low-income country is affected by at least five NTDs simultaneously, and an estimated 534,000 people lose their lives every year to NTDs.⁷⁴ The World Health Organization (WHO) defines NTDs as a diverse group of communicable diseases that thrive in tropical and subtropical environments and notes that they affect more than one billion people annually.⁷⁵ In light of these challenges, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) present ambitious goals for the eradication of NTDs. The focus of SDG 3.3 is to bring an end to serious epidemics like AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, and neglected tropical diseases by the year 2030. In addition, SDGs 3.b, 3.c, and 3.d all make important improvements to the methods used to combat NTDs such as the research and development of vaccines and medicines, the improvement of the health workforce in developing nations, and the strengthening of developing nations' ability to manage national and global health risks.⁷⁶

Past UN Action:

The World Health Assembly (WHA) began its focus on neglected tropical diseases in 1948 with resolution WHA1.12 titled "Vector Biology and Control" in 1948.⁷⁷ It was not until 2005 that there was a major shift in the approach taken to treating neglected tropical diseases. That year a strategic and technical meeting between the WHO and its partners resulted in document WHO/CDS/NTD/2006.1.⁷⁸ This signified the shift from treating NTDs on a disease by disease basis to treating them as a group of similar illnesses with same or similar cures.⁷⁹ In 2007 the WHO published the "Report of the Global Partners' Meeting on Neglected Tropical Diseases: A turning point."⁸⁰ The report confirmed increased commitment from member states and expanded of the role of key partners in the private sector. In 2008 the WHO released its Global Plan to Combat Neglected Tropical Diseases 2008-2015 which provides numerous and varied approaches to the management of NTDs.⁸¹ The plan also laid out three targets which were set to be achieved by 2015:

- to eliminate or eradicate those diseases targeted in resolutions of the WHA and regional committees;
- to reduce significantly the burden of other tool-ready diseases through current interventions; and
- to ensure that interventions using novel responses are available, promoted and accessible for tool-deficient diseases.

The most significant concept put forth by the plan is the categorization of diseases according to their ability to be combatted. In doing this, the plan implements the shift towards common and integrated approaches.

⁷⁴ See "Neglected Tropical Diseases: Fast Facts" for relevant statistics provided by the CDC.

⁷⁵ World Health Organization, "Neglected Tropical Diseases" provides the WHO's understanding of NTDs.

⁷⁶ United Nations, <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg3>

⁷⁷ World Health Organization, "World Health Assembly (WHA) Resolutions on Neglected Tropical Diseases: 1948-2013" can be used to access every resolution passed by the WHA in regards to NTDs since 1948.

⁷⁸ Document WHO/CDS/NTD/2006.1.

⁷⁹ See "Neglected Tropical Diseases Prevention, Control, Elimination and Eradication: report by the Secretariat" for a comprehensive background on the development of the WHO's response towards NTDs.

⁸⁰ Document WHO/CDS/NTD/2007.4.

⁸¹ Document WHO/CDS/NTD/2007.3.

This plan was followed by the WHO's first official report on NTDs in 2010, which focused on making sure the serious impacts of NTDs are recognized, while at the same time encouraging further cooperation with private sector partners.⁸² In 2012 the WHO released a follow up to its 2007 report "Accelerating Work to Overcome the Global Impact of Neglected Tropical Diseases: A Roadmap for Implementation".⁸³ This document outlined the intentions of the WHO to eradicate dracunculiasis and yaws by 2015 along with several other non-tropical diseases by 2020. It also details the steps for the WHO to take towards the MDG's of 2015, and lays the foundation for future targets.

Published in 2012 the London Declaration on Neglected Tropical Diseases is an extremely important document regarding the role that NGO's and other private entities play in the fight against NTDs.⁸⁴ The London Declaration received twenty-two endorsements from organizations with a global focus, such as the World Bank and USAID. By focusing on the things that these organizations can do best, such as funding, research and development, and coordination, the London Declaration is a landmark achievement in efforts to address NTDs.

2013 was an important year in the development of the global response to NTDs. The WHO published its second report on NTDs in January of 2013.⁸⁵ This report sets milestones for reaching goals, defines the concepts of eradication and elimination, expands the concept of universal health coverage as it applies to NTDs, identifies the elements needed to strengthen human resources, and encourages cooperation with sectors such as education, agriculture and veterinary health.⁸⁶ In addition to this report, resolution WHA66.12 was adopted by the WHA on May 27th, 2013.⁸⁷ Resolution WHA66.12 recommends specific steps for member states, international partners, and the Director-General to take in regards to combatting neglected tropical diseases. This is the most recent resolution passed by the WHA and is the guiding factor in the creation of future resolutions.

Case Study:

The far-reaching impact of the Zika Virus has caused the WHO to reevaluate its integrated responses towards the treatment of NTDs. Declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern by the WHO in February 2016, the Zika Virus has garnered the attention of the global stage. The Zika Strategic Response Framework & Joint Operations Plan January-June 2016 is the WHO's emergency response to the Zika Virus.⁸⁸ The framework lays out three broad strategic objectives: surveillance, response, and research. In addition, the framework lays operational response plans with focuses on enhanced surveillance and monitoring, laboratories and diagnostics, and rapid response. This framework is of particular importance because it details the level of funding needed, as well as the number of available partners for each step of the framework. Yet, the Zika Virus is part of the larger conversation on how the world should handle vector, otherwise known as mosquito, transmitted diseases. In March 2016 the WHO Vector Control Advisory Group (VCAG) reviewed the state of vector control tools.⁸⁹ The meeting focused on Aedes-borne diseases. Aedes is a particular species of mosquito common in the transmission of the Zika Virus. The recommendations put forth by the VCAG are incredibly detailed and suggest that a complex mixture of old and new tools be utilized.

⁸² Document WHO/HTM/NTD/2010.1.

⁸³ Document WHO/HTM/NTD/2012.1

⁸⁴ http://www.who.int/neglected_diseases/London_Declaration_NTDs.pdf

⁸⁵ Document WHO/HTM/NTD/2013.1.

⁸⁶ WHO, "Neglected Tropical Diseases Prevention, Control, Elimination and Eradication: report by the Secretariat"

⁸⁷ WHA66.12, http://www.who.int/neglected_diseases/mediacentre/WHA_66.12_Eng.pdf?ua=1

⁸⁸ WHO, http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/204420/1/ZikaResponseFramework_JanJun16_eng.pdf?ua=1

⁸⁹ WHO, http://www.who.int/neglected_diseases/news/mosquito_vector_control_response/en/

The response to the Zika Virus has been, by necessity, rapid but coordinated. Only time will tell if the framework and vector control methods will be effective. However, it is important to consider what the response to the Zika Virus means in the context of NTDs at large. Thus far, the response to the Zika Virus has made use of strategies which combat tropical diseases through an multilateral approach and focus on vector control strategies. In addition, the framework put forth by the Zika Strategic Response Framework & Joint Operations Plan January-June 2016 furthers the importance of the role that NGO's and the private sector play in addressing NTDs as established by the London Declaration. As you prepare for conference, consider how the WHO can work to address not only the Zika crisis, but also all NTDs.

Problems to Consider:

Solutions for Developing Nations

Developing nations are effected most by NTDs and are the least equipped in terms of technology and funding to address them. Identifying solutions that respect the sovereignty of developed nations will be challenging, but necessary.

The Complexity of Vector-borne Diseases

Sophisticated scientific approaches are needed to address to vector-borne diseases. It may be important to consider how efforts to eradicate mosquitos may impact the sectors of public health and agriculture is a necessity.

Delicate Nature of Tropical Diseases

It is important to recognize that tropical diseases often affect entire communities, and that the needs of individual communities often differ from one another. While integrated responses are valuable, it's necessary to consider all of the variables for unique communities and whether certain methods will be as effective on a large scale.

Questions for Further Research:

As you start your research, keep these two objectives in mind: accurately representing your member state and working alongside other delegates to formulate resolutions proposing new international solutions to contemporary problems. To understand if the proposal is something your member state would support, you need to research your nation's history with respect to the issue at hand. To understand whether or not a proposal is "new," you need to research past UN action. Look to past resolutions and case studies for information about what has proven to be successful and unsuccessful in the past, and build on this in your new resolutions. Here are some questions to guide your preparation:

- What role do NGOs and the private sector play in combatting NTDs and how can the WHO incentivize research and development by its partners?
- How can the WHO ensure that developing nations have access to all necessary funding and technology to implement new strategies and effectively combat NTDs?
- What can be done to protect those that are most vulnerable in developing nations? What are economically sustainable approaches to provide aid to developing nations? Do global leaders combatting NTDs have adequate resources to do so?
- How do the solutions presented relate to the SDGs, in particular SDG 3.3? In what ways can current practices be developed to meet the objectives of SDG 3? Does the Zika Virus pose a significant threat to the accomplishment of SDG 3? If so, how can solutions be crafted in order to account for the spread of Zika?
- Overall, how can we build upon the successes and improve upon the shortcomings of past actions within the purview of the WHO?

WHO Topic 1 Bibliography

Topic 1 – Neglected Tropical Diseases

UN Resolutions/ Documents

The Executive Board, World Health Organization, Neglected tropical diseases, ERB132.R7 (28 January 2013), available from http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/EB132/B132_R7-en.pdf?ua=1

A resolution drafted by the Executive Board of the World Health Organization that encourages the World Health Assembly to recommend specific steps for member states, international partners, and the Director-General to take in regards to combatting neglected tropical diseases.

United Nations, Sustainable Development, *Goal 3 Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages*. Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform. Web. Apr. 6 2016.

This sources outlines all the targets located within SDG 3. In particular, SDG 3.3 includes the ending of neglected tropical diseases by 2030.

United Nations, World Health Organization, *Neglected tropical diseases Prevention, control, elimination and eradication: report by the Secretariat*, A66/20 (15 March 2013), available from http://www.who.int/neglected_diseases/A66_20_Eng.pdf

A report on neglected tropical diseases published by the Secretariat. The report focuses on the 17 neglected tropical diseases covered by the WHO. It also recognizes what the goals should be for national programs.

World Health Assembly resolution A66/VR/9, *Neglected tropical diseases*, WHA66.12 (27 May 2013), available from http://www.who.int/neglected_diseases/mediacentre/WHA_66.12_Eng.pdf?ua=1
This is the World Health Assembly's official resolution that serves as its official following up on the recommendations made by its Executive Board.

World Health Organization, *Accelerating Work to Overcome the Impact of Neglected Tropical Diseases*. WHO Press, 2012. Web. 6 Apr. 2016.

It details the steps the WHO can take towards the MDG's of 2015, and lay the foundation for future targets.

World Health Organization, document WHO/CDS/NTD/2006.1, *PESTICIDES AND THEIR APPLICATION For the control of vectors and pests of public health importance*, (2006), available from http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/69795/1/WHO_CDS_NTD_WHOPES_GCDPP_2006.1_eng.pdf

World Health Organization, document WHO/HTM/NTD/2010.1., *Working to overcome the global impact of neglected tropical diseases: First WHO report on neglected tropical diseases*, (2010), available from http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44440/1/9789241564090_eng.pdf

World Health Organization, document WHO/HTM/NTD/2013.1., *Sustaining the Drive to Overcome the Global Impact of Neglected Tropical Diseases: Second WHO report on neglected tropical diseases*, (2013), available from http://www.who.int/neglected_diseases/2012report/en/

World Health Organization, *Global Plan to Combat Neglected Tropical Diseases*. WHO, 2008. Web. 11 Apr. 2016.

World Health Organization, *London Declaration on Neglected Tropical Diseases*. WHO, 2012. Web. 6 Apr. 2016.

The London Declaration is an extremely important document to the role that NGO's and other private entities play in the fight against neglected tropical diseases.

World Health Organization, *Report of the Global Partners' Meeting on Neglected Tropical Diseases: A turning point*. WHO, 2007. Web. 11 Apr. 2016.

World Health Organization, *Zika Strategic Response Framework & Joint Operations Plan January-June 2016*. WHO, 2016. Web 6 Apr. 2016.

This framework should be the guiding factor for actions taken in response to the Zika virus.

Key Secondary Sources for Further Research

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Neglected Tropical Diseases: Fast Facts*. Atlanta: Global Health, 2016. Web. 11 Apr. 2016.

Database for relevant facts regarding health statistics impacted by NTDs.

Lessler JT, Ott CT, Carcelen AC, Konikoff JM, Williamson J, Bi Q et al. Times to key events in the course of Zika infection and their implications: a systematic review and pooled analysis [Submitted]. *Bull World Health Organ E-pub*: 1 Apr 2016.
doi:<http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.16.174540>

This publication is the result of the work of a large amount of researchers from four different universities across the United States. The publication focuses on identifying key scientific facts of the Zika virus such as: the median incubation period, the mean time to viral clearance, and the mean time to seroconversion. In addition, and most importantly, the publication details what these scientific findings mean for surveillance and blood supply safety, both important factors in the Zika strategic response framework & joint operations plan January-June 2016.

World Health Organization. *Mosquito (vector) control emergency response and preparedness for Zika virus*. Geneva: WHO, 2016. Web. 6 Apr. 2016.

Article that presents the main conclusions and recommendations of the WHO Vector Control Advisory Group's (VCAG) meeting that took place in mid-March of this year.

World Health Organization. *Neglected Tropical Diseases*. WHO, 2016. Web. 11 Apr. 2016.

World Health Organization. World Health Assembly (WHA) Resolutions on Neglected Tropical Diseases: 1948-2013. WHO, 2016. Web. 11 Apr. 2016.

This sources serves as an appendix to accesses every WHA resolution on neglected tropical diseases since 1948.

World Health Organization. *Zika Virus*. WHO, 2016. Web. 6 Apr. 2016

This is a basic fact sheet on the Zika virus provided by the WHO. It serves as a great and easy to understand introduction for anyone to learn the basic facts of the Zika virus.

World Health Organization Topic 2: Clean Water and SDG 6

Background

Clean water has been at the forefront of discussions in the past decade on sustainable development in the United Nations and affiliated specialized agencies such as the World Health Organization (WHO). Indeed, 2005-2015 was declared the “Water for Life” decade, and much progress was achieved during this period, including, “implementation of integrated water resources management plans, water cooperation, level of project implementation, the involvement of women as important stakeholders, and the development of the global water community,” as well as the increased awareness and intergovernmental and interagency coordination.⁹⁰ In this introduction, we outline some of the key UN actions that contributed to the successes of the Water for Life decade to help you prepare for conference, where you will work with other delegates to formulate resolutions that build upon this strong foundation and pursue new solutions to further the progress on clean water.

On July 28, 2010, the UN passed GA/RES/64/292 recognizing the right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation as a human right that is essential for the full enjoyment of life and all human rights.⁹¹ Following this lead, in 2011 the World Health Assembly urged member states to ensure that their

⁹⁰Building on the Successes of the Water for Life Decade, UN Sustainable Development Website

⁹¹ GA/HRC/RES/21/2

domestic policies pursued the MDG goals and that they strived to provide affordable clean water and sanitation to each citizen without discrimination.⁹² In the same vein, the Human Rights Council resolution 19/5 of March 22, 2012 calls upon member states to sign, ratify and implement the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to ensure that economic, social, and cultural rights, including the right to clean water, are exercised without discrimination. The resolution also promotes the participation of civil society in decision-making processes regarding the promotion and protection of economic, social and cultural rights.⁹³ In 2012 the General Assembly resolved to take urgent action to achieve sustainable development. GA Res 66/288, adopted July 2012, assessed the remaining gaps in the implementation of sustainable development and committed to halve the proportion of people unable to reach or afford safe drinking water, and to halve the proportion of people without access to basic sanitation by 2015, as agreed in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development.⁹⁴ To further improve inter-agency coordination on these efforts, in 2012, the UNDP established Global Water Solidarity (GWS) to avoid duplication of efforts on projects, to promote cooperation, and improve coherence among donors to maximize the effectiveness of clean water efforts.⁹⁵

Building upon the accomplishments of the previous year, in 2013 the GA passed resolution 67/291, titled “Sanitation for All,” in which the assembly encouraged Member States “to approach the sanitation issue in a much broader context and to encompass all its aspects, including hygiene promotion, the provision of basic sanitation services, sewerage and wastewater treatment and reuse in the context of integrated water management.”⁹⁶ In 2014 the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) passed resolution GA/HRC/RES/27/7 which affirms the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation and looks forward to progress to be made following the “Water for Life Decade.”

The progress remaining to be made was outlined by the 2012 Joint Monitoring Programme report of the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) . WHO and UNICEF found that the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) target of reducing by 50% of people without access to an improved water source was formally met in 2010, five years before the 2015 deadline. However, despite this significant achievement, according to the 2014 Joint Monitoring program update, 748 million people still lack access to improved drinking-water sources, and at least 1.8 billion people are estimated to be using an improved or unimproved drinking water source that is unsafe. According to the 2015 Update and MDG Assessment, “Progress on Sanitation and Drinking Water,” five developing regions met the drinking water target, but the Caucasus and Central Asia, Northern Africa, Oceania, and sub-Saharan Africa regions did not. As of 2015, 663 million people still lacked improved drinking water sources, most in sub-Saharan Africa. Keep these regions still struggling to provide clean water in mind as you prepare for conference.

Clean Water Today: Looking past the MDGs to the new SDGs

In the past year, the United Nations has established a new agenda, the Sustainable Development Goals, which have a target completion date of 2030. Goal 6 is Clean Water and Sanitation.⁹⁷ At conference, you will be asked to draft resolutions that respond to this goal and the 8 targets that it encompasses. In particular, keep in mind these 3 targets as you prepare for conference and envision what kinds of resolutions would address these problems:

⁹² WHA64/2011/REC/1

⁹³ HRC/RES/19/5

⁹⁴ GA/HRC/RES/21/2

⁹⁵ “How can we achieve universal access to water and Sanitation?” Jean-Philippe Bayon, UNDP

⁹⁶ GA/RES/67/291

⁹⁷ See the SDG website for more details on Goal 6 and the other SDGs:

<http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/water-and-sanitation/>

- Target 1: achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water
- Target 2: achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls in those situations
- Target 8: Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management.⁹⁸

Although the SDGs are still new, the UN and related organizations are already hard at work on SDG 6, with both on-going and new programs addressing clean water and sanitation. One way to approach thinking about how you will formulate new resolutions at conference to respond to the SDGs is to look at past resolutions and past action to consider what has been successful and what hasn't. In particular, examining case studies can provide inspiration for new resolutions that create new programs or work to improve existing ones.

Case Studies

Here we provide brief information about three case studies that we hope will help you as you research and prepare for conference.

Case study 1 – WHO and clean household water

WHO has worked alongside governments to strengthen protection and management of water supplies.⁹⁹ In 2014, the WHO established the International Scheme to Evaluate Household Water Treatment Technologies to assess the performance of household water treatment (HWT) against the WHO health-based criteria. These products reach an estimated 60 nations and millions of users, the WHO are working to train staff from different governments how to evaluate product performance and implementing the WHO Guidelines on Drinking-water Quality.

Case Study 2: Sharing best practices to achieve universal clean water

In the areas still lacking clean water, a particular concern is the 159 million people who use surface water face the greatest risks to their health.¹⁰⁰ To rectify this problem, the Mediterranean Water Knowledge Platform has been established as a prerequisite to the development of sustainable policies for water resources management and climate change adaption. This platform was launched in 2013 in four pilot nations (Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, and Tunisia) to develop a common basis for a national water information system and to assess water resources management and use by collecting and using data of these systems.¹⁰¹ Among the goals of this program is to gather data about best practices in regions that did see vast improvement under the MDGs and use these to promote clean water and sanitation in the regions of the world that are struggling.

Case Study 3: An example of a successful program

The UNICEF program Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), takes a multilateral approach to three separate yet interdependent issues. In regards to water, WASH focuses on “the ability for children to access safe water, the quality of the water they can access and the journey they must take to collect it... exploring innovative ways to access water, and building climate resistant infrastructure.”¹⁰² According to the UNICEF website, a key part of their efforts is “improving families’ access to safe, sustainable and affordable drinking water at reasonable distances from their home.” To achieve this, UNICEF is developing a team of drillers to find safe water sources for communities without sufficient access to clean

⁹⁸ See all 8 targets here: <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/water-and-sanitation/>

⁹⁹ “Putting Household Water Treatment Products to the Test”

¹⁰⁰ Progress on Sanitation and Drinking Water- 2015 Update and MDG Assessment

¹⁰¹ Mediterranean Water Knowledge Platform, UN Sustainable Development Website

¹⁰² “About WASH” UNICEF Website.

water. This ground water is relatively easy to access once a water point is found and is “less likely to become contaminated than surface water.” To dispel concerns about groundwater, UNICEF developed Groundwater Programming Principles to educate people on finding and developing water points.¹⁰³ The WHO, in collaboration with USAID and UNICEF, is calling for WASH programs to work together to meet global targets.¹⁰⁴

Issues and Questions to consider as you prepare for conference

As you start your research, keep these two objectives in mind: accurately representing your member state and working alongside other delegates to formulate resolutions proposing new international solutions to contemporary problems. To understand if the proposal is something your member state would support, you need to research your nation’s history with respect to the issue of clean water. To understand whether or not a proposal is “new,” you need to research past UN action. Look to past resolutions and case studies for information about what has proven to be successful and unsuccessful in the past, and build on this in your new resolutions.

Nation-level research

Take into consideration the status of clean, safe drinking water in your nation.

- How did your nation vote on past resolutions about clean water and sanitation, particularly those we cite for you in this guide?
- What role has your nation taken in UN and WHO discussions on clean water? Can you find any speeches given by your nation or resolutions sponsored?
- Did your nation achieve the MDGs? If so, how was the progress made? If not, how far did you fall short?
- In what ways can your nation continue to improve as you implement the SDGs?
- If your nation has clean water and sanitation, what best practices can you offer to other Member States who lack these things?

Research to prepare for writing resolutions

- The developing regions of the Caucasus’ and Central Asia, Northern Africa, Oceania, and especially sub-Saharan Africa did not meet the drinking water targets of the MDGs. In what ways can WHO work to ensure that they meet the targets in the SDGs? What can you draw from the case studies provided to guide you in formulating resolutions to address need in these regions?
- How can the UN more effectively monitor the number of people without access to safe and affordable drinking water? What kind of improvements in technology could assist in this?
- How can the UN educate citizens about water-use efficiency in developing nations? How could the private sector and NGO’s play a part in this education?
- How can the UN encourage greater involvement in clean water and sanitation? In particular, how can local communities and governments be more involved in the efforts?

WHO Topic 2 Bibliography

Bayon, Jean Philippe. “How can we Achieve Universal Access to Water and Sanitation?” *UNDP*. UNDP-Global Water Solidarity, 10 Apr. 2015. Web.

This article tries to answer the question, “how can we achieve universal access to water and sanitation?” It includes a list of potential solutions and things that other nations are trying, including pro bono approaches and improving communication.

GA/HRC/RES/21/2

¹⁰³ “Water” UNICEF Website

¹⁰⁴ “Building Latrines and Keeping Water Clean Decreases Diarrhea and Under-nutrition in Mali”

Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development.

GA/HRC/RES/27/7

The human right to safe drinking water and sanitation.

GA/RES/64/292

The human right to drinking water and sanitation .

GA/RES/67/291

The “Sanitation for All” resolution.

HRC/RES/19/5

Report of the Human Rights Council on its nineteenth session, question of the realization in all nations of economic, social and cultural rights.

UNICEF. “About WASH.” http://www.unicef.org/wash/index_3952.html

General description of WASH program

UNICEF. “Water.” http://www.unicef.org/wash/index_4456.html

Description of goals, figures, and progress in clean water development.

United Nations. “Building on the successes of the Water for Life Decade,” UN Sustainable Development Website.

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg6?page=view&nr=826&type=230&menu=2059>

United Nations. “Mediterranean Water Knowledge Platform,” UN Sustainable Development Website .

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/partnership/?p=9526>

United Nations. “Sustainable Development Goals: Goal 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation.”

<http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/water-and-sanitation/>

This link takes you to the SDG Website. For Goal 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation – there are 8 targets for completion by 2030. Make this your starting point for thinking about new resolutions.

United Nations. “Water for Life.” http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/human_right_to_water.shtml

A great website collecting many sources related to the “Water for Life” decade; a great place to start your research on past UN action.

WHA64/2011/REC/1

http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA64-REC1/A64_REC1-en.pdf

2011 World Health Assembly of the World Health Organization Full Report

WHO. “Building Latrines and Keeping Water Clean Decreases Diarrhea and Under-nutrition in Mali.”

Nov. 2015. Web

<http://www.who.int/features/2015/water-sanitation-mali/en/>

A community-led total sanitation project led to vast improvements in health in Mali.

WHO. “Putting Household Water Treatment Products to the Test.” *World Health Organization.*, Feb.

2016. Web.

<http://www.who.int/features/2016/household-water-treatment-test/en/>

Article on household water treatment products and their necessity to low-income nations to make sure there isn't feces in the water and how effective these products are.

WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Program for Water Supply and Sanitation, “Progress on Sanitation and Drinking Water- 2015 Update and MDG Assessment.”

https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/2081Progress_on_Sanitation_and_Drinking_Water.pdf

Great information, including facts and figures, about the successes of the MDGs and work that remains to be done.

Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)



History of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

Introduction:

The Economic and Social Council was established in 1945 under Section X, Articles 61-72 of the Charter of the United Nations with a membership of eighteen states. As one of the six primary organs of the United Nations, its main responsibility has been to organize and oversee the economic and social work of UN specialized agencies, functional commissions and regional commissions and to act as the central forum for the discussion of these topics. The first session of the ECOSOC was held at Church House in London on 23 January 1946.

The focus of ECOSOC is on:

- promoting higher standards of living, full employment, and economic and social progress;
- identifying solutions to international economic, social and health problems;
- facilitating international cultural and educational cooperation; and
- encouraging universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The ECOSOC is responsible for over 70 percent of both human and financial resources of the United Nations. The 54 Member States that serve on the ECOSOC meet every July for four weeks to conduct its business and are elected for three-year overlapping terms by the General Assembly.¹⁰⁵

The ECOSOC has taken action in several notable areas. The Council has compiled the 4th Annual Ministerial Review regarding Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment. It has been highly involved in the quest to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 and took a leadership role in the 2010 World Summit about the MDGs. In 2003, the ECOSOC launched an initiative in Madagascar and in 2004 began a rural initiative in Benin.¹⁰⁶

The current 54 member states with representation in ECOSOC are:

Afghanistan	Algeria	Antigua and Barbuda
Argentina	Australia	Bangladesh
Belgium	Botswana	Brazil
Burkina Faso	Chile	China
Congo	Czech Republic	Democratic Rep. of Congo
Estonia	Finland	France
Georgia	Germany	Ghana
Greece	Guatemala	Guyana
Honduras	India	Iraq
Ireland	Italy	Japan
Kazakhstan	Lebanon	Mauritania
Nigeria	Pakistan	Panama
Peru	Portugal	Republic of Korea
Republic of Moldova	Russian Federation	Rwanda
Serbia	Somalia	South Africa
Sweden	Switzerland	Togo
Trinidad and Tobago	Uganda	United Kingdom

¹⁰⁵ United Nations Economic and Social Council, <http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/about/>.

¹⁰⁶ Gert Rosenthal, "Economic and Social Council," *The Oxford Handbook on the United Nations* (Oxford: Oxford UP, 2007).

Important note for Baylor MUN 2016 Conference Preparation: ECOSOC is not a committee with universal membership for all member states. If your member state does not appear in the list above, that means you should not prepare the ECOSOC topics for this conference, as your nation is not part of this committee at this time.

ECOSOC Topic 1: SDG 5, Gender Equality, and Violence Against Women

Background

Since its foundation in 1945, the United Nations has promoted gender equality, understanding that men and women should enjoy the same rights, opportunities, and obligations. According to the United Nations, the basic definition of gender equality is “women and men have equal conditions for realizing their full human rights and for contributing to, and benefiting from, economic, social, cultural, and political development.”¹⁰⁷ The fight for global gender equality has been under way for over fifty years, and while major strides were made in time for the 2015 deadline set for the Millennium Development Goals, much work remains to be done. In the past year, the UN has set 17 new goals to be met by the year 2030 called the “Sustainable Development Goals.” Gender Equality is included in SDG 5, and the UN has established nine “targets” it hopes to meet in the next fifteen years related to the rights of women and girls.¹⁰⁸ At the Baylor MUN conference, students will focus on research and writing resolutions *one* of these nine targets: *violence against women*.

Summary of Past Action

Many UN bodies address gender equality in their work, so you will find an abundance of information about past UN action as you prepare for conference. Here we provide a summary of some of the most important actions taken, and present those for you in chronological order. You’ll want to supplement this summary with your own research. The list of questions and annotated bibliography at the end of this guide will help you get started.

In 1946, the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) established the first global governing body of women. The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), as it was named, observed the situation of gender equality at the time, analyzed progress, and proposed future action. It was followed shortly after by the creation of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

International Women’s Day, Year, and Decade were created in 1975, and these were officially authorized by the UN General Assembly, exhibiting that the UN recognizes the importance of gender equality and necessity to take action. The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), which was ratified in 1979, is the second most ratified UN human rights treaty after the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The June 1993 World Conference on Human Rights recognized violence against women as a violation of a woman’s basic human rights, and the UN Generally Assembly adopted the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women. This was the first international tool used to recognize these gender biases. It defines violence against women as “any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual, or

¹⁰⁷ Quote from UNESCO Gender Mainstreaming Implementation Framework.

¹⁰⁸ To read more about SDG 5 and the nine targets, visit this website:

<http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/gender-equality/>

psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion, or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life.”

The 1994 International Conference on Population and Development was able to make connections between violence against women and reproductive health. Their Programme of Action (PoA) calls for concrete efforts to be made by each country’s respective government. The 1995 Beijing Platform for Action further solidified these action steps by prioritizing three goals on the issue of violence against women:

- Take integrated measures to prevent and eliminate violence against women,
- Study the causes and consequences of violence against women and the effectiveness of preventative measures,
- Eliminate trafficking in women and assist victims of violence due to prostitution and trafficking.

This platform echoes all of the past action and statements made by the United Nations, further enforcing the UN’s belief that equality is a fundamental human right regardless of gender.

The Secretary-General conducted an In-Depth Study on All Forms of Violence against Women in 2006. By 2012, the UN General Assembly began to adopt bi-annual resolutions on the issue of violence against women. The UN Human Rights Council began to adopt annual resolutions on efforts to eradicate violence against women, rather than bi-annual resolutions, as the UN General Assembly has chosen to do. Some of the most recent resolutions passed by the UN General Assembly have dealt directly with violence against women. In 2007, the General Assembly adopted A/RES/62/134, “Eliminating rape and other forms of sexual violence in their manifestations, including in conflict and related situations.” This resolution strongly condemns all acts of violence, and re-affirms past action by the UN. It calls upon states to take special measures to protect women by ensuring that they have equal protection under the law and access to health care. The resolution also urges member states to conduct public education and awareness campaigns, establish shelters and safe-havens for victims, and develop long-term plans to eliminate rape altogether.

In 2003, the General Assembly passed A/RES/58/147, or the “Elimination of Domestic Violence Against Women” resolution. More recently, though, the 2012 resolution “Intensification of Efforts to Eliminate all Forms of Violence Against Women” works even further toward eradicating gender discrimination in the form of violence. This resolution refers to the United Nations’ deep concern for the fact that violence against women has permeated nearly every culture in the United States. The call for action in the resolution includes many ways that states should engage individual members of nations to end violence against women by: establishing a strong national plan, reviewing laws, evaluating impact of current legislation, promoting awareness, discouraging media-created gender stereotypes, ensuring there is sufficient legal knowledge, collecting sex-disaggregated data, allocating money to the cause, and numerous ways to provide women with safety and adequate resources to deal with these instances of violence.

Building on the work done by other UN bodies, UN Women recently published several briefs reporting on their research conducted from 2008-2013 in which they explore what concrete action can be taken in an effort to eliminate violence against women.¹⁰⁹ They emphasized the importance of expanding access to services, such as health care and counseling, educating Member States on how to implement laws, and providing examples of recommended programming being used successfully by other nations. Ensuring

¹⁰⁹ To access this great resource, visit the UN Women page: <http://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2010/1/ending-violence-against-women-and-girls-unifem-strategy-and-information-kit> .

safety for women and girls in public spaces by implementing the Safe Cities Initiative and creating educational initiatives through partnerships with NGOs, such as Girl Scouts, are important preventative measures in which women and girls can take a lead role. The group also encourages innovative approaches to ending violence, with \$96 million in financial support from the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women. and advocates, particularly managing the Secretary-General's campaign "UNiTE to End Violence Against Women" and the UN Women's campaign "Commit." This plan is known as the United Nations Women's Agenda.

Issues and Questions to consider as you prepare for conference

As you start your research, keep these two objectives in mind: accurately representing your member state and working alongside other delegates to formulate resolutions proposing new international solutions to contemporary problems. To understand if the proposal is something your member state would support, you need to research your nation's history with respect to the issue of violence against women. To understand whether or not a proposal is "new," you need to research past UN action. The questions below will help guide you in your research.

Nation-level research

- Has your nation been successful or unsuccessful in eradicating gender discrimination, generally, and violence against women, in particular?
 - Look at the MDGs. Did your nation meet these?
 - Look at the SDG targets. Where is your nation at with respect to these new goals?
- If your nation has a successful track record in regard to violence against women, can you share information about your successes with other member states who are struggling?
- If your nation is not successful, what do you need to do to improve? What can you learn from the international community as you seek improvement?
- How can your nation improve, and what role can the UN play in this process?

Research to prepare for writing resolutions?

- How is violence against women perpetuated globally, and how can the United Nations combat longstanding beliefs of female inferiority?
- In what ways can men be allies to women in the global effort to end violence against women and other forms of discrimination against women?
- Violence against women can take many forms. Here are some questions to help you think about concrete instances that are international in nature and are particularly appropriate for the UN to address in resolutions.
 - How is sexual violence used as a weapon during armed conflict? How would women's political involvement be a benefit to the international community in times of conflict?
 - While human trafficking affects both women and men, how are women particularly susceptible to trafficking?

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The United Nations Population Fund describes its mission toward gender equality globally.

Women are still much more likely to be illiterate than men, more likely to be poor, less likely to own property, and less likely to be politically active. Taking action requires recognizing that women are capable of diverse roles, and the basis for combatting these issues is collecting sex and age disaggregated data, which will show where progress is being made and where it is not.

- The key issues for addressing gender equality include: reproductive health, economic empowerment, educational empowerment, and political empowerment.*
- Garcia-Moreno, Claudia. "Violence Against Women." *ScienceMag.org*. AAAS, 25 Nov. 2005. Web. 1 Apr. 2016.
- Garcia-Moreno explores the prevalence of violence against women because although many nations have issued policies against it, they don't really see it as an issue. She explains who violence has impacted health of women, and that states must take responsibility for the health of these women. Health providers must be trained to recognize women experiencing violence so that they can respond quickly. She pushes for increased support of national organizations which exist to combat violence against women and to promote gender equality.*
- "Gender Equality and Sustainable Development." *UN Women* (2014): n. pag. United Nations Publication. Web.
- The United Nations issued this publication, although originally issued by the United Nations in 2014 as a Report of the Secretary-General (A/69/156), to address the three dimensions of sustainability and how it is interconnected with gender equality. It outlines the role of women in development, while looking to history of action on gender equality and sustainable development to learn. It also explores how population is interconnected with development and gender equality. Finally, policy recommendations are made for future action on the subject.*
- "Gender-based Violence | UNFPA - United Nations Population Fund." *Gender-based Violence | UNFPA - United Nations Population Fund*. United Nations Population Fund, n.d. Web. 1 Apr. 2016.
- The United Nations Population Fund explores the fact that one of the most prevalent human rights violations in the world is violence against women and girls. It includes statistics of prevalence of intimate partner violence by region, and shows percentages of women of certain age groups who experience partner violence around the world. UNFPA is devoted to both supporting survivors of violence, but eventually, the goal is to end violence against women completely through raising awareness about the issue.*
- Kaufman, Ellie. "United Nations Sets Goal to Achieve Gender Equality by 2030." *Women in the World in Association with The New York Times WITW*. New York Times, 9 Sept. 2015. Web. 1 Apr. 2016.
- The 193 leaders of the United Nations unanimously agreed to a new set of goals, the fifth of which is to achieve gender equality by the year 2030. U.N. Women Executive Director Phumzile Mamo-Ngcuka believes that of all the 17 goals, gender equality is the most critical to achieving an overall end to extreme poverty by the year 2030. Since the first MDG dedicated to gender equality, maternal mortality rates have decreased and about 2/3 of developing nations have achieved gender parity in primary education. In addition to the \$25 billion going towards ending preventable deaths for women and children, corporations and foundations are beginning to pledge millions of dollars worth of investments to support gender equality in both developed and undeveloped nations.*
- "Secretary-General Announces High-Level Advisory Group for Every Woman Every Child - United Nations Sustainable Development." *UN News Center*. UN, 21 Jan. 2016. Web. 1 Apr. 2016.
- UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon announced the first members to be appointed to the High-level Advisory Group for Every Woman Every Child. The purpose of this council is to incite action toward the agenda for ending preventable deaths of women, children, and adolescents. The newly launched Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health will be used in the advisory committee, whose 15 members are listed. The group will meet twice a year and has \$25 billion in initial commitments from over 120 organizations and over 40 governments.*
- "A Study on Gender Equality as a Prerequisite for Sustainable Development." (n.d.): n. pag. The Environment Advisory Council, 2007. Web. 1 Apr. 2016.
- The Environment Advisory Council (Sweden) tells of the importance of gender equality as a prerequisite for sustainable development. This is part of a work that was being written by the UN Commission on Sustainable Development. This study shows comparisons of the lifestyles of both*

genders, including their consumption patterns, to show their environmental impact. Rich, decision-making men account of the most carbon dioxide emissions of the people groups, and they should be targeted when addressing climate change.

Sustainable Development Goals, Goal 5, Gender Equality.

<http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/gender-equality/>

This website contains up-to-date information about the SDGs, which provides a great starting point for learning more about gender equality and what the UN is doing to address its goals.

"Timeline: The UN at 70 – Gender Equality Milestones & Memorable Moments." *UN Women*. N.p., 29 Sept. 2015. Web. 1 Apr. 2016.

UN Women has presented a timeline of significant milestones made by the UN toward gender equality. In 1945, the UN was established and has included efforts for the equal rights of men and women since its founding. In 1948, it issued the Universal Declaration of Rights, and 1975 was deemed International Women's Year. The first World Conference on Women was held, and the General Assembly claims 1976-1985 the United Nations Decade for Women. Soon after, the Women's Bill of Rights was established, then the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women. The establishment of International Criminal Court was a landmark in achieving justice for women and other persecuted populations. The MDGs were established first in 2000, with a goal of being achieved by 2015. In 2010, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of women.

"UNDP Global Programme 2014-2017." *Human Rights Documents Online* (n.d.): n. pag. Web. 1 Apr. 2016.

The United Nations Development Programme issued a Gender Equality Strategy for 2014-2017, and this source outlines this strategy. It also emphasizes the institutional effectiveness for gender mainstreaming, including making sure that all staff of these institutions are being held accountable for delivering gender equality results. There is also an emphasis on working with the women themselves to reach gender equality, rather than trying to just do it for them.

"United Nations: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment." *UN News Center*. UN, n.d. Web. 1 Apr. 2016.

This source explores the fifth sustainable development goal: achieve gender equality and empower women and girls. It emphasizes the necessity of providing women and girls with equal access to education, health care, decent work, and representation in political and economic decision-making processes. They provide current facts and figures on marginalization of women and girls around the world, as well as an expanded list of Goal 5 targets for the future.

UNESCO, UNESCO Gender Mainstreaming Implementation Framework, April 2003.

<http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/BSP/GENDER/PDF/1.%20Baseline%20Definitions%20of%20key%20gender-related%20concepts.pdf>

This source includes helpful definitions of key terms you will use as you write resolutions.

UN Women. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2010/1/ending-violence-against-women-and-girls-unifem-strategy-and-information-kit>

The UN Women website is a great resource for your research. The link provided takes you directly to their violence against women toolkit, which helps you to see some of the concrete proposals they make to member states for how to address the issue.

ECOSOC Topic 2: Infrastructure, Innovation, and the SDGs

Background

As made clear in *Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2015)*, one of the primary goals of the UN's post-2015 agenda is to build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation.¹¹⁰ Furthermore, under Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 9, the UN states that a specific target of this effort is improving access to information and communications technology (ICT) and promoting universal and affordable access to the Internet.¹¹¹ According to a report by the Broadband Commission, Internet penetration in developing nations is predicted to surpass 35.3% by the end of the year. However, Internet access will still be under 10% in the least developed nations. Compared to the 82.2% of individuals in developed nations who have access to the Internet, this is a huge inequality.¹¹² This disparity in access between developing and developed nations is referred to as the "digital divide".

The importance of access to ICT and the Internet, and the role they play in development, is indisputable. The UN recognizes that increased connectivity, innovation, and access were essential to the progress made under the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).¹¹³ Furthermore, access to ICT and the Internet allow for achievement of social, economic and political goals.² Without access to ICT and the Internet, development can stagnate, and often times individuals of marginalized social and economic groups are the most effected.¹¹⁴ These groups include those in poverty, women, persons with disabilities, and ethnic minorities.¹¹⁵ While the UN has explicitly stated that addressing this digital divide is a goal under the new SDGs, improving access for disadvantaged groups, as well as developing nations as a whole, is in need of continued efforts.

Past UN and Global Action

The UN has continually recognized the necessity of access to Internet and ICT for the purpose of sustainable development. In the *United Nations Millennium Declaration (2000)*, under MDG 8, the UN underscored the important role that new technologies, especially ICTs, have in development, and encouraged fostering partnerships to further improve access to these technologies. In 2000, the Economic and Social Council adopted a Ministerial Declaration on the role of information technology in the context of a knowledge based economy, recognizing that ICT play an important role in accelerating growth, in promoting sustainable development, and eradicating poverty in developing nations. This declaration encouraged public-private partnership in order to bridge the digital divide and create "digital opportunity."¹¹⁶ In 2001, the Secretary-General established a high level Information and Communication Technologies Task Force to provide overall leadership to the United Nations on the formulation of strategies to put ICT at the service of development. This ICT Task Force included partnerships with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Bank, and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). The ITU, a UN specialized agency for ICT, was founded on the

¹¹⁰ *Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*, 2015

¹¹¹ "Infrastructure and Industrialization - United Nations Sustainable Development." *UN News Center*. UN, 2015

¹¹² "The State of Broadband 2015: Broadband as a Foundation for Sustainable Development." *Broadband Commission*. UNESCO, 2015

¹¹³ *Outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (A/70/L.33)*, 2015.

¹¹⁴ "UN Launches First Interactive Information Superhighway to Help Bridge Digital Divide." *UN News Center*. UN, 2013

¹¹⁵ "ICT for Development Contributing to the Millennium Development Goals." *Information for Development Program*. World Bank, 2003

¹¹⁶ *Draft ministerial declaration of the high-level segment submitted by the President of the Economic and Social Council on the basis of informal consultations (E/2000/L.9)*, 2000

principal of private-public cooperation, and is a forum that allows for collaborative efforts between Member States and over 800 private sector entities. Additionally, the ICT Task Force worked collaboratively with the Digital Opportunity Task Force (DOT Force).¹¹⁷ The DOT Force was created by G8 to review more effective ways to improve access to ICT and foster development,¹¹⁸ and worked to promote local content and applications creation, especially to utilize local languages and local communities.¹¹⁹ As access to the ICT began to improve, the UN held the first United Nations World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) in Geneva in 2003. The WSIS met again in Tunis in 2005 to set goals to meet by 2015. In 2015, the met again at the WSIS+10 to assess their progress, and concluded that ICT usage was fundamental to the success of the MDGs and that ICT will play a major role in the success or failure of the SDGs. The WSIS+10 concluded that the best way to address this would be through improved access, affordability, and education.¹²⁰

Specific Areas in Need of Improvement

Access

Improving access is the primary method for “bridging” the digital divide. Unfortunately, there are numerous obstacles to access. While the prices for Internet and ICT have fallen, in the least developed nations, prices are still not low enough to allow for high rates of access. Therefore, many developing nations have attempted to address this issue through communal access points. Some have done this by creating Internet access in schools or local government buildings, while others have worked with NGOs to facilitate the creation of other options such as “internet cafes.” In addition to an inability to obtain ICT access, individuals in developing nations may not be able to utilize ICT because of language and training barriers. While language barriers have been recognized as an issue in ICT access for almost 15 years, there has not been much work done to address it. Currently, 80% of the Internet is in only 10 languages, and yet there are over 6,000 recognized languages.¹²¹ In developing nations, where indigenous languages are more prevalent, this greatly reduces the amount of ICT access. In a study conducted in Paraguay, researchers found that in households where the primary spoken language was Guaraní (an indigenous language), ICT access dropped from 20% to 3.7%.¹²² In addition to language barriers, education barriers also play a major role. While language can prove to be a barrier, literacy in general must also be improved if there is to be substantial improvements in ICT usage. Additionally, training in the skills necessary to use ICT is incredibly important. The World Bank has suggested that this be done through either local workshops or programs implemented in schools.¹²³ Without the knowledge of how to utilize ICT, access cannot be truly beneficial.

Content

While addressing access is incredibly important to bridging the digital divide, it is not enough. For ICT to really be used to improve development, they must be mainstreamed as tools for broader strategies and

¹¹⁷ "UN Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Task Force Launched Today at Headquarters." *Press Releases*. United Nations, 2001

¹¹⁸ "UN Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Task Force Launched Today at Headquarters." *Press Releases*. United Nations, 2001

¹¹⁹ "Digital Opportunities for All: Meeting the Challenge." *Digital Opportunities for All: Meeting the Challenge*, 2001

¹²⁰ *Outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (A/70/L.33)*, 2015

¹²¹ "Internet Access, Yes, But in My Mother Language!" *The World Bank*. World Bank, 2014

¹²² Grazzi, Matteo, and Sebastian Vergara. "ICT in Developing Nations: Are Language Barriers Relevant? Evidence from Paraguay." *ICT in Developing Nations: Are Language Barriers Relevant? Evidence from Paraguay*. ECLAC, 2012

¹²³ "ICT Education for Gabon." *Survey of ICT and Education in Africa: Gabon Country Report*. World Bank, 2007

programmes for building opportunity and empowering the poor.¹²⁴ For ICT to be used as a tool to empower the poor, the content of the technology must be an asset for individuals in developing nations. Therefore, it is essential to create content that is local and relevant in order to improve and promote ICT usage. Programs that focus on empowering those in poverty by fostering development in agriculture, water usage, and health are especially important.¹²⁵ Currently there are numerous efforts to create these programs. In South Africa they've begun hosting tele-medicine projects, with the purpose of linking experienced medical professionals with under privileged clinics, while in Zimbabwe they've created a program that fosters connections between civil and community based groups.¹²⁶ Programs such as these are vital to improving ICT access, especially as it relates to sustainability.

Questions for Further Research

As you start your research, keep these two objectives in mind: accurately representing your member state and working alongside other delegates to formulate resolutions proposing new international solutions to contemporary problems. To understand if the proposal is something your member state would support, you need to research your nation's history with respect to the issue at hand. To understand whether or not a proposal is "new," you need to research past UN action. Look to past resolutions and case studies for information about what has proven to be successful and unsuccessful in the past, and build on this in your new resolutions. Here are some questions to guide your preparation:

- What is the status of ICT development in your nation? How can you bring this knowledge to bear on resolution development at conference?
- What can the UN do to improve access to ICT in developing Member States, particularly in regards to education and training?
- How can the UN continue to foster public-private partnerships, like those within the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), in order to provide essential content to developing Member States?
- Considering the recent meeting of the WSIS+10, and their conclusions about the role that ICT play in development, how can the UN utilize and improve ICT access in order to meet the SDGs?
- How can continued efforts to improve ICT access be inclusive of both developing and developed Member States?

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<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=51924#.Vwf6LvkrJD8>

This article, released by the UN, focuses on the extreme lack of access to ICTs in the least developed nations. It stresses that in the poorest nations, over 90% of people still lack access to the internet. The article reaffirms that technology can accelerate human advancement, and access to ICTs is necessary to bolster sustainable development. Furthermore, the article summarizes some of the key findings from The State of Broadband Report.

"Building Inclusive Knowledge Societies." *World Summit on the Information Society*. E United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, 2014. Retrieved 8 April 2016 from:

<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0022/002264/226425e.pdf>

¹²⁴ ICT for Development Contributing to the Millennium Development Goals." *Information for Development Program*. World Bank, 2003

¹²⁵ "Building Inclusive Knowledge Societies." *World Summit on the Information Society*. E United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, 2014

¹²⁶ "Africa Takes on the Digital Divide: New Information Technologies Change the Lives of Those in Reach." *UN News Center*.

This UN report is extremely useful in understanding the important role that access to technology plays in development. It begins by identifying issues with technology access that still need to be addressed, particularly disparities in access for women and ethnic minorities, as well as lack of access for developing nations. Then, the report offers several suggestions for addressing the issue, and details other UNESCO bodies working in this area.

Communication for development programmes in the United Nations system (A/RES/50/130). Retrieved 8 April 2016 from:

<http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/50/ares50-130.htm>

This UN resolution focus specifically on the need for communications technologies within the UN system. It claims that in order for UN development programs to be successful, particularly in less developed nations, there needs to be better planning, formulation, and execution, which can only be achieved through better access to communications technologies. The document encourages interagency cooperation to address the issue.

"Digital Divide Closing, but Still Significant, Says United Nations Telecoms Agency." *UN News Center*. UN, 11 Oct. 2012. Retrieved 8 April 2016 from:

http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=43265#.Vwf6I_krJD8

This UN article, summarizing findings from the International Telecommunication Union, concludes that there have been large improvements to ICTs access, which have allowed for notable economic growth. The article concludes however, that while there have been significant improvements in ICT access, the digital divide remains significant. This, in part, is attributed to the fact that while global ICT costs may have fallen, in developing nations they remain quite high.

"ICT for Development Contributing to the Millennium Development Goals." *Information for Development Program*. World Bank, Nov. 2003. Retrieved 8 April 2016 from:

http://www.infodev.org/infodev-files/resource/InfodevDocuments_19.pdf

This report, published by the Information for Development Program, investigates methods in which ICTs can be used for economic and social development. It does this primarily through case studies, focusing on improving access to ICTs in numerous nations, including Kenya, Brazil, and India. These studies measured the effects of improved ICT access, as well as detailed how that access, with the help of various NGOs, was improved.

"ICT for Greater Development Impact." *World Bank*. World Bank, 15 June 2012. Retrieved 8 April 2016 from:

http://siteresources.worldbank.org/EXTINFORMATIONANDCOMMUNICATIONANDTECHNOLOGIES/Resources/WBG_ICT_Strategy-2012.pdf

This detailed report from the World Bank details the many ways that ICTs serve to benefit economic growth and development, especially in developing states. From there, the report works to offer strategies on how nations can continue to bolster access to ICTs, particularly in regions that are still struggling to provide access. The last part of the report is particularly useful in that it offers region specific perspectives and solutions.

Outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (A/70/L.33). Retrieved 8 April 2016 from: <http://workspace.unpan.org/sites/Internet/Documents/UNPAN95735.pdf>

This UN resolution recognizes the important role that increased connectivity, innovation, and access played in improving development under the MDGs, and the continued role it will play under the SDGs. It stresses the need to address the "digital divide" through improved access, affordability, and education. This resolution also summarizes the work done at the World Summit on the Information Society, and discusses ways to implement its findings.

"The State of Broadband 2015: Broadband as a Foundation for Sustainable Development." *Broadband Commission*. UNESCO, Sept. 2015. Retrieved 8 April 2016 from:

<http://www.broadbandcommission.org/publications/Pages/SOB-2015.aspx>

This UNESCO report offers an insight into the current state of affairs in regards to internet access. It details current issues still facing internet growth, particularly for less developed landlocked and island member states. Additionally, it reviews current policies, and how they work they improve access, while noting that some member states still do not have broadband policies in place. Also notes that the increase in internet usage is hindered by the lack of languages used on the internet.

"UN Launches First Interactive Information Superhighway to Help Bridge Digital Divide." *UN News Center*. UN, 18 Nov. 2013. Retrieved 8 April 2016 from:

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=46517#.VwfnmvkrJD8>

This article summarizes the statements made by several UN officials in regards to the digital divide, and efforts to address it. The digital divide is referred to as an income divide, a gender divide, an education divide, and a knowledge divide in order to highlight the many components that lead to disparities in access to information technologies. Furthermore, the article discusses current efforts addressing the issue, and how these efforts have improved economic development.

"Understanding the Digital Divide." *Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development*. OECD, 2001. Retrieved 8 April 2016 from:

<https://www.oecd.org/sti/1888451.pdf>

This report from the OECD is very useful for understanding all of the components of the digital divide. It explains that while lack of access is a major component, a lack of education and training and technology place a significant role as well. After addressing the many factors that contribute to the digital divide, this report offers a number of policy proposals, with a focus on improving access and training in public institutions.

Contemporary Security Council



History of the Security Council

The United Nations Security Council is one of the six Principal Organs of the United Nations and is the only Principal Organ with authority to make binding resolutions for Member States.

The Security Council has 15 members, five of which are permanent members:

China	France	Russian Federation
United Kingdom	United States of America	

These permanent members - the P5 - each possess a veto on any measure considered by the Security Council. The ten non-permanent members of the Security Council are elected by the General Assembly for two year terms and do not possess veto power. The ten current non-permanent members and the year their terms end are:

Angola (2016)	Egypt (2017)	Japan (2017)
Malaysia (2016)	New Zealand (2016)	Senegal (2017)
Spain (2016)	Ukraine (2017)	Uruguay (2017)
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (2016)		

States that are members of the United Nations but not of the Security Council may sit in on discussions and take part in mediation but are not allowed to vote on resolutions passed by this body.

According to Article 24 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Security Council's primary responsibility is to maintain international peace and security. The function, powers, and procedural guidelines for the Security Council are outlined in Chapter Five of the Charter of the United Nations, and Chapters Six and Seven outline the procedures for mediating international conflicts.

When the Security Council is advised about a situation threatening international peace or security, the Council will first attempt to affect a peaceful solution. However, if violence has already broken out, then the Security Council will help mediate between the parties involved by issuing cease-fires, implementing sanctions or sending United Nations troops to enforce Security Council resolutions. It is important to note that presence of conflict doesn't guarantee that the Security Council will intervene. During the Cold War, the Security Council was often unable to act given the competing interests of veto-bearing P5 members. In the post-Cold War era, the Security Council has become more active, responding to conflicts in Iraq, Somalia, and Bosnia in the 1990's, Afghanistan, and North Korea in the 2000's, and most recently, the war in Yemen, to name a few.

Security Council Topic 1: The Ongoing Syrian Civil War

Background

Since the inception of the Arab Spring in the Middle East and northern Africa in December 2010, the Arab World has been embroiled in a series of wars pitching Islamic governments against their own people. Many of these conflicts, including those in the member states of Egypt, Libya, and Tunisia, led to intense protests by the people and later the establishment of new governments. In Syria, however, these protests turned violent following President Bashar Al-Assad's crackdown on those protesting his government, culminating in the Syrian Civil War.

The issue of the Syrian Civil War is anything but simple. Multiple parties, all with conflicting interests in mind, are vying for control of the region encompassing the Syrian Arab Republic's internationally-accepted borders.

The primary parties involved in the conflict include:

- **Syrian Government**, supported by the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Hezbollah, Iraq and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;
- **Syrian Opposition**, consisting primarily of the Free Syrian Army and Islamic Front and supported by Qatar, Saudi Arabia, France, and the United States of America;
- **Al-Nursa Front**, also known as Al-Qaida in Syria and supported by the member states of Qatar and Saudi Arabia;
- **Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant**, which primarily controls large swaths of Syria's desert regions to the east and southeast;
- **North Syrian Kurds**, who control much of the northern territory in Syria and are working towards being an independent state;
- **Combined Joint Task Force** the US-led international coalition fighting the Islamic State in Syria; and
- **Russian Federation**, acting as a supporting party to the Syrian government.

To make matters more complicated, allies and enemies have become mixed in the complexity of the conflict, creating a mix of unusual coalitions with different parties fighting with different motives. There are five conflicts currently occurring within Syria, all of which encompass the overall scope of the Syrian Civil War. These include:

- **Conflict over governance of Syria**, primarily fought between Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad's government and the Syrian Opposition, as well as allied foreign powers on both sides of the conflict;
- **Conflict between Western powers**, primarily fought as a proxy war between the United States of America and its allies through support for factions within the Syrian Opposition and the Russian Federation's support of Bashar Al-Assad's government;
- **Conflict between Islamic sects**, with predominantly Shia nations such as Iran and Iraq fighting Sunni governments such as Saudi Arabia and Qatar;
- **Kurdish Independence Movement**, with North Syria Kurds fighting ISIL and Syrian government forces for territory in that part of the country; and
- **War on Terror against ISIL**, with ISIL fighters and supporting fighters in Al-Nursa Front fighting Western powers and their allies.

Syrian Ceasefire Difficulties

Since fighting between President Bashar Al-Assad's government and the Syrian Opposition in broke out in 2011, the United Nations has acted as the primary facilitator and mediator regarding peace talks and ceasefire agreements between the two parties. Perhaps the most comprehensive of these plans was one proposed by former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan. Annan's six-point plan, proposed in April 2012, called for a comprehensive ceasefire agreement between Syrian government and opposition forces, and had support from both the United Nations and the Arab League.¹²⁷ However, the plan fell apart after both parties violated the ceasefire agreement in place.¹²⁸

¹²⁷ Hamilton, Douglas. "Text of Annan's Six-point Peace Plan for Syria." *Reuters*. Thomson Reuters, 04 Apr. 2012. Web. 11 Apr. 2016.

¹²⁸ *Ibid*.

The Security Council has had some success in addressing the issue. In April 2012, the Security Council passed Resolution 2042, which was the first in a series of resolutions addressing the complex civil war in Syria. The resolution, which was passed unanimously by the Security Council's membership, called for up to 30 UN observers to be dispatched to observe a six-pronged ceasefire agreement being implemented at the time by both President Al-Assad's government and the Syrian opposition.¹²⁹ Security Council Resolution 2043, which was passed the following week, established the United Nations Supervision Mission in Syria (UNSMIS), which was tasked with the implementation of Security Council Resolution 2042's provisions.¹³⁰ This mandate was renewed again by Security Council Resolution 2059, but was not renewed again due to escalating violence in the region.¹³¹

Another major attempt to address the situation came in May 2014, when the Security Council attempted to pass a resolution proposing greater oversight of the conflict between Syrian government and opposition forces following the collapse of peace talks in Geneva, Switzerland. Security Council Draft Resolution 2014/348 was proposed by the Security Council to address allegations of extensive human rights abuses by both parties in the conflict.¹³² In particular, the resolution aimed to investigate such abuses through the referral of allegations to the International Court of Justice (ICJ).¹³³ Though the resolution had widespread support in the Security Council, it was vetoed by both the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China over concerns of giving new authority and powers to the ICJ.

Addressing the threat of ISIL to stability in Syria and the Middle East

Since being designated as a terrorist group by the United Nations, the Security Council has passed a series of resolutions addressing the expansion of ISIL into Syria since conflict began in the region. In November 2015 the Security Council passed Resolution 2249, which was designed to address fallout from the November 2015 terror attacks in Paris, France, which were committed by members of the group.¹³⁴ Later that month, the Security Council facilitated a series of discussions condemning the actions of the group in Syria and throughout the world.¹³⁵ The resolution specifically calls upon all able member states to "redouble their efforts" in fighting terrorism perpetrated by ISIL. Another resolution was passed by the Security Council in an effort to stem the sale of antiquities from the war-torn region.¹³⁶ The resolution, originally proposed by the Russian Federation, called for UN sanctions against any member states buying crude oil or antiquities from ISIL or providing any form of monetary support to the group. Finally, Security Council Resolution 2170, passed in February 2015, condemned the actions of ISIL in Syria and the Middle East, as well as their continued support for terrorist activities in other member states.

Questions for Further Research

As you start your research, keep these two objectives in mind: accurately representing your member state and working alongside other delegates to formulate resolutions proposing new international solutions to contemporary problems. To understand if the proposal is something your member state would support, you need to research your nation's history with respect to the issue at hand. To understand whether or not a proposal is "new," you need to research past UN action. Look to past resolutions and case studies for

¹²⁹ Security Council Resolution 2042. S/RES/2042 (14 Apr. 2012). *United Nations*. 11 Apr. 2016.

¹³⁰ Security Council Resolution 2043. S/RES/2043 (21 Apr. 2013). *United Nations*. 11 Apr. 2016.

¹³¹ Security Council Resolution 2059. S/RES/2059 (20 July 2012). *United Nations*. 12 Apr. 2016.

¹³² Security Council Draft Resolution 2014/348. S/2014/348 (22 May 2014). *United Nations*. 11 Apr. 2016.

¹³³ *Ibid.*

¹³⁴ Security Council Resolution 2249. S/RES/2249 (20 Nov. 2015). *United Nations*. 12 Apr. 2016.

¹³⁵ "Security Council Unanimously Calls on UN Members to Fight Isis." *The Guardian*. Guardian News and Media, 20 Nov. 2015. Web. 12 Apr. 2016.

¹³⁶ "Isis: UN Security Council Moves to Cut Cash Flow, Italy Co-sponsor." *ItalyUN*. ItalyUN, 12 Feb. 2015. Web. 08 May 2016.

information about what has proven to be successful and unsuccessful in the past, and build on this in your new resolutions. Here are some questions to guide your preparation:

- While the United Nations Security Council has made extensive efforts to facilitate talks between the Syrian Government and the leaders of the Syrian Opposition in Geneva, these efforts have so far had little success in getting both parties to sign a ceasefire agreement. What steps can be taken by the Security Council to get both sides to come to a consensus and find common ground?
- The current conflict in Syria, with its complex web of alliances with other member states, is reminiscent of the situation in Europe prior to World War I. As a result, there is concern within the international community that the situation in Syria could escalate into another large-scale conflict. What measures can be taken by the Security Council to both address current conflict as well as prevent the conflict from growing and expanding?
- The Syrian Civil War and the complex relationships between belligerents has been noted as one of the reasons for the rise of the ISIL in the region. What kind of resolutions can be created calling upon member states to fight a common enemy rather than one another?
- The Security Council has intervened in similar complex wars in the past, including the wars in Cyprus, Korea, Kosovo and Rwanda. Look at these past actions and see what the Security Council's solutions were to these situations. Can any past actions be applied to the conflict in Syria?
- The United Nations and the UN Security Council were created primarily to prevent conflict and promote diplomacy between member states to stop complex proxy wars, such as the civil war in Syria, from occurring in the first place. What preventative measures can be taken by the Security Council to facilitate greater diplomacy among member states to further the UN's primary mission and prevent such conflict from occurring in the first place?
- What is your nation's stance on the Syrian Civil War, and from your nation's perspective is it in your interest to be involved in the conflict?

Annotated Bibliography

Hamilton, Douglas. "Text of Annan's Six-point Peace Plan for Syria." *Reuters*. Thomson Reuters, 04 Apr. 2012. Web. 11 Apr. 2016. <<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-syria-ceasefire-idUSBRE8330HJ20120404>>.

This news brief from Reuters outlines the text of former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan's six-point peace plan for Syria. In essence, the plan calls upon the Syrian government to act in good faith by allowing a specially-designated UN Envoy to oversee a ceasefire between Bashar Al-Assad's government and the Syrian opposition. In exchange, the plan further calls upon the Syrian opposition to also act in good faith by accepting the ceasefire. The plan also addressed humanitarian issues on both fronts, such as safety for civilians and journalists moving around the country.

Security Council Draft Resolution 2014/348. S/2014/348 (22 May 2014). *United Nations*. 11 Apr. 2016. <http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/2014/348>.

This UN Security Council resolution is one of a series of failed resolutions regarding the Syria crisis. Security Council Draft Resolution S/204/348 was proposed by the Security Council to address a variety of human rights abuses occurring within the country. The document's "teeth" come from the second operative clause, which refers the human rights situation to the International Court of Justice. The Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China both vetoed the proposal as a direct result of this clause.

Security Council Resolution 2042. S/RES/2042 (14 Apr. 2012). *United Nations*. 11 Apr. 2016. <<https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N12/295/28/PDF/N1229528.pdf?OpenElement>>.

This UN Security Council Resolution, passed by the council on 14 April 2012, was the first in a series of resolutions addressing the issues surrounding the complex civil war in Syria. Under the provisions of the resolution, which was passed unanimously by the Security Council's membership, called for up to 30 UN observers to be dispatched to observe a six-pronged ceasefire agreement being implemented at the time by both Bashar Al-Assad's government and the Syrian opposition.

See also: United Nations, Department of Public Information, *Security Council Unanimously Adopts Resolution 2042 (2012), Authorizing Advance Team to Monitor Ceasefire in Syria*. SC/10609. 14 Apr. 2012. <<http://www.un.org/press/en/2012/sc10609.doc.htm>>.

Security Council Resolution 2043. S/RES/2043 (21 Apr. 2013). *United Nations*. 11 Apr. 2016. <<https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N12/305/91/PDF/N1230591.pdf?OpenElement>>.

This UN Security Council resolution, passed one week following the implementation of Security Council Resolution 2042, was the establishing resolution for the United Nations Supervision Mission in Syria (UNSMIS). UNSMIS was tasked with enforcing Security Council Resolution 2042 by patrolling Syria to ensure the proper implementation of former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan's six-point peace plan.

See also: United Nations, Department of Public Information, *Security Council Establishes UN Supervision Mission in Syria, with 300 Observers to Monitor Cessation of Violence, Implementation of Special Envoy's Plan*. SC/10618. 21 Apr. 2012. <<http://www.un.org/press/en/2012/sc10618.doc.htm>>.

Security Council Resolution 2059. S/RES/2059 (20 July 2012). *United Nations*. 12 Apr. 2016. <<https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N12/432/02/PDF/N1243202.pdf?OpenElement>>.

This UN Security resolution is closely tied to UN Security Council Resolution 2043, which authorized the creation of the United Nations Supervision Mission in Syria (UNSMIS). This resolution was the first renewal of UNSMIS's mandate of enforcing UN Security Council Resolution 2042 in Syria. Due to increasing violence in Syria at the time, this was the only renewal of UNSMIS's mandate, and the mandate would expire 30 days later.

"Syria Conflict: Opposition Sets Terms for Geneva Peace Talks." *BBC News*. British Broadcasting Corporation, 13 Jan. 2016. Web. 13 Apr. 2016. <<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-35452640>>.

This January 2016 article from the BBC is a primer of the events leading up to what would later be called the "Geneva III" peace talks between the Syrian Government and the High Negotiations Committee (HNC) representing the Syrian Opposition. In the article, the BBC reports that the difficult steps taken by the United Nations in facilitating the meeting, especially with the condition by both parties that they could not sit in the same room during negotiations. Despite the HNC's hope for crafting a stable ceasefire agreement with the Syrian government over a period of six months, talks were suspended indefinitely after only two days.

Security Council Resolution 2249. S/RES/2249 (20 Nov. 2015). *United Nations*. 12 Apr. 2016. <[http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/2249\(2015\)](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/2249(2015))>.

This UN Security Council resolution from April 2016 was designed specifically to address fallout from the November 2015 terror attacks in Paris, France. The Islamic State, based primarily in war-torn Syria, claimed responsibility for the attacks retrospectively. Security Council Resolution 2249 is the first in a series of resolutions passed by the Security Council designed to address the Islamic State and its presence in Syria.

See also: United Nations, Department of Public Information, *Security Council 'Unequivocally' Condemns ISIL Terrorist Attacks, Unanimously Adopting Text that Determines Extremist Group Poses 'Unprecedented' Threat*. SC/12132. 20 Nov. 2015. <<http://www.un.org/press/en/2015/sc12132.doc.htm>>.

"Security Council Unanimously Calls on UN Members to Fight Isis." *The Guardian*. Guardian News and Media, 20 Nov. 2015. Web. 12 Apr. 2016. <<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/nov/21/un-calls-for-all-able-member-states-to-join-fight-against-isis>>.

The article from The Guardian reports on efforts by the United Nations Security Council to pass a resolution condemning and placing sanctions on the actions of the Islamic State. In particular, this resolution was meant to address the terror attacks in Paris, France perpetrated by the Islamic State in November 2015. The resolution specifically calls upon all able member states to "redouble their efforts" in fighting terrorism perpetrated by the organization.

"Syrian Opposition High Negotiations Committee (HNC) - Media Stakeout (Geneva, 15 April 2016)." *United Nations Web TV*. United Nations, 15 Apr. 2016. Web. 17 Apr. 2016. <<http://webtv.un.org/watch/syrian-opposition-high-negotiations-committee-hnc-media-stakeout-geneva-15-april-2016/4847447651001>>.

In this video published by the United Nations on UN Web TV, a spokesperson for the Syrian Opposition High Negotiations Committee (HNC) discusses military issues occurring in contested regions of Syria ahead of talks working towards another ceasefire agreement between the Syrian Opposition and Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad's government. The HNC spokesperson also briefly discusses the issue of Syrian refugees being displaced from Aleppo, Syria to areas near the Turkish border.

Security Council Resolution 2118. S/RES/2118 (27 Sept. 2013). *United Nations*. 14 Apr. 2016. <[http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/2118\(2013\)](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/2118(2013))>.

This UN Security Council resolution provides a strong framework for the elimination of Syria's chemical and biological weapon stockpiles. Following a series of chemical attacks on fighters of the Syrian Opposition and civilian populations, the United Nations and other Western powers intervened to stop the attacks. Security Council resolution set a 2014 deadline for the Syrian government to dismantle its chemical and biological stockpiles and transport them to the United States to be destroyed.

"UNHCR Syria Regional Refugee Response." UNHCR Syria Regional Refugee Response. UNHCR, n.d. Web. 08 May 2016. <<http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php>>.

"Isis: UN Security Council Moves to Cut Cash Flow, Italy Co-sponsor." *ItalyUN*. ItalyUN, 12 Feb. 2015. Web. 08 May 2016. <<http://www.onuitalia.com/eng/2015/02/12/isis-un-security-council-moves-cut-cash-flow-italy-co-sponsor/>>.

Security Council Topic 2: The Continuing Struggle to Eradicate Terrorism and the Impact of Foreign Fighters

Introduction

Throughout history, it has not been unusual for citizens to take part in the wars of another country. Tadeusz Kosciuszko, for example, was a famous Polish officer who participated in the United States Revolutionary War.¹³⁷ While Kosciuszko's behavior is not atypical, the current situation regarding the recruitment of foreign fighters to terrorism is of a different nature, the goal and methodology of which is rapidly developing. Foreign fighters pose a significant threat as they conduct 41% of all terrorist plots. There are many reasons why an individual may be inclined to join a terrorist organization as a foreign

¹³⁷ History.com Staff.

fighter, such as having transnational religious or ethnic obligations, or the desire to seize economic, political or social opportunity. Recently there has been a rise in foreign fighters due to the increase in conflicts with a transnational agenda, and the ease of recruitment because of modern media and transportation.

Past UN Action

The landmark resolution confronting foreign fighters is Security Council Resolution 2178; the 2002 resolution unquestionably condemned violent extremism, and underscored the need to prevent the travel of terrorists and the support of foreign fighters.¹³⁸ S/RES/2178 asserts that member states shall, in accordance with international law, prevent the “recruiting, organizing, transporting or equipping of individuals who travel to a state other than their States of residence or nationality” for the purpose of involvement in terrorist acts. The resolution predicated that all Member State’s legal systems were adequately prepared to prosecute those involved in such activities. In a following agreement Security Council Resolution 2199 further outlined and condemned the methods of funding for foreign fighters of which the following were highlighted: oil, trade, and external donations.¹³⁹

S/2015/358 is one of several reports conducted, which provide analysis and recommendations in regard to the global threat of foreign terrorist fighters. These fighters increase the threat posed to people and the human resources of the area threatened by terrorist groups.¹⁴⁰ S/2015/358 also discusses the most affected regions, radicalization trends, recruitment trends (of which there seems to be no single model), facilitation networks, and more.

Another report, S/2015/939, comments on stemming the creation and movements of foreign terrorist fighters.¹⁴¹ The report addresses the detection and intervention against recruitment and facilitation of foreign fighters, prevention of travel, criminalization, prosecution, international cooperation and the rehabilitation of returnees.

Recent Developments

The risk of foreign fighters is multifaceted and quickly evolving. The United Nations should be cautious of the consequences from the conflicts in Syria and Iraq; fighters return to their homes experienced in conflict, prone to further radicalization, and with a large network of assistance and resources.¹⁴² Currently, there are over 27,000 foreign fighters from 86 nations, with Tunisians making up the majority of the recruits.¹⁴³ While a fourth of foreign fighters come from the west, the majority hail from nearby Arab nations.

Foreign fighter recruitment strategy involves several steps to enlistment. There is a heavy emphasis placed on the role of social media; the quality and quantity of ISIL propaganda has been a factor in the success of the group, allowing for global outreach and a promotion of the group’s message.¹⁴⁴ Social media platforms appeal to the means of a “lifestyle” of terrorism, with posts utilized to promote the daily life of group members. Groups seek to create a ‘micro community’ over social media, and call the targeted persons to action.¹⁴⁵ This has resulted in an unprecedented number of individuals joining ISIL,

¹³⁸ S/RES/2178

¹³⁹ S/RES/2199

¹⁴⁰ S/2015/358

¹⁴¹ S/2015/939

¹⁴² Klausen, Jytte.

¹⁴³ "What Is 'Islamic State'?" BBC News

¹⁴⁴ Berger, J. M.

¹⁴⁵ Ibid.

despite the potential difficulty of either arming themselves in their home nation or traveling to areas held by the terrorist organization.

Multiple methods are utilized in the financing of terrorism and foreign fighters. SMS loans, sales tax fraud, the utilization of fraudulent businesses, front companies, money laundering and more are examples of financing methodology.¹⁴⁶ ISIL's sources of income include selling illegal oil, extortion, kidnapping for ransom, human smuggling and trafficking.¹⁴⁷

Case Study: 'Jihadi John'

At least 800 Britons have traveled to support or fight for jihadist groups in Syria or Iraq, with at least half of these returning to the United Kingdom following radicalization. Many often return trained in combat, counter surveillance and other skills necessary to conduct terror attacks at home. Following the London bombings of July 7, 2005 the British intelligence community became aware of the threat of British citizens plotting and executing terror attacks after becoming radicalized abroad. Mohammad Emwazi, or 'Jihadi John,' was a radicalized British citizen killed by a British drone strike in 2015. Emwazi became famous after the release of a video by ISIL of the beheading of Christians by a man with a British accent, later concluded to be himself.¹⁴⁸ Feelings of victimization and ostracization by his government drove Emwazi to become a foreign fighter. He was well educated and from a middle income family, yet felt a connection to his fellow Muslims in the Middle East - a group whom Emwazi felt suffered due to Western foreign policy decisions.¹⁴⁹ Not exceptionally religious, Emwazi was motivated not by messianic beliefs but by a desire to commit violence in retaliation against his perceived suppressive government. Mohammad "Jihadi John" Emwazi is an example of a government's failure to recognize potential radicalists and place effective barriers to their further extremism or exit from the nation.

Questions for Further Research:

As you start your research, keep these two objectives in mind: accurately representing your member state and working alongside other delegates to formulate resolutions proposing new international solutions to contemporary problems. To understand if the proposal is something your member state would support, you need to research your nation's history with respect to the issue at hand. To understand whether or not a proposal is "new," you need to research past UN action. Look to past resolutions and case studies for information about what has proven to be successful and unsuccessful in the past, and build on this in your new resolutions. Here are some questions to guide your preparation and to narrow the focus of your possible solutions:

- How can Member States be encouraged to share information amongst one another regarding the travel of foreign fighters?
- How can justice be provided for victims?
- How can Member States collaborate to prevent individuals leaving their nations to become foreign fighters, and how can the United Nations combat recruitment efforts taken by groups to recruit foreign fighters?
- What measures can be taken to combat the illicit financing of foreign fighters?
- What opportunities may exist regarding deradicalization programs upon the return of foreign fighters?
- How has your nation voted on past resolutions dealing with foreign fighters, and what is your nation's history with foreign fighters entering or citizens joining foreign terrorist organizations?

¹⁴⁶ Braw, Elisabeth.

¹⁴⁷ Ibid.

¹⁴⁸ Goldman, Adam, and Souad Mekhennet.

¹⁴⁹ Ibid.

Annotated Bibliography

Key UN Documents

S/RES/2178 retrieved April 6th from:

http://www.un.org/en/sc/ctc/docs/2015/SCR%202178_2014_EN.pdf

September 24 2014 Resolution adopted unanimously by the Security Council condemning violent extremism, underscoring need to prevent travel and support for foreign fighters. Member states shall, consistent with international law, prevent the “recruiting, organizing, transporting or equipping of individuals who travel to a state other than their States of residence or nationality” for the purpose of involvement in terrorist acts. The resolution decided that all states ensure their legal systems provide for the persecution of those involved in such activities.

S/2015/939 retrieved April 6th from: [https://documents-dds-](https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N15/448/85/PDF/N1544885.pdf?OpenElement)

[ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N15/448/85/PDF/N1544885.pdf?OpenElement](https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N15/448/85/PDF/N1544885.pdf?OpenElement)

This is the December 2015 Conclusion of the Special meeting on the Counter-Terrorism Committee on stemming the flow of foreign terrorist fighters. Facilitated the discussion of: detection and intervention against recruitment and facilitation of foreign terrorist fighters; prevention of travel by foreign fighters; criminalization, prosecution, international cooperation and the rehabilitation of returnees. This source provides a plethora of in depth information through “guiding principles.”

S/2015/358 retrieved April 6th 2015 from: http://www.un.org/en/sc/ctc/docs/2015/N1508457_EN.pdf

Analysis and recommendations with regard to the global threat from foreign terrorist fighters from the Security Council. Notes the scale of the current threat of over 25,000 foreign fighters from over 100 Member States is worrying. Such fighters increase the threat posed to people living in areas threatened by terrorist groups and the human resources available. The report also discusses the most affected regions, radicalization trends, recruitment trends (of which there seems to be no single model), facilitation networks, and much more.

S/RES/2199 retrieved April 6th 2015 from: http://www.un.org/en/sc/ctc/docs/2015/N1504028_EN.pdf

S/RES/2199 outlines and condemns methods for funding foreign fighters. The resolution specifically addresses oil, trade and external donations. Further, the resolution promotes the protection of cultural heritage sites in areas threatened by terrorism, particularly ISIL. The resolution calls upon reporting of such matters and compliance of Member States.

Helpful Secondary Sources

Klausen, Jytte. "They're Coming." *Foreign Affairs*. 6 Apr. 2016. Web. 7 Apr. 2016. Retrieved April 6th 2015 from:

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/iraq/2014-10-01/theyre-coming>

A major philosophical difference between those who conduct terror attacks at home and those who do so abroad has been recognized, and we should “be very afraid of the backflow from Syria and Iraq.” It is important to prevent people leaving for such purposes, providing justice for victims, and appropriately policing.

Goldman, Adam, and Souad Mekhennet. "Jihadi John': Islamic State Killer Is Identified as Londoner Mohammed Emwazi." *Washington Post*. The Washington Post, 26 Feb. 2015. Web. 8 Apr. 2016.

Braw, Elisabeth. "Foreign Fighters Financing." *Foreign Affairs*. 6 Apr. 2016. Web. 7 Apr. 2016.

Retrieved April 6th 2015 from:

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/syria/2015-10-25/foreign-fighters-financing>

This article discusses the financing of foreign fighters. SMS loans or sales tax fraud, such as VAT fraud, are often used to finance their trips. ISIL generates vast funds through extortion, kidnapping for

ransom, smuggling, and trafficking. Fraudulent businesses, front companies and money laundering are also popular.

Berger, J. M. "Tailored Online Interventions: The Islamic State's Recruitment Strategy | Combating Terrorism Center at West Point." *Combating Terrorism Center at West Point*. N.p., 23 Oct. 2015. Web. 06 Apr. 2016. Retrieved April 6th 2015 from:

<https://www.ctc.usma.edu/posts/tailored-online-interventions-the-islamic-states-recruitment-strategy>

ISIL has devoted a great deal of resources to implementing a unique online recruitment strategy involving an original message, the creation of a “micro community,” vetting, and call to action. An “unprecedented number of Westerners” have left to join ISIL. The quality and quantity of ISIL propaganda has been a factor in its success that is tailored.

History.com Staff. "Tadeusz Kosciuszko." *History.com*. A&E Television Networks, 01 Jan. 2009. Web. 02 May 2016.

"What Is 'Islamic State'? - BBC News." *BBC News*. N.p., 2 Dec. 2015. Web. 06 Apr. 2016. Retrieved April 6th 2015 from:

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-29052144>

This chart by the ICSR and the Soufan Group depict the number of foreign fighters in Syria and Iraq. The information suggests that while a quarter of the foreign fighters come from the west, the majority come from nearby Arab nations such as Tunisia and Saudi Arabia.

Historical Security Council, I: Rwanda 1994



Historic Security Council: Rwanda 1994

Notes on the Simulation:

Do not presume to know anything that your member-state would not know in 1994. Delegates should not expect the simulation to unfold exactly as events did historically. For the purpose of the simulation there will be counterfactual incidents and events.

The members of the Security Council for the duration of the simulation are:

Argentina	Brazil	China
Czech Republic	Djibouti	France
New Zealand	Nigeria	Oman
Pakistan	Russian Federation	Rwanda
Spain	United Kingdom	United States of America

Background:

The small African country of Rwanda had been plagued by extreme racial tension since the early nineteenth century. Comprised of primarily two ethnic groups—the Hutus and Tutsis—Rwanda fell into a class-based system spurred on by various colonial powers in the country. After World War I, the Tutsi group was favored over the Hutus, as the Tutsis were declared the superior race that was meant to rule, while the Hutus were viewed as the less intelligent group desirous of leading simple lives.¹⁵⁰ To ensure distinction between the two racial groups, the government introduced a system of ethnic identity cards that the Hutus and Tutsis were required to possess at all times.¹⁵¹ This racial separation policy in Rwanda was exceptionally poisonous to the country, exacerbating feelings of hatred amongst the ethnic groups and ultimately creating a legacy of tension that exploded into continuous violent outbursts.

By 1959, the Hutu group executed a mass rebellion against the government and Tutsi elite. The “Hutu Peasant Revolution,” as it was called, lasted from 1959 to 1961 and signified the end of Tutsi domination.¹⁵² By 1962, when Rwanda officially gained independence from the Belgium colonial power, over 120,000 Tutsis had taken refuge in neighboring states to escape the violence that accompanied the Hutu party.¹⁵³ The Tutsi did not give up hope, though, of returning to their homeland. In 1988, the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) was founded in Kampala, Uganda, and served as a political and military movement that aimed to secure repatriation of Rwandan exiles and a reformation of the Rwandan government.¹⁵⁴ After proper training, the RPF began attacks on Rwanda in 1990, causing an outbreak of civil war in the country that lasted for the following three years.

In August of 1993, the three-year-long civil war between the Hutu and Tutsi groups came to an end with the establishment of the Arusha peace agreement. Brokered by Tanzania and the Organization of African Unity, the peace agreement called for a democratically elected government in Rwanda, repatriation of the refugees, and immediate integration of the armed forces of the two sides.¹⁵⁵ In order to ensure that the

¹⁵⁰ “A Thousand Hills: Rwanda’s Rebirth and the Man Who Dreamed It” Kinzer, Stephen. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, 2008. Print.

¹⁵¹ Rwandan Chronology – Frontline. PBS. WGBH Educational Foundation, 2000. Web. 02 Apr. 2016. <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/rwanda/etc/cron.html>

¹⁵² Rwanda: A Brief History of the Country" UN News Center. n.d. Web. 02 Apr. 2016. <http://www.un.org/en/preventgenocide/rwanda/education/rwandagenocide.shtml>

¹⁵³ Ibid.

¹⁵⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵⁵ Rwanda – UNAMIR – Background, UN News Center. UN, n.d. Web 02 Apr. 2016.

Arusha peace agreements were properly enforced, both parties called on the assistance of the United Nations. The United Nations quickly responded in October of 1993 when the Security Council established the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) through RES 872.¹⁵⁶ UNAMIR's main mission was to encourage implementation of the Arusha peace agreement, closely monitor the effects of its implementation, and support the transitioning government in Rwanda. Upon its establishment, UNAMIR pledged to restore peace and stability to Rwanda; however, a large faction of the country was not interested in maintaining peace. As UNAMIR worked to maintain stability in Rwanda, Hutu extremist paramilitary organizations—called the Rwandan Armed Forces and the interhamwe—began to secretly and meticulously plan a mass extermination of the Tutsi race.

It is April 7, 1994, and you have been summoned for an emergency Security Council Meeting concerning the situation in Rwanda. Just last night, a plane carrying the Rwandan President Juvenal Habyarimana and his counterpart President Cyprien Ntaryamira of Burundi was shot down, killing everyone on board.¹⁵⁷ Hutu extremists immediately placed all blame on the Rwandan Patriotic Front and commenced their organized campaign of slaughter.

Questions to guide your research:

- When is the UN able to use force? See UN Charter for guidance.
- Along those lines, should the UN forcefully intervene in the massacre and put an end to the Hutu killings?
- If UN forces are not granted the right to intervene, what tasks can UNAMIR work to accomplish in Rwanda to reinstate peace and stability in the nation?
- If UN forces are not granted the right to intervene, is it safe for them to stay in the nation? What actions can UNAMIR take to ensure safety for its own forces?
- Is it appropriate for the UN to support a particular side in the Hutu/Tutsi conflict? Does picking a side violate the sovereignty of the Rwandan nation in accordance with the United Nations charter?
- Is it appropriate for the UN to declare the situation in Rwanda a genocide? If it is declared a genocide, what actions can the UN take that it would not be allowed to otherwise?
- Is a stronger push from the international community needed? Are people ignoring the massacre that is occurring?
- Should the Security Council consider sanctions or other methods to punish the Hutu forces?
- How does the situation in Rwanda affect my nation?
- Is it realistic, from *your nation's perspective*, to get involved in the Rwandan crisis at all? What economic, social, and political effects would involvement in the Rwandan crisis have on your nation?

Notes on the Simulation:

Directives are statements released by the committee, which need to be specific, but not as specific as working papers for they are a means to an action in the short term. They require a majority vote to pass, but private directives may just be sent up to the chair.

<http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/missions/past/unamirS.htm>

¹⁵⁶ United Nations Security Council Resolution 872 (S/RES/872), 5 October 1993

[http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/872\(1993\)](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/872(1993))

¹⁵⁷ "Rwanda: A Brief History of the Country" *UN News Center*. n.d. Web. 02 Apr. 2016.

<http://www.un.org/en/preventgenocide/rwanda/education/rwandagenocide.shtml>

Communiqués are a means of communications to between a country, organization, a person, or even a committee which are useful during negotiations or need for intelligence. They need a majority to pass, but do not need to be voted on if they are private.

Press Releases are official remarks by the committee or member state to justify actions to the public. They are able to show the progress of the meeting to the public and straighten out any misleading facts or information.

During the session if there are any wires to delegation or press releases from the current situation you are encouraged to use these in speeches and actions.

Bibliography

A Thousand Hills: Rwanda's Rebirth and the Man Who Dreamed It. Kinzer, Stephen. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, 2008. Print.

This novel provides a detailed account of Paul Kagame, a Tutsi refugee who restored peace and stability to Rwanda after the devastation brought on by the 1994 genocide. Not only does the book outline the life of President Kagame, but it also delivers an in-depth history of the past century in Rwanda (particularly focusing on the events that led up to, and occurred during, the genocide).

Rwanda: A Brief History of the Country

<http://www.un.org/en/preventgenocide/rwanda/education/rwandagenocide.shtml>

UN News Center. UN: Outreach Programme on the Rwandan Genocide and the United Nations, n.d. Web. 02 Apr. 2016.

This article provides a succinct history of the Rwandan genocide—from the beginning of the conflict in the late 1950s to the tragic massacre of over 800,000 Rwandans in 1994. The article is written in four major segments: the beginning of the ethnic conflict, the civil war, the genocide, and the aftermath. The brief account also includes a detailed description of the United Nation's role in the genocide.

Rwandan Chronology – Frontline

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/rwanda/etc/cron.html>

PBS. WGBH Educational Foundation, 2000. Web. 02 Apr. 2016.

This article provides a historical chronology of every significant event related to the 1994 Rwandan genocide. From 1926 when the Belgians introduced a system of ethnic identity cards to the Hutu and Tutsi Rwandans, to December of 1996 when trials began for Hutu criminals involved in the massacre, this article serves as an excellent resource to ensure proper chronological understanding of the Rwandan genocide.

Rwanda Genocide: 100 Days of Slaughter

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-26875506>

BBC News. BBC, 7 Apr. 2014. Web. 03 Apr. 2016.

This news article provides a detailed description of the one hundred day span of the 1994 Rwandan genocide. The piece begins by discussing the root causes of the genocide, transitions to how the massacre was carried out, and ends by addressing the lack of aid the country received from the outside world during the period.

Rwanda – UNAMIR – Background

<http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/missions/past/unamirS.htm>

UN News Center. UN, n.d. Web 02 Apr. 2016.

This United Nations article outlines the establishment of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR). The Security Council created UNAMIR in October 1993 with the intention to aid the Hutu and Tutsi parties in the implementation of a Rwandan peace agreement brokered by Tanzania and the Organization of African Unity in March of 1993. This agreement called for a new democratically elected government in Rwanda and provided for the establishment of a transitional Government until the elections would be held. After the genocide broke out in 1994, however, UNAMIR shifted its efforts to ensuring security and stability, increasing humanitarian assistance, and supporting refugees.

Security Council Resolution 872 (1993)

[http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/872\(1993\)](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/872(1993))

“United Nations Official Document.” *UN News Center*. Un. Web 3 Apr. 2016.

This Security Council resolution was adopted unanimously on 5 October 1993 and stressed the need for an international force to occupy Rwanda as racial tensions escalated in the African country. The resolution established the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) for an intended six-month period to carry out the United Nations peace keeping and security mandates in Kigali (the nation’s capital).

Shake Hands with the Devil: The Failure of Humanity in Rwanda

Dallaire, Roméo, and Brent Beardsley. New York, NY: Carroll & Graf, 2005. Print.

This novel tells the story of Romeo Dallaire, a Canadian general who served as the force commander of the UN Assistance Mission for Rwanda. While Dallaire believed that his assignment in Rwanda was to aid the two warring parties achieve peace, he was instead exposed to a barbarous and chaotic display of genocide. This book recreated a tragic history that the world chose to ignore, providing a detailed, first-hand account of the 1994 massacre that forever changed the course of Rwanda.

Historical Security Council II, Iraq 1995



Historical Security Council: Iraq 1995

Notes on the Simulation:

Do not presume to know anything that your member-state would not know in 1995. Delegates should not expect the simulation to unfold exactly as events did historically. For the purpose of the simulation there will be counterfactual incidents and events.

The members of the Security Council for the duration of the simulation are:

Argentina	Botswana	China
Czech Republic	France	Germany
Honduras	Indonesia	Italy
Nigeria	Oman	Russian Federation
Rwanda	United Kingdom	United States of America
Iraq*		

*Iraq will also have the option to participate as a non-voting observer, pursuant to UN Security Council rules: <http://www.un.org/en/sc/members/>.

Background:

It is October 16th, 1995, you have been called into a special session by the Security Council to address the issue of growing tension in Iraq. This session has been called in light of the recent re-election of Saddam Hussein and the failure of the Iraqi government to cooperate with UN Security Council Resolutions. Do not presume to know information that your country would not know after this point. Do not assume that events will play out exactly according to history. Throughout this simulation, you will receive new information about the growing situation in Iraq, and will have to act accordingly. These situations are designed to facilitate cooperation, and spur discussion.

Background of the Conflict

In July of 1990, Iraq, under the leadership of Saddam Hussein invaded the country of Kuwait following an economic crisis resulting from the Iran-Iraq War. In August of that year, the UN convened a special Security Council session to handle the growing conflict. They condemned Iraq's handling of the situation, as well as the growing aggression of the Iraqi government. In addition, the UN began to initiate trade embargos on Iraq to persuade them to pull out of Kuwait. The United States began to prepare for an offensive in Iraq, and in January of 1991, the United States formed a coalition with other member states and conducted Operation Desert Storm after Saddam Hussein refused to withdraw from Kuwait. The resulting war lasted a mere one hundred hours before the Iraqi military began to surrender.¹⁵⁸ However, the conflict was not over. The tensions between Iraq and the United Nations would grow as the Iraqi government would refuse to cooperate with Security Council action.

UN Action

The United Nations has been heavily involved during the Gulf War Conflict and the years following. The Security Council in particular passed a number of resolutions during this time. In 1990, the Security Council passed S/RES660, condemning the Iraqi-instigated conflict in Kuwait, asking them to cease hostilities and begin trying to find a diplomatic resolution to the war. After Iraq failed to comply, the Security Council passed S/RES/661, placing intense economic sanctions on the country. However, Iraq still refused to comply with the UN, despite these sanctions prompting S/RES/678, which called on the international community to assist the UN in ensuring Iraq's cooperation. The following year of 1991 saw Security Council action that was aimed more at the addressing the aftermath of the Gulf War. The

¹⁵⁸ "Operation Desert Shield," "Operation Desert Storm," www.globalsecurity.org, Apr. 16, 2007

Security Council passed S/RES/687, telling Iraq to dismantle weapons of mass destruction and any other threats it may have to the overall goal of peace in the region. In addition, this resolution commanded Iraq to stop researching the development of nuclear weapons, and set up a framework for UN monitoring to ensure the compliance of the Iraqi government.

The “Present Day” Problem

At the time of this meeting, the situation in Iraq is slowly starting to escalate. The relationship between Iraq and the UN is strained. Per Security Council Resolutions, Iraq is required to allow the United Nations Special Commission (UNSCOM) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to assess and monitor their chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons capabilities. However, the Iraqi government under Saddam Hussein has not fully cooperated with these agencies.

In addition, tensions between the United States and Iraq are growing as well. In April of 1993, the US discovered a planned assassination attempt on former United States President George H.W. Bush. An investigation found that Iraq was behind the attempt. That June, the United States launched a missile strike against an Iraqi Intelligence Service building.¹⁵⁹ The state of the Iraqi people is also a concern. Years of economic sanctions have had a lasting impact on the economy of Iraq. The banning of imports to the nation have resulted in a rise in mortality, lack of health care and other basic needs and services for the Iraqi people. In response to the growing humanitarian crisis in Iraq, the UN enacted the Oil for Food Programme, contained in S/RES/986. This allows the Iraqi government to finance the basic humanitarian needs of the country by selling their oil supply.¹⁶⁰ This short-term solution is designed to allow Iraq to conform to the restrictions and resolutions that have been imposed on them without ignoring the humanitarian problems that civilians are suffering. The questions going forward will be if Iraq will comply with these UN mandates, or if they will continue to resist them. In addition, it will be important to see how the country of Iraq continues to act in regards to its relationship with the international community.

Notes on the Simulation

Directives are statements released by the committee, which need to be specific, but not as specific as working papers as they are a means to action in the short term.

Communiqués are a means of communication between a country, person, organization or committee. They are useful during negotiations or when there is a need for intelligence, and need a majority to pass. They do not need to be voted on if they are private.

Press Releases are official remarks made by the committee or member state to justify actions to the public. They are used to show the progress of the meeting to the public and straighten out any misleading facts or information.

During the session if there are any wires to delegations or press releases from the current situation students are encouraged to use these in speeches and discussions with other delegates.

Questions to guide your research:

- Iraq has repeatedly refused to comply with the UN demands. What actions can the UN take to ensure the cooperation of the Iraqi government without harming the civilians?

¹⁵⁹ "The FBI Laboratory: An Investigation into Laboratory Practices and Alleged Misconduct in Explosives-Related and Other Cases (Apr. 1997)," www.usdoj.gov, Apr. 5, 2007

¹⁶⁰ "About the Programme," www.un.org, Mar. 28, 2007

- With the rising tensions between Iraq and the international community, is there anything that the UN can do to ease these intentions and prevent military conflict?
- Should the UN remove the sanctions placed on Iraq in light of the serious humanitarian crisis?
- What is the role of regional cooperation in preventing military aggression?
- What is the role of sovereignty in preventing military aggression?
- Regarding Iraq's recent conflicts with Iran and the coalition, what can be done to ensure that all actions taken against Iraq will be able to strengthen regional security and not hinder it?
- What ways can the international community help alleviate the humanitarian crisis in Iraq?
- What measures can the international community take to prevent any international assistance from contributing to possible military aggression?

Bibliography

"Timeline, 1990 - 2011 - US - Iraq War - ProCon.org." *ProCon.org Headlines*. 19 Dec. 2011. Web. 08 Apr. 2016. <<http://usiraq.procon.org/view.resource.php?resourceID=000670#kuwait>>.

This source found on ProCon.org provides an exhaustive list of all the events of the Iraq conflict leading up to and after the invasion of Iraq. This resource can be used as a brief overview of the actions that led to the invasion of Iraq on all sides of the conflict. It also lists all the related UN resolutions, which would be too many to put in one bibliography

Browne, Marjorie Ann. *The United Nations Security Council – Its Role in the Iraq Crisis: A Brief Overview*. Rep. Congressional Research Service, 18 Mar. 2003. Web.

<<https://fas.org/man/crs/RS21323.pdf>>.

This is a report by the Congressional Research Service. It provides a brief detailing of the UN action leading up to the outbreak of the Iraq War. IT serves as another good source for historical context and provides information on key Security Council Resolutions.

"United Nations Charter: Chapter VII." *UN News Center*. UN. Web. 08 Apr. 2016.

<<http://www.un.org/en/sections/un-charter/chapter-vii/index.html>>.

This is an excerpt from the UN Charter. It deals specifically with the role of the UN international peacekeeping crisis. It provides a framework for discussion, sanctions, and if necessary, military action. This source can be used to gauge the validity of any UN action in regards to mediating the conflict.

UN Security Council Resolution S/RES/678 (1990)

This resolution mentions the failure of Iraq to comply with UN demands yet again. It also calls on the international community to do whatever necessary to ensure the cooperation of Iraq and to keep the UN updated on the situation. This may be where the Coalition thought they were justified in invading Iraq.

UN Security Council Resolution S/RES/661(1990)

This resolution is a follow-up to Resolution 660. It declares Iraq in violation of said resolution and places sanctions on it. This is the foundation of the crippling sanctions that Iraq was dealing with during the time of our simulation.

UN Security Council Resolution S/RES/660(1990)

This Resolution condemns the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. It calls for Iraq to remove its troops and attempt a diplomatic solution to its problems.

UN Security Council Resolution S/RES/687 (1991)

This resolution set the grounds for the heavy monitoring of Iraq. It orders the Iraqi government to declare any threats it may have to global peace and is an attempt to diplomatically resolve the problems in Iraq. It also mentions that Iraq needs to fulfill its obligations to the foreign world by paying its debts.

Delegate Handbook



Baylor MUN Delegate Policies

Code of Conduct

Delegates are expected to remain in character at all times during committee sessions by adhering to the policies and interests of their assigned country. This entails displaying respect for the opinions and ideals of fellow delegates, even if these opinions and ideals conflict with their own priorities or the interests of their own assigned country.

Decorum

Delegates are expected to maintain decorum by displaying utmost courtesy and professionalism at all times. Delegates are expected to behave as professional adults both in respect for fellow delegates, respect and courtesy toward Baylor MUN staff, and respect for the facilities at Baylor MUN. In this regard, delegates are responsible for their own trash and may not bring food into the committee rooms. After each committee session, each delegate is to clean his/her own area before leaving the room.

Note Passing

Note passing is allowed, except during voting procedure. Note passing allows delegates to send formal notes to fellow delegates in order to ask questions, inform another delegate about an opinion or to ask for support for your own resolution, and as such it is an extremely effective tool to network for your resolution. As note passing is intended to support the diplomatic discussion, informal, personal, or notes otherwise deemed inappropriate will be collected by the chair and the delegate may be dismissed from committee immediately, at the discretion of the chair.

Attire

All clothing must portray professionalism and modesty. If a delegate's attire is deemed inappropriate by Baylor MUN staff, the delegate will be asked to leave the session and return with appropriate attire. In preparation for the conference, if the appropriateness of a certain outfit is in question, the delegate should opt for more professional attire.

- Standard delegate attire for the conference is business jacket, slacks (or skirts for women), dress shirt (with tie for men) and dress shoes.
- Shorts, ball caps, jeans, sneakers, and sunglasses are considered too casual.
- It is not appropriate for delegates to display any national symbols such as flags, pins, crests, etc. on their person during sessions. UN symbols are acceptable.
- Western business dress is preferred. Traditional dress is only permitted for international delegates in whose native nations professional business dress includes traditional cultural dress. Baylor MUN will not tolerate any delegate's attempt to portray a character using traditional cultural attire as costume.

Awards Philosophy

Awards are not intended to promote a spirit of hostile competition. Rather, they recognize excellence in committee, which is evaluated based upon consideration of the Delegate's participation in all aspects of the committee's work in formal session and unmoderated caucus. The best delegates will be those who stay in character as their assigned country and contribute not simply through giving speeches but also through working alongside other students to negotiate and formulate resolutions.

There will be awards given for Best Delegate in each committee as well as for the overall "Best Country Delegation," which recognizes excellence across committees. There will be awards given for Best Large Delegation and Best Small Delegation, which take into consideration the overall excellence of the entire

team while factoring in the total number of students on the team. The categories for these awards will be announced prior to the conference once registration is closed and the size of the delegations is known. Past examples are available on the website. Finally, there will be an award for Position Papers, which are optional, completed prior to conference, and considered separately from the at conference awards.

Academic Dishonesty and Other Unauthorized Assistance

Plagiarism will not be tolerated, nor should “prewritten” resolutions be brought to conference. Resolutions should be the product of work at the conference. While advisors and coaches are welcome to attend the sessions as observers, they should not interfere with the formal proceedings or participate in caucuses. Delegates may ask their advisors or coaches questions during a suspension of the meeting, but at no time should advisors or coaches take part in writing or editing the Delegates’ resolutions.

Electronics Policy

In our attempt to foster environmental husbandry, delegates may use laptops, iPads, etc. during unmoderated caucus to access research completed *before* conference that is saved on the computer in lieu of bringing paper copies of this material. However, these devices may not be used during formal session. Internet access will not be available in the conference rooms, nor should delegates use their own internet plans on their tablets or phones at any time. If delegates have questions about resolution content, they are welcome to ask their chairs or rapporteurs for guidance.

At no time should Delegates be using cell phones during committees. Delegates are encouraged to leave their phones with their adult chaperones to eliminate the temptation to send texts or check phones during committee.

Baylor Model United Nations Parliamentary Procedure

Rules

Rules Philosophy

These rules will be used for all committees at the Baylor Model United Nations High School Conference. Each conference on the high school and collegiate level adopts its own rules of procedure. This set of rules was formulated with two primary goals in mind: 1) to simulate as closely as possible the procedures of the United Nations, and 2) to provide rules that make the most of the limited time available at conference.

Rules are intended to make sessions run smoothly and thus should not be abused or used in such a way that disrupts the primary purpose of the conference, which is to have an informed consideration of important global issues. Members should be familiar with these rules when they arrive at conference and should not rely on “points of information” to learn the rules at conference.

Rule 1: Duties of the Chair

The chair of the committee will open and close the committee’s meetings, oversee the debate and discussion, enforce the rules of procedure, delegate speaking privileges, count votes, and announce results. The chair may also propose motions including closing the speaker’s list, closing debate, and suspending or adjourning the meeting.

Rule 2: Conference Agenda

The Secretariat establishes the topic agenda for each committee, which is announced prior to the conference on the website and is outlined in the committee background guides. No additional topics may be added to the agenda during committee sessions, unless the committee’s agenda is specified as an “open” one.

Rule 3: Quorum

The chair may open a meeting or allow a procedural vote when at least one-fourth of the committee is present. However, one-half of the committee is required to be present before substantive votes shall be taken.

Rule 4: Voting

Each Member State will have one vote. Members who are “present and voting” must vote on all resolutions and amendments; others may abstain during substantive votes. All members must vote on all procedural motions (e.g. setting the time limits for speakers, setting topic order for the agenda). Votes shall be cast by show of placards unless a member requests a roll-call vote. However, the chair may deny the request for a roll-call vote if it is clear this is being requested to be disruptive, or if the privilege is abused. During voting procedure, proper decorum will be maintained, and members may not speak, pass notes or leave and enter the room.

Rule 5: Agenda Setting in Committee

Members of the committee may vote on the order in which to address the agenda topics, requiring a simple majority in order to pass. Proposed agendas will be voted on in the order they were first received.

Rule 6: Time Limits for Speeches

The committee shall vote on the time limit for the speaker after setting the agenda. The chair may appoint two members, one for and one against, to speak on the time limit proposed before putting the motion to vote; these speeches will be limited to 30 seconds. The committee needs a simple majority to set a limit

on the speaker's time. The chair may entertain additional motions later during the session to change the speaker's time at his/her discretion.

Rule 7: Formal Session and the Speaker's List

Once the agenda is set and speaker's time decided, the chair will create a speaker's list for members to address the committee in an orderly fashion during formal sessions of committee; this is the process that is used by the United Nations during their sessions. Speakers will be given the floor in the order that their names appear on this list. Members may withdraw themselves from the speaker's list at any time and request to be added to the list by sending a note to either the chair or rapporteur. However, members may not trade spots on the speaker's list with other delegations, nor may they request to be added to the speaker's list if they are already on the list and are waiting to speak. After a delegate has spoken and are removed from the list, they may immediately request to be added again via a note to the chair or rapporteur.

After a speech is given, there will not be a formal period for questions or "points of inquiries" for the individual who delivered the speech. These queries can be made via note to the delegate or addressed during unmoderated caucus. At the chair's discretion, after a number of speeches are delivered, the chair will ask if there are any motions. At this time, delegates may request a suspension of the meeting for an unmoderated caucus or other motion that is in order. If there are no motions, the speeches will continue as ordered on the speaker's list.

Members of the committee may vote to close the speaker's list by earning a majority vote according the amount of members present and voting. This means no additional names can be added to the list. Members of the committee may vote to reopen the speaker's list by the same qualifications given there was at least one member remaining on the speaker's list. Once the speaker's list is exhausted, the committee automatically moves into the voting process.

Rule 8: Unmoderated Caucusing and Suspension of the Meeting

At this conference "unmoderated caucuses" will be utilized for the purpose of facilitating discussion among delegates as they work together to write resolutions. Unmoderated simply means that unlike "formal sessions" which are organized using the speaker's list, the chairs and rapporteurs will not recognize delegates and give them "turns" to speak. Rather, the Members will need to work cooperatively and engage in small group negotiation at this time. *Note that unmoderated does not mean unsupervised.* The chairs and rapporteurs will circulate in the room and observe the caucusing process to see that students are both being diplomatic and participating in the caucus. Unmoderated caucuses are a *key* part of the awards evaluation process. Members who are rude to fellow delegates, overbearing and attempt to dominate the caucus, or do not contribute to discussion in these caucuses will hinder their chance for an in-committee award, even if they are the best public speaker in formal session. Bottom line: being a good public speaker is not the only part of success at a Model UN conference.

To request an unmoderated caucus, members should move for a "Suspension of the Meeting" and specify an amount of time requested for caucusing. For example, a delegate may say, "I move for a 15 minute suspension of the meeting for a caucus". This motion requires a second, and there will be no speakers for or against these motions. As these are procedural votes, all delegates must cast a vote, and if a majority of the delegates vote in favor of the motion, the formal session is suspended and an unmoderated caucus begins immediately.

Rule 9: Working Papers, Draft Resolutions, and Amendments

A "working paper" is the rough draft of a resolution that students work on in caucuses. In order to achieve the status of a "draft resolution", these working papers must have a requisite number of sponsors or

signatories. For this conference, 20% of the committee members present must be listed as either a sponsor or signatory before the paper becomes a draft resolution. The specific number required to achieve this 20% will be announced in committee. All working papers and amendments will be submitted to the chair or rapporteur before being distributed to the whole committee. Once the chair or rapporteur checks the working paper to see that it has proper sponsorship and all of the proper components (i.e. preambular and operative clauses), the working paper becomes a “draft resolution” and is distributed to the committee.

Amendments to the draft resolution must be approved by all of the resolution’s sponsors; approval of signatories is not required. If all of the sponsors do not agree to an amendment, the full committee shall vote on the amendment, and if it passes by a majority vote, it becomes part of the draft resolution. This amended draft resolution must then be voted on and receive approval of the majority of members before it becomes a “resolution”. If the amendment fails, the original version of the draft resolution will be voted on, and if it achieves approval by the majority of the members, it becomes a “resolution”.

Rule 10: Precedence of “Disruptive” Motions

Disruptive motions are those that will alter the regular committee proceedings by ending or postponing discussion in some way. The following represents the order in which these motions take precedence with one being the highest in priority:

1. Point of Order and Information
2. Suspension of the Meeting (discussed above – rule 8)
3. Adjourn the debate on the topic
4. Closure of debate
5. Closure of speaker’s list (discussed above – rule 7)

Members of the committee may raise points of order to bring the chair’s attention to an error in procedure. Points of information may be raised if the delegate is confused about procedures. If a delegate is disruptive to committee proceedings and abuses points of information, the chair reserves the right to refuse to acknowledge these requests.

Members may move to adjourn the debate on the current topic. This means that all discussion on the current topic ends, including any debate on draft resolutions. The chair shall entertain two speakers for and two against a motion to adjourn the debate. After these speeches, the motion shall be put to a vote. If two-thirds of the committee members present votes to adjourn the topic, discussion ends immediately on this topic and beings for the next topic. If a two-thirds majority vote is not achieved, then the business of the committee resumes where it left off with motions on the floor, speaker’s list, etc. Later, the committee may vote to resume discussion of the topic, and this shall occur by the same process – motion, second, speakers for and against, and a two-thirds majority vote.

Members may call for a closure of debate, which takes precedence over the speaker’s list. This means that all discussion on the current topic ends, and any motions on the floor are put immediately to a vote. The chair may appoint two members to speak for or in opposition to the closure, after which the committee shall vote. The committee needs a two-thirds majority for closure of debate. Note that closure of the debate occurs automatically once the speaker’s list is exhausted.

Rule 11: Technology Policy

Use of computers or iPads is prohibited during formal session. Using the internet on any laptops or iPads brought into committee is prohibited at all times. All research should be completed before conference.

Delegates are welcome to use laptops or iPads for typing working papers during unmoderated caucuses or to access their research completed before conference that is saved on the computer. If students do this, they must bring a flash drive to transfer the files to the rapporteur's computer, as internet will not be available in the conference rooms. However, laptops are not required, nor will any student be penalized if they do not type their working paper. Resolution worksheets and paper will be provided for handwriting working papers, and the rapporteurs will type these resolutions once they are accepted as draft resolutions.

At no time should Delegates be using cell phones during committees. Delegates are encouraged to leave their phones with their adult chaperones to eliminate the temptation to send texts or check phones during committee.

Rules of Procedure (Short From)

Motion	Purpose	Debate	Vote
**Point of Order	Correct an error in procedure	None	None
**Point of Information	Request clarification of rules	None	None
**Appeal of the Chair	Challenge a decision of the Chair	None	Majority
Suspension of the Meeting	Suspends the meeting for recess to allow informal discussions	None	Majority
Adjournment of Debate	Ends discussion on the topic without a vote and moves to the next topic (sometimes referred to as “tabling” the topic)	2 pro/ 2 con	2/3
Closure of Debate	Move to immediate vote	2 pro/ 2 con	2/3
** Amendments and 1st Vote of Division of the Question	Vote on sections separately prior to voting on entire draft resolution or report segment	2 pro/ 2 con	Majority
**Roll Call Vote	Vote by roll call, rather than show Placards	None	None
**Adopt by Acclamation	Pass a draft Resolution or draft Report Segments a body by consensus	None	ALL
Reconsideration	Re-open debate on an issue (Motion must be made by member who voted for “Adjournment of Debate”)	2 con	2/3 majority
Set the Speakers Time	Set or change the Speakers’ Time Limit	1 pro/ 1 con	Majority
Close the Speaker’s List (also applies reopening the list)	No additional speakers can be added to the speakers’ list once the list is closed.	None	Majority
Adoption of the Agenda	Approval of agenda order	None	Majority

**** Only these Motions are accepted during voting procedure**

Writing a Resolution

The anatomy of a resolution:

A *resolution* is a formal statement adopted by one of the organs of the United Nations. Resolutions have diverse purposes and forms depending upon both which body is adopting the resolution and the issue at hand. A resolution could simply be an official statement taking a stand on a particular issue. Other resolutions make recommendations for policies that nations could develop, or the resolution could charge a subsidiary group within the United Nations with researching and reporting on a particular issue. In the case of the Security Council, a resolution can demand that a nation take action or face sanctions.

Resolutions typically have two sections. The first section is composed of *perambulatory clauses*, which announce the purpose of the resolution and acknowledge past action in a particular area, including referencing prior resolutions. The most important part of the resolution is the *operative clauses*. These announce the action that the committee recommends be taken to address a particular issue. Wording of these clauses is important for the overall tone and impact of the resolution. For example, if the committee “recommends” action, this signifies less urgency than “requesting” that particular steps be taken. Only the Security Council should use strong language such as “demands”, as they are the only body whose resolutions are binding on member nations under the UN Charter. While resolutions need not have the same number of perambulatory and operative clauses, the most effective resolutions will have symmetry and a logical structure.

Common Preambulatory Clauses:

Affirming
Appreciating
Bearing in mind
Desiring
Expecting
Having adopted
Noting with deep concern
Noting with regret
Realizing
Seeking
Welcoming

Common Operative Clauses:

Adopts
Approves
Authorizes
Calls upon
Declares
Encourages
Invites
Reaffirms
Recommends
Suggests
Urges (*suitable only for Security Council)

The process of writing a resolution:

One of the goals of this Model UN conference is to work with other delegates to discuss solutions to world problems and to reach a compromise suitable to as many nations as possible. As member states begin to come to a consensus on the solution to a topic during informal debate they should begin to work on writing a *working paper*, which simply refers to your rough drafts of a resolution.

The main authors of a resolution are known as *sponsors*. It is understood that these individuals approve of the plans set forth in the working paper, and they plan to vote in favor of this draft resolution when it reaches the committee floor. Along with sponsors a resolution may have *signatories*. Signatories are individuals who may or may not agree with all of the proposals made in a resolution and are not necessarily expected to vote in favor of the draft resolution when it reaches the floor; however, they wish for the topic to be debated and voted upon by the full committee.

No successful resolution can be the work of a single delegate or even a few delegates. Indeed, to be approved by the dais as a ***draft resolution*** at this conference, 20% of the committee members present must be listed as either a sponsor or signatory on the working paper. Draft resolution simply refers to a working paper that has been approved by the dais and that may be presented to the entire committee for debate and vote. The most successful resolutions will have many sponsors and signatories. However, there can be trade-offs to consensus. As the number of sponsors increases, it is more likely that the content of the resolution becomes narrower in order to gain broad support.

When the draft resolution is debated in the committee, it is not uncommon for ***amendments*** to be proposed. The process for proposing amendments varies depending upon whether or not all of the original sponsors approve of the amendment. If all of the sponsors approve, the amendment automatically becomes part of the draft resolution. If all of the sponsors do not approve of the amendment, this amendment must be voted on separately by the committee prior to voting on the draft resolution itself. Rules concerning amendments and voting are explained in the parliamentary procedure section above.

When a draft resolution is voted on and approved by the committee, it may then be formally called a ***resolution***. Knowing the difference between a working paper, a draft resolution and resolution will enable delegates to better understand and properly use parliamentary procedures.

Guidelines for Resolution Writing at Baylor MUN:

Pre-written resolutions

Since the purpose of resolutions is to demonstrate your ability to work alongside other delegates to reach mutually agreed upon compromises, resolutions should be the product of the work of delegates at conference. ***Thus, no prewritten resolutions should be brought to conference, as this is contrary to the conference goals.***

Role of advisors at conference

While advisors and coaches are welcome to attend the sessions as observers, they should not intervene in the formal proceedings or participate in caucuses. Delegates may ask their advisors or coaches questions during a suspension of the meeting, but at no time should advisors or coaches take part in writing or editing the delegates' resolutions.

Electronics policy

In our attempt to foster environmental husbandry, delegates may use laptops, iPads, etc. during unmoderated caucus to access research completed *before* conference that is saved on the computer in lieu of bringing paper copies of this material. However, these devices may not be used during formal session. Internet access will not be available in the conference rooms, nor should delegates use their own internet plans on their tablets or phones at any time. If delegates have questions about resolution content, they are welcome to ask their chairs or rapporteurs for guidance.

Resolution writing

Students should formulate working papers during unmoderated caucuses. Delegates will be provided with resolution worksheets and paper for handwriting their working papers, and the rapporteurs will type these for the delegates once they are accepted as draft resolutions. If students wish to use their computers as they draft their working paper, they should bring a USB flash drive to transfer the files to the rapporteur's computer for final editing. However, laptops are neither required nor expected, and students who bring computers and type their working paper will not receive any special advantages in committee award scoring over those who handwrite their working papers.

2016 Position Paper Guidelines

A *position paper* is a short, succinct statement of your nation's stance on a given issue. Writing a position paper is a great way to prepare for conference, as it requires that you research and formulate responses in advance of conference. It also provides you with a plan that you can then share with other delegates at conference as you work on writing a resolution. A position paper is different from a speech, however. Delegates who simply read their position papers in committee will be less successful orators than those students who speak extemporaneously, using their speaking time to engage issues presented in other delegates' speeches and to communicate to the entire committee progress made in your working groups during unmoderated caucus.

Writing a position paper is optional, and it will have no bearing on the awards scoring at conference. If your school wishes to complete a position paper, it must be submitted by 5:00 PM (CST) on Wednesday, October 19, 2016 to baylorunivmun@gmail.com. Submissions will be accepted beginning October 1st.

Position Paper guidelines – Follow carefully to be eligible for awards

- **Format:** papers should be ½ to 1 single-spaced typed page per committee including any footnotes you choose to include. *If you write more, the judges will read only the first page.* Papers should use 11 or 12 pt. Times New Roman Font and 1 inch margins. In the header, include your school's name and the nation you are representing. Include headings within the document to identify the committee and topics addressed. Use page breaks in your document to separate committees. (See sample document template on our website for guidance.)
- **Content:** papers should state your nation's position on the issue. For example, discuss your nation's history on this issue, or any resolutions or conventions you have supported in the past. The information in these papers should not simply restate the information provided in the committee background guides. It should be a reflection of the research you have done on the nation you are representing.
- **Submission:** *Combine the papers for all of the committees into a single document per nation delegation.* Thus, if your school is representing multiple nations, you should submit one document *per nation* not one document per school or multiple documents per nation. Documents will be accepted in these formats: .doc, .docx, or .pdf. Submit position paper documents to: baylorunivmun@gmail.com by 5:00 PM (CST) on Wednesday, October 19. We will begin formally accepting submissions on October 1st and for papers sent on this date or following, you will receive a confirmation email within two business days. If you receive no confirmation email, this means there was an error with your submission.
- **Judging:** Awards will be given to the top three nations who submit a *complete* set of position papers. *A complete position paper must include positions for each of the topics for all of the committees your member nation is participating in at the conference to be eligible.* Check the matrix on our website for the list of committees each member nation participates in. Papers will be judged based upon these criteria:
 - *quality of analysis;
 - *demonstration of research excellence;
 - *consistency with your nation's past policies;
 - *recommending policies that are within the constraints of the UN;
 - *recommending policies that take into account the constraints of geopolitical blocs your nation is a member of (e.g. NATO, EU, OAS);
 - *and quality of the writing/presentation of the ideas, including grammar.
- **Academic Integrity/Citation:** The papers should be the work of the delegates. Plagiarism, including copying and pasting from internet sources, will result in disqualification for the entire delegation's position paper. A bibliography is not required, but students may cite specific documents using footnotes, if they use direct quotes. If footnotes are used, they will be counted as part of the page length.

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