
COLUMMUN 

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UNSC

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I. United Nations (UN)

The United Nations is an international organization founded in 1945. It has evolved over the years to keep pace with a rapidly changing world. But one thing has stayed the same: it remains the one place on Earth where all the world's nations can gather together, discuss common problems, and find shared solutions that benefit all of humanity.

The work of the United Nations covers five main areas:

- *Maintain International Peace and Security*
- *Protect Human Rights*
- *Deliver Humanitarian Aid*
- *Support Sustainable Development and Climate Action*
- *Uphold International Law*

II. The objective of COLUMUN

The COLUMUN is a role-play activity in which you will have the opportunity to represent a State Member of the UN in solving problems along with other members in order to maintain peace around the world and improve life quality. There are two very important things to consider:

1. The goal of each committee within the MUN is to work collaboratively to come up with a solution for the topic discussed in response to the challenges presented against the world or humanity.
2. Participants must assume the role of that country's diplomats and each delegation represents the views of "their" country, reflecting its national interests, rather than their own personal opinions on an issue.
3. Delegates research their country's position on selected topics, paying particular attention to their country's perspective on the topics to be discussed at the MUN.

III. UNSC

Council with the primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security. It is up to the Council to make the idea of collective security timely, effective, and dependable. During the first forty-five years of its existence, the Security Council's ability to act for the collective interest in peace and security was severely limited by the Cold War, which divided its permanent members. The Council was sidelined, but other UN bodies were activated at times, such as the Secretary-General (notably during the times of Dag Hammarskjöld) or the General Assembly (which actually set up the first UN peacekeeping operation, the UN Emergency Force [UNEF] in 1956). Conversely, the end of the Cold War has been followed by a dramatic increase in Council activity and, with that, an increased UN involvement in conflict management and peace processes. This development is reflected in the number and types of adopted resolutions, as well as in changes in the use of the veto. A quarter century after the end of the Cold War, it is possible to discuss overall trends in Security Council decisions and actions, to compare patterns since 1990 to those of the Cold War period, and to analyze formative decisions by the post-Cold War Security Council.

Main Features

- To maintain international peace and security in accordance with the principles and purposes of the United Nations.
- To investigate any dispute or situation which might lead to international friction.
- To recommend methods of adjusting such disputes or the terms of settlement.
- To formulate plans for the establishment of a system to regulate armaments.
- To determine the existence of a threat to the peace or act of aggression and To recommend what action should be taken.
- To call on Members to apply economic sanctions and other measures not involving the use of force to prevent or stop aggression.
- To take military action against an aggressor.

IV. Topics

Topic A: International conflicts and conflict resolution

ABOUT

When referring to internal conflict and conflict resolution, we talk about the process of finding a peaceful resolve to a situation achieved thanks to fears and needs instead of national interests, usually concerning recognition and sometimes autonomy of certain groups, with the objective of finding an agreement that satisfies all the parties involved.

BACKGROUND

There has been a wide variety of greatly impactful international conflicts, their resolutions going down on history.

World War II was the biggest and deadliest armed conflict in human history, involving more than 30 countries. It started in 1939 thanks to the invasion of Poland, even after several other previous invasions, and drove several countries to participate in the conflict, for example Great Britain and France. It lasted 6 long years until a peace treaty was signed in 1945, called the Paris peace treaties, the treaties included terms for surrender and disarmament, war reparations, recognition of human rights, territorial adjustments, etc.

Another occasion would be the Cold War.

The Cold War was a prolonged political conflict that started around 1947, one that never technically escalated to a military conflict. Being between the United States and the Soviet unions, as well as their respective allied nations, almost directly following the end of World War II.

Even if the Cold War itself never escalated to a full-on physical conflict, it did lead to several proxy violent confrontations, with both of the powers previously mentioned supporting opposite sides.

It ended in the early 1990's thanks to several economic, social and political key events, some of them being:

- The Fall of the Berlin Wall (1989)



- Reforms in the Soviet Union
- The Dissolution of the Soviet Union (1991)

The end of the Cold War is primordially marked by the dissolution of the Soviet Union, leading to a unipolar world order dominated by the United States.

ACTIONS OF UNSC

To deal with the problem, the UNSC has been a part when it comes to conflict resolution and taking part in international conflicts to an extensive amount of political and violent conflicts.

The UNSC has made recommendations, discussed, and made moves for the protection of civilians involved in dangerous international armed conflicts, taking active involvement in the making of peace treaties and petition for peace. Helping to achieve humanitarian ceasefire on several different occasions, often taking part in negotiation and monitoring ceasefire agreements in various regions of the world, normally in response to ongoing conflicts, helping with the release of hostages in those very same regions.

UNSC also participates in draft resolutions and decisions, in some cases for humanitarian relief, as well as “peace support operations”.

CAUSES

- *Economic interests* have also been a reason for both international conflict and conflict resolution, competition for resources, leadership over the worldwide market and trade routes are often seen as very valuable creating competition while economic disbalances can create tension.
- When groups inside of a particular country may feel marginalized or threatened because of their *ethnicity or religious beliefs*, a conflict may arise. Religious extremists may also support or influence the commencement of an international and violent conflict, being used to promote religious passion to motivate soldiers and helping them justify their perhaps non-justifiable actions.
- The Global rise of *terrorism and extremist ideologies* have been a constant issue which has doubled over the past few years, creating tension between



regions, especially when one nation's actions to combat terrorism spills into other countries that may support or harbor it.

- When *diplomacy fails*, small issues can escalate to full on international conflicts. Poor communication, no effort to reach an agreement or unwillingness to compromise can worsen any situation.

CONSEQUENCES

- Probably the most immediate and tragic consequence of international conflict is the *loss of human life*, whether it be big or small, it always leaves a long lasting scar on the country and its people. Civilian casualties and life threatening injuries are a result of violent international conflict, especially when it becomes a prolonged one. It often leaves trauma and psychological damage which can carry on for generations after a peace treaty is signed.
- Rarely does conflict not interrupt the flow of the economy, as well as commercial trades, manufacturing, and agriculture. This leads to a sharp *decline in the economic growth* of the nation itself. Breaking important global supply chains, leading to shortage of goods and inflation, which increases poverty drastically.
Infrastructure may also be affected, the annihilation of roads, bridges, schools and hospitals may especially cripple a nation's ability to recover financially, as well as affecting the citizens of the region, leading to long term economic stagnation.
- Countries involved in international conflict often find themselves being *diplomatically isolated*, with commercial and political sanctions imposed, ideologically divided and alliances fractured, with the nation sometimes being kicked out.

MEMBERS

The committee of the UNSC currently consists of 15 countries, 5 permanent and 10 non-permanent.



The permanent nations are: China, France, the UK, the United States and Russia.

The non-permanent nations are: “At present Angola (2016), Egypt (2017), Japan (2017), Malaysia (2016), New Zealand (2016), Senegal (2017), Spain (2016), Ukraine (2017), Uruguay (2017) and Venezuela (2016).”()

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Topic B: Terrorism and global security

ABOUT

Terrorism is defined as “the unlawful use of force or violence against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a Government or civilian population in furtherance of political or social objectives” (ojp,1987), defined as so by the FBI. Terrorism is something nations world wide have been dealing with for a worrying amount of time. Global security is known as the measures (whether it be social or political) taken by nations and political organizations to ensure the safety of the civilians habitating all the different nations.

BACKGROUND

There are several examples of terrorism affecting people, as well as having world wide consequences.

A very good and known occasion would be the 9/11 coordinated terrorist attack.

On the morning of September 11th 2001 “nineteen terrorists from al-Qaeda hijacked four commercial airplanes, deliberately crashing two of the planes”, into the upper floors of the twin towers. The passengers of the fourth plane, after learning about the attack, fought back causing the plane to crash into an empty field. The attack killed a total of 2,977 people, a tragedy whose memory lives up to today.

Thanks to this attack, new global security methods were taken, the ability to question and detain people or immigrants through airports suspected of terrorism was expanded, as well as high intelligence tools to detect such cases.

ACTIONS OF UNSC

As international peace and security is threatened by terrorist acts, the UNSC has been willingly taking action against it and developing new security methods to ensure the safety of the population.

The UNSC has personally dealt with several emerging terrorist threats, promoted international cooperation against it, given out sanctions, established the CTC (Counter-Terrorism Committee) and established resolution 1373 and 1540.



CAUSES

- *Extremist religious ideologies*, often rooted in distorted interpretations or views of religion or philosophical ideas, can be a main reason for a group's drive into committing an act of terrorism.
- When a group of people feels *politically oppressed, marginalized, or is in a constant conflict* with a nation's government; they may resort to violence to achieve their goals or express and show their frustration.
- Poverty, lack of opportunity, *desperation for resources, and economic instability* can make individuals vulnerable to extremist ideologies, often sold as a way to solve their hardships.

CONSEQUENCES

- Human Rights In response to terrorism, governments may enact new laws which may violate civil liberties and human rights as a way to protect themselves from it. Surveillance, curfew, and travel restrictions may be established and normalized.
- When good security measures are taken, peace and stability is often achieved. Nations are more likely to be involved in peaceful diplomatic talks rather than in warfare, contributing to global peace and the well being of the nations citizens.
- A definitive combat against terrorism can ensure a good economic growth. A secure environment fosters international trade, the cooperation of other nations, and a great deal of investments. Stability makes it easy for poverty to decrease and for job opportunities to be created.

MEMBERS

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V. Official Members of the committee

The committee of the UNSC currently consists of 15 countries, 5 permanent and 10 non-permanent.

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VI. How To Research Your Topic

It is important for you to find out information about your country on your own, always keep in mind that. The origin and purpose of your source are important. The COLUMUN is an opportunity for you to see what cooperation between states could achieve, and also figure out why the international community has not solved all the world's problems.

VII. Information Of Your Country

To know your country, investigate these aspects...

ASPECT	CHECK
Where is it in the world and what are its neighbors? Which countries are powerful in its region?	
What system of government does it have and who is its leader?	
Is its economy industrialized or mostly agricultural? What are the main sources of income?	
What is the role of religion in the state? How tolerant of different religions and beliefs is its government? Are its laws based on religion or is it secular?	
Are there minority groups? Are these groups treated differently to the majority?	
Are there civil conflicts? What is the government response to this?	
Are there any groups that are fighting to be independent or autonomous?	
What is the country's history?	
Is it a developed or developing country? Does it have adequate infrastructure? Does it struggle to feed its population? Does it owe money to other countries or is it able to be a lender?	
What is the state of its environment?	
What is the social and political position of women and girls?	
Has the country been guilty of human rights violations? What kinds and to what extent?	
Is it open to contacts with other countries? (tourism, business, schools, etc.)	
How does the government get on with other countries? Does it cooperate with or is it a member of international groups such as NATO, the EU, the African Union, etc.?	
Are there individual countries with which it has especially strong ties? Who are its competitors and allies? Major trading partners? Aid donors or recipients? Has it ever fought against another country?	



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