COMMITTEE GUIDE

DISEC

Disarmament and International Security Committee

Daniel Pardo & Laura Cristina Duque

2021

Contents:

1. Presidents' Letter

Dear delegates,

Welcome to CCBMUN, we are Daniel and Laura, and we are more than pleased to share this experience with you. For starters, we would like to highlight the importance of the model, as it is a platform that allows us to encounter different people, from different backgrounds to discuss current and important issues around the globe, giving us the opportunity to learn whilst representing different points of view.

Having everything mentioned above in mind, we expect great discussions to happen in our committee, as DISEC focuses on urgent security matters around the world, matters including terrorism, criminal activity, weapon disarmament, armed groups, amongst others. Therefore, each topic must be discussed in a profound way in which we can get to pertinent and realistic solutions. During debate time, we will be addressing modern issues with extensive historical backgrounds. We will address: the current security concerns happening in Mali, which ultimately have effects all across Northern Africa; the historical and current tensions between India and Pakistan and the repercussions this has and might have within the region; and finally, we will debate the possible ways in which modern weaponry can be regulated and whether it should be regulated at all. Taking all of this into account, we expect you to have done your research for each topic, as we hope to have a fluent debate in which every argument is backed up by proper knowledge.

Finally, we would like to thank you all for being our future delegates; remember that CCBMUN is not only a learning opportunity, but also a place in which you will make good memories and new friends. Any queries you have, we will be more than happy to answer before the model, and having said all that, see you at the debate!

Yours sincerely,

Daniel Pardo & Laura Cristina Duque
DISEC presidents

2. Committee Information

I. History

DISEC has always been one of the pillars of the United Nations, since its creation in the year 1945. It was the first commission of the General Assembly, and it was created with a specific set of purposes regarding security and political issues that different regions had after World War II, therefore, issues regarding peace and security have always been taken into account in DISEC. As a result, the committee is expected to work within its scope of disarmament and international security matters, and its principles of cooperation have led it to maintain international security and peace through its work with the different parties involved. It deals with the regulation of firearms and cooperative arrangements to strengthen the stability of different countries in conflict around the globe.

Due to its level of importance, DISEC was the first created committee in the UN, and it is one of the main committees at the general assembly of the United Nations. It meets every year in a conference which all 193 state members of the United Nations can attend.

II. Structure

When the committee meets, it is structured into three different stages that make up the whole conference. The first stage (1) is the general debate, which is an unmoderated debate in which the committee will discuss the topics on the agenda for around 8 days. The second state (2) is the thematic discussions, a stage in which the delegations will discuss around the seven thematic clusters of DISEC which are: nuclear weapons; weapons of mass destruction; outer space disarmament concerns; conventional weapons; regional disarmament and security; international security; and disarmament machinery. During stage 2, the conference hears testimonies from high-ranking officers well versed in the area of arms control, and the delegates participate in interactive panel discussions with them. Finally, in the third stage (3) the committee takes action on drafts, as it votes on any resolution that has come up during the debates.

III.   Special Procedures (if applicable)

There are no special procedures in this committee, besides the fact it is the only committee entitled to verbatim records.

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3. Simulation: *Destabilization of Mali*

I. History/Context

The Republic of Mali, located in Western Africa is a country that has had an increase in terrorist attacks over the past years, leaving the government in an unstable position. After gaining independence from France in 1960, Mali suffered decades of instability. In the country's northern side, Tuareg and northern Arab groups rebelled against the government in 1960, 1990 and 2006. The aim was to get authority from the region they named "Azawad". Islamist militant groups took advantage of the government's inability to maintain control over Mali's northern territory by attacking both the government and international security forces and threatening to destabilize neighbouring countries. After 23 years of one-party rule in Mali, Malians successfully got over this stage in 1991 through peaceful protests.

At that time, the country had some similarities to today; the north was in the midst of a Tuareg rebellion, as the economy was decreasing due to a wave of IMF austerity programmes that hit the middle and low class particularly hard. By the end of March in 1991 the opposition organized a nationwide strike and soldiers instead of using fire, joined the crowds. As the military deserted, Colonel Amadou Toumani Touré led his paratroopers to arrest the president. He then proceeded to suspend the constitution and called for a multi-party election within the next 2 months. The new form of government brought the place to peace negotiations and the northern conflict died down in 1992, as a result of new governments and Tuareg separatists' negotiations.

The country lived through a time of stable democracy up until 2012. In 2012 there was a coup d'état because the soldiers felt they were not properly equipped to confront Tuareg dissenters. After the 2012 coup, democratic norms eroded and the citizens' trust in the government was lost; this was led by Ibrahim Boubacar Keïta, ex-prime minister. The government postponed the elections multiple times, citing insecurity in the middle and north territories. The current instability in Mali started in 2012 when a Tuareg separatist group, National Movement for the Liberation of Azawad (MNLA) rebelled for a 4th time in the north. This group was backed by Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), and Ansar Dine, the movement for unity and jihad in West Africa.
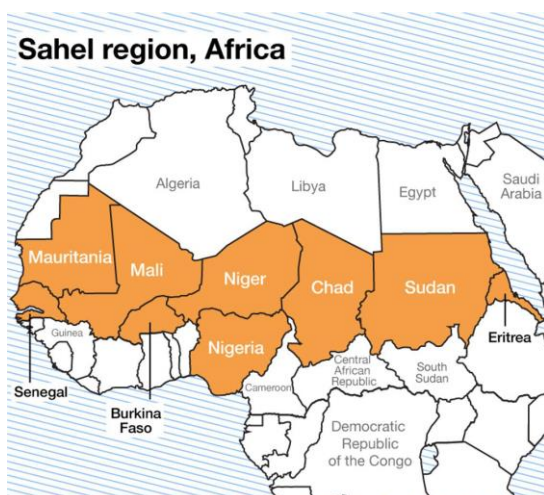
They took the northern territory. In March, 2012 president Amadou was deposed in a military coup carried out by the Malian army as a response to the government's reaction to the rebellion. Infighting and confusion created by the void of power in the capital of Bamako enabled the MNLA and Islamist groups to seize control and power in these territories quickly. By April of that year, these groups had total power and had declared the independence of the northern territories.

http://bamada.net/nord-du-mali-le-mnla-et-allies-bientot-isoles

The alliance between MNLA and the Islamist groups did not last long; in June, 2012 MNLA broke relations with Ansar Dine and Al Qaeda because of their wish to impose the Sharia law in the north. Islamists gained control over Timbuktu and Gao, destroying shrines and imposing Islamic rule. Islamic groups wanted to push to the centre of the country, but they were stopped by the French military, who in January, 2013, at the request of the Malian government, deployed ground troops and launched an air campaign to push back the militants. Operation Barkhane was of great importance, and France was an important player in the conflict; since July 2014 3,000 troops have been deployed to protect civilians and help the local military. The United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali, MINUSMA UN's help to stabilize Mali, was also created to combat extremism in April 2013. The UN peacekeepers that remain deployed in Mali exceed 13,000. This mission has been called the most dangerous mission because of the high number of attacks on peacekeepers.

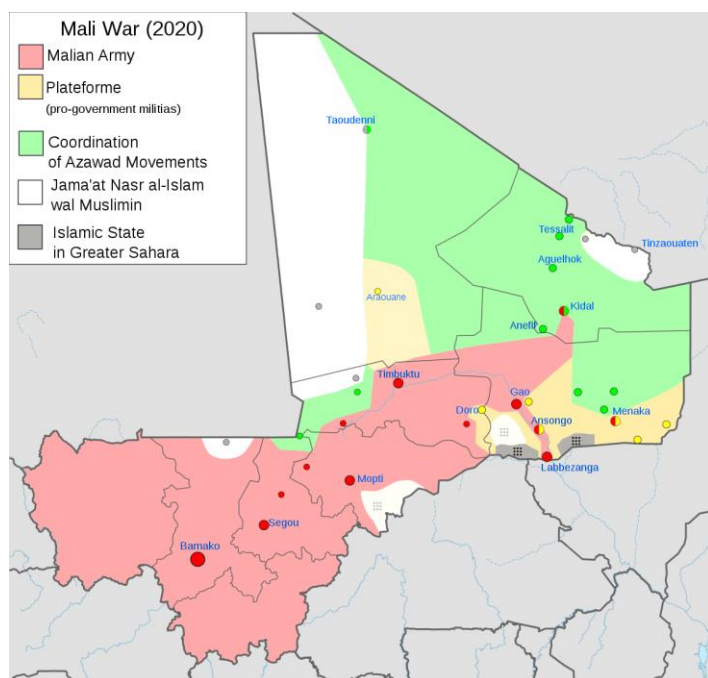https://theconversation.com/sahel-region-africa-72569

Despite the numerous international interventions to combat the militants, they have spread around the Sahel. In February, 2017 France and the group of *five for the Sahel* (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger) created the G5 Sahel forces. This was a 5,000-strong troop that fought

militant groups with the mandate to move across Sahel region borders. The multinational force started operating in October 2017. The US army also has an increased presence in the Sahel region, having at least 1,500 troops and a military base for north and west Africa.

II.   Current Situation

The protesters of Mali, who are those opposed to Keitas political position are led by a group of organizations called June 5 movement - rally of Patriotic Force (M5-RFP), This group is formed by Keita's (Mali's ex-prime minister) political opposition, followers of Imam Mahmoud Dicko and a network of civil society organizations. The elections were held in March, but they had a low participation of just 7.5%. Malians and international observers analysed that this was an effect of COVID-19. Apart from security concerns, the opposition leader, Soumalia Cisse, was kidnapped and was only released 6 months later.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mali_War

Manifestants were shaken by the fact that the constitutional court overturned election results for 31 legislative seats.

Keita, known as IBK, deployed security forces to disperse manifestants, leaving 11 of them dead. After a July 11 demonstration, IBK and his government made some concessions because what they had done did not deter the movement. The president agreed to have; a new list of judges for the constitutional court, as well as to have effectively constrained his son to leave from a capable parliamentary committee, and finally said he would consider composing a

power-sharing government. However, the June 5 Movement held solid to its request that IBK leave, in spite of these concessions.

For many Malians, IBK symbolizes government corruption, international interference and inaction, ongoing instability and a lack of infrastructure, health and education. He has come to represent the loss of lives of civilians of Mali and, furthermore, to represent bad governance. But the dismissal of IBK won't necessarily solve any of the political, social, economic and security challenges either.

ECOWAS (The Economic Community of West African States) was offering help in the latest coup (2021) but Malians are not very likely to welcome their intervention. Even though there are many concerns about this country's state, it did manage to switch governmental forms from military coups to democracies in a non-violent manner

in 1991 and in 2012. The coup of August 18 was seen as peaceful and quick, the national committee for the salvation of the people (NCSP) agreed to organize elections within the next 9 months; however, on August 24 it was modified to 3 years. During this time, they would review the bases of the country and at the same time coordinate with the international security deployments in Mali.

Malians should remain perseverant about having a democratic change, and regional and international partners can help by not only focusing on security, but mostly on having good governance.

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In late May, 2021 Mali's military carried out another coup against the government; this time, they arrested and detained interim president Bah Ndaw and prime minister Moctar Ouane. These two leaders sat at the helm of a transitional government organized after a military coup in August of 2020. Colonel Assimi Goita, leader of both coups, assumed power and added that there would soon be an announcement as to who the new prime minister would be.

The African Union (AU) and the Economic community of West African States (ECOWAS) have suspended Mali. The AU has threatened the military if they don't let go of the power and yield to a civilian-led transitional government. ECOWAS demanded that Mali have an eight-month transitional government established in August. This timeline would set the elections for February, 2022, but this is now in jeopardy because of the military's most recent seizure of power. The coup that occurred in May of 2021 is the fifth coup that has occurred in Mali since their independence in 1960. In August 2020 Goita led a military coup after many protests against the last prime minister Keita. ECOWAS and many more regional organizations created a civilian led transitional government, after Ndaw and Ouane took power ECOWAS lifted economic sanctions and the AU lifted the suspension of Mali.

Despite the presence of international and national security, violent attacks and reprisal killings increased in Mali last year, and many major terrorist networks and militant groups threaten Mali's stability. Attacks against MINUSMA are still active. In June 2021, France announced that Operation Barkhane, which has been in place in Mali since 2013, is coming to an end and will have another focus, which is the Sahel region in order to counter the terrorism there.

III.   Key Points of the Debate

- The effects of Mali's destabilization on the country's national security
- The international/ regional effects of Mali´s situation
- Terrorist groups and criminal activity in the region
- Political rooted issues and their effect on Mali's current issue
- Recurring military coups in the country
- Effects on citizens in Mali and surrounding countries

IV.   Participating Organisms

- African Union
- G5 Sahel forces
- MNLA
- Jihad
- MINUSMA
- ECOWAS

V.   Guiding Questions

1. What is your country's current relationship with the Republic of Mali? (economic, political, etc.)
2. How has your country contributed towards the goal of de-escalating Mali's conflict, if at all?
3. Has your country dealt with a similar situation? If so, what was your country's course of action?
4. Are there any counter-terrorism laws or strategies in your country? If so, explain them.
5. Has your country ever suffered the effects of terrorism in a neighbouring state? (refugee crisis, economic downfall, etc.) If so, what has your country done about that issue?
6. Has a political crisis ever led to the possible destabilization of your country? If so, what

did your country do?

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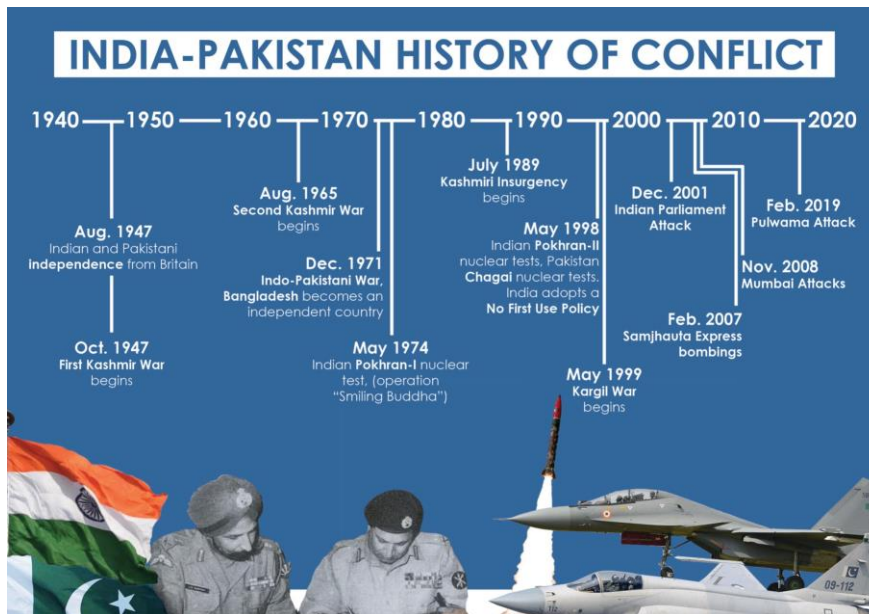## 4. Topic 1: *Addressing the Existing Pakistani-Indian Tensions*

I. History/Context

India and Pakistan, two nations located in Southern Asia, are connected by a border of 3,323 km, therefore, a huge piece of land in each nation has its "rival" as their main neighbour. Historically, the border between these two nations has been the root of many of the tensions between India and Pakistan, tensions that have led to serious conflicts based on territorial disputes. These disputes have led to attacks and counter-attacks and economic problems. The search for greater land-based power has been the main cause of the violence between these nations.

The Indo-Pakistani conflict first started over the disputed region known as Kashmir, a 220,200 km2 piece of land located between Pakistan and India. The region is located in the northernmost point of India with predominantly mountainous terrain and narrow valleys, as it sits in the Himalayan foothills. It also has borders with China.

Kashmir has been a disputed   territory between the two nations since the partition of the Indian subcontinent in 1947 (After WWII), right after the United Kingdom withdrew from its colonies in South Asia. Later on, the region was divided into two main areas, the Indian-administered area and the Pakistani-administered area.   However, Pakistan viewed Kashmir as a natural extension of its country, whilst India wanted full access to the rest of the territory. In 1948, after the partition of the areas, there was

https://www.bbc.com/news/world-south-asia-11693674

localized warfare as a result of the territorial ambitions of India and Pakistan, and it got to the point that the United Nations had to intervene, ending the conflict 1949 with a cease fire; however, the root of the issue was never addressed properly. As a result of the year-long conflict, the Line of Control was created, a "border" that neither of the countries recognized as an official boundary, but which has been in place since the year 1949 as a way of bringing more order and peace to the region. Unfortunately, it has turned out to be the epicentre of

INDIA-PAKISTAN HISTORY OF CONFLICT

1940 — 1950 — 1960 — 1970 — 1980 — 1990 — 2000 — 2010 — 2020

July 1989
Kashmiri Insurgency begins

Aug. 1965
Second Kashmir War begins

Dec. 2001
Indian Parliament Attack

Feb. 2019
Pulwama Attack

Aug. 1947
Indian and Pakistani **Independence** from Britain

May 1998
Indian Pokhran-II nuclear tests, Pakistan **Chagai** nuclear tests. India adopts a **No First Use Policy**

Nov. 2008
Mumbai Attacks

Dec. 1971
Indo-Pakistani War, **Bangladesh** becomes an independent country

Feb. 2007
Samjhauta Express bombings

Oct. 1947
First Kashmir War begins

May 1974
Indian **Pokhran-I** nuclear test, (operation "Smiling Buddha")

May 1999
Kargil War begins

https://armscontrolcenter.org/history-of-conflict-in-india-and-pakistan/

violence, as both nations open fire at each other mainly at the Line of Control. It is the place where the two nations clash the most since the region is divided, making this an old political and social conflict, but, predominantly, a culturally-rooted conflict.

Since the 3rd century BC, Kashmir has been under Muslim rule, whilst at the same time being an epicentre for Hindu culture. It has been claimed unofficially by both populations for thousands of years, up until 1947, when both sides wanted an official and sole claim over the land of Kashmir. It is important to highlight that the most active part of the Kashmir region is the Kashmir Valley, an area populated by a Muslim majority, but located in the Indian-administered part of the Kashmir region; this has caused a lot of tensions, as Pakistan gives this is a main reason behind their claim over Kashmir. However, despite the 1947 partitions, the resolutions to try to achieve peace in the region were not effective.

After these failed resolutions, in the year 1962, China came into the picture by making incursions into the region; this was because they had military interests there. This ultimately caused India and Pakistan to go into armed conflict, in order to show their power over the region as China become a concern for both parties. Eventually, the conflict came to an end in 1965, after alliances were made between Pakistan and China.

Not long after the 1962 events, another short war erupted in the region between India and Pakistan. This was because leaders of the region from both parties were arrested and murdered, resulting in a situation that ultimately led to an increase in the tensions between these nations. After the conflict in 1962, another agreement was created to try and end the conflict in a peaceful way, but no resolutions were made in which both nations felt satisfied,

leading to yet another conflict, known as the India-Pakistan War, in 1972. This war ultimately led to the creation of Bangladesh as a nation, and to the creation of another peace accord between the nations. There was a precarious a sense of peace in Kashmir up to the year 1979, until the Pakistan Prime Minister at the time, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, was arrested and executed by the military of that country, causing major outrage from Pakistan civilians at the Line of Control. This execution sparked the Kashmir conflict to flare up once again.

On a different note, it is important to highlight how, over the years following the conflicts between Pakistan and India, China's role became more prominent in the region, as it "teamed up" in favour of Pakistan, to the point where Pakistan ceded a

http://www.albiladdailyeng.com/china-says-willing-play-constructive-role-kashmir/

portion of its administered area in Kashmir to China. This gave China control over 1⁄5 of the Kashmir region, therefore putting India in a position of disadvantage.

Later on, in the late 2000´s, China reinforced its partnership with the Pakistan-administered Kashmir even more; it reached out to Muslim leaders in their area, whilst creating and enforcing different and harsher visa controls for the populations of Indian-Administered Kashmir. Since the year 2009, the Chinese military has been restricting their mobility through Chinese territory and Chinese-administered Kashmir, giving an advantage to Pakistan and strengthening their relationship.

Taking everything into consideration, there was immense outrage from each side, creating several movements in the 1980´s claiming either the merger of Kashmir to Pakistan or the independence of Kashmir from India and Pakistan. These movements caused India to create a stronger military presence at the Line of Control to guarantee its political presence over its side of the region, and since the 1980´s it has continued to show this kind of presence. The lack of democratic processes in the region led to the creation of various militant groups,
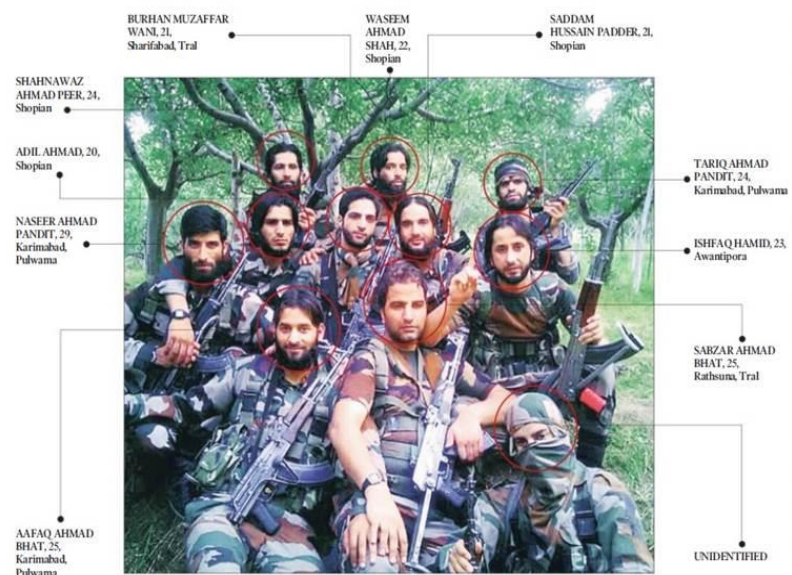
whose purpose was to fight against the Indian Union Government as they were against their military presence at the Line of Control. By the 1990´s, it had grown into an insurgency against India; although the intensity of the fighting lessened by the mid 1990's, violence still erupted sporadically in the region.

The conflict intensified in different ways around the year 1999, as there were serious violent events between India and Pakistan in the Kargil region of Kashmir, which is a region of Kashmir that is divided in two parts by the Pakistan-administered area and the India-administered area. The Kargil, was the site of serious border conflicts as, from that entry point, Pakistani militants infiltrated the Indian-administered zone, which caused Pakistan to increases artillery at the border and India to engage in a bloody combat against the militants, who had created camps in the Indian zone. The Indian government was

able to take back that territory, thanks to a cease fire in the year 2004.

This territorial dispute has been the root of other serious issues, as it has caused both nuclear weapons-owning nations to threaten each other. Terrorist activity has been on the rise, especially at the Line of Control, and free trade has always been a continuous challenge between the bordering nations. This affects the whole region´s economic safety, and also causes concern that this historic rivalry will end up in modern warfare.

II.   Current Situation

Up to the beginning of the 21st century, India and Pakistan began to have a more cordial relationship, allowing limited traveling between the Line of Control to happen, and some trading of goods across the border between the nations. Up to the first decade of this century,

the situation was looking pretty optimistic for the relationship of the two nations. However, around the year 2010, different violent scenarios began to pop up periodically in the region, especially at the Line of Control. In this year, violent protests began at the east of Kashmir due to claims over land by farmers. Hindu pilgrims claimed Pakistan fertile land and vice versa, creating violent clashes among these groups in which the military had to get involved. There was also a surge of attacks against Pakistan farmers from the Indian army, as the Indian army claimed that they were actually undercover militant groups at the Line of Control, not farmers. India has a history of dealing with infiltrators at the Line of Control, therefore, this was a main concern for them, but an investigation carried out by the international community in recent years, came to the conclusion that the Indian soldiers lured the villagers to the Line of Control in order for them to end their lives in a cold blooded way, highlighting how the conflict is still highly violent, even in this modern era.
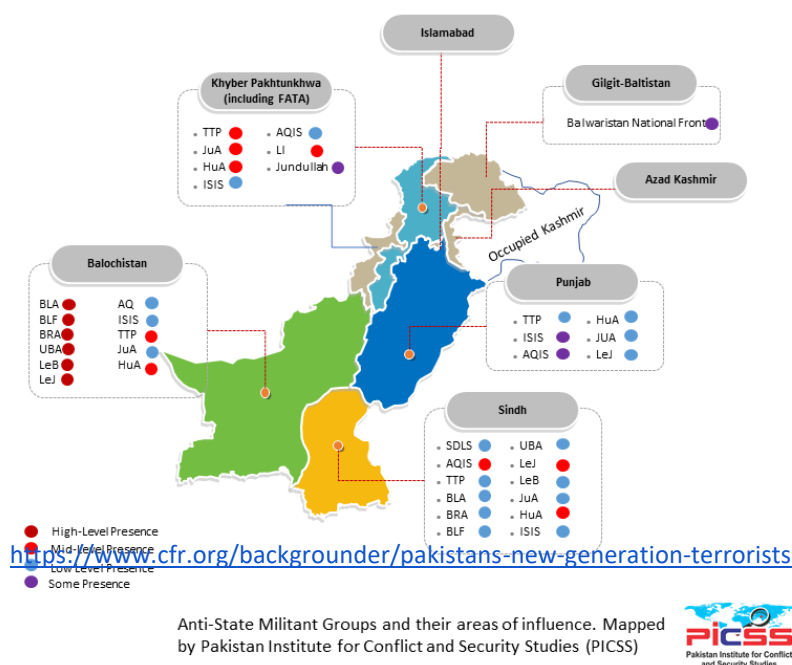

https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/well-have-a-chief-minister-soon-jammu-and-kashmir-bjp-chief-2113080

Another form of instability has recently surged in the region: violent protests. This is occurring because the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), a major political party in India, wanted to push "Hindu-ness" in the Kashmir region as an official governmental policy, and consequently pushing for the unification of Kashmir to India. The BJP is the largest member of the Kashmir Legislative Assembly and has a unity government larger than its competitor, the political party known as PDP (Jammu and Kashmir Peoples Democratic Party). The PDP is campaigning for self-rule in Kashmir, showing us the clashing of opinions within one state. The strong presence of the BJP in Kashmir, a largely Muslim populated region, created an uprising, causing riots and violent protests against these Indian ideals and Indian officials. In the days before the riots, Indian forces had killed the commander of an Islamic militant group who was against

the state of India in Kashmir. Following the violent protests, the BJP established a more assertive military presence in the region and had a crackdown on militant groups, which, in turn, caused more casualties.

Frictions between India and Pakistan were almost at their highest around 2019 as, late in that year, a suicide bomber killed around 40 policemen at India´s Central Reserve Police Force in Kashmir. This was one of the most deadly attacks on Indian security forces in the whole Pakistani-Indian Conflict; it caused a huge response from the Indian Army and the BJP political party, as there were upcoming elections for people to have their say on Kashmir. India sent fighting jets across the Line of Control and shot missiles at Pakistan militant training camps, which resulted in Pakistan, the day after that, shooting down two Indian jets and capturing one of the pilots.
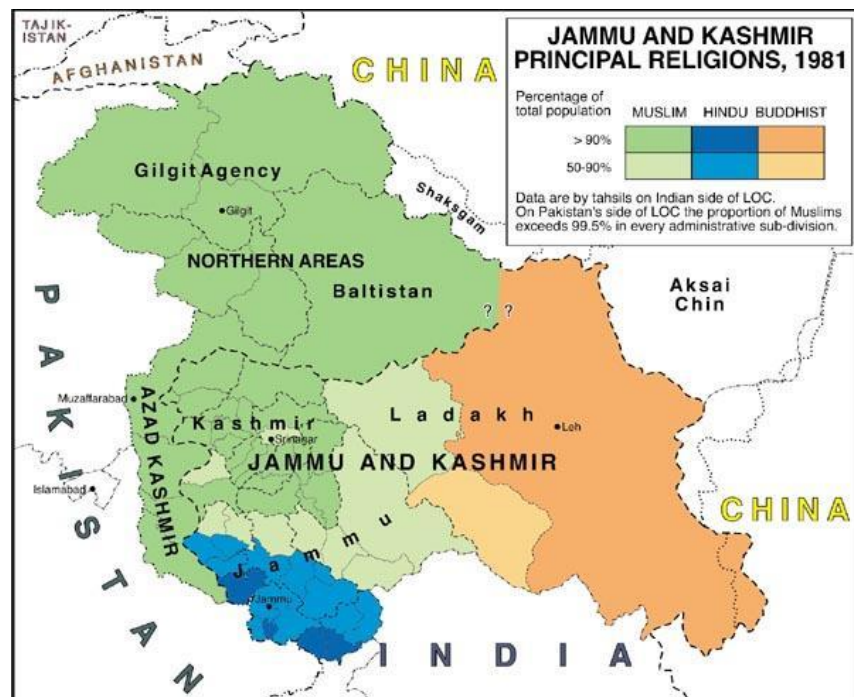

https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/pakistans-new-generation-terrorists

Anti-State Militant Groups and their areas of influence. Mapped by Pakistan Institute for Conflict and Security Studies (PICSS)

All of these tensions have caused Pakistan to issue crackdown operations on the militant groups in its own country, showing us how the tensions between Pakistan and India are also affected by non-state actors like militant groups and the BJP (which eventually won by a landslide the elections in India). Once elected, the BJP continued to push *"Hindu-ness"* in the Kashmir region, which upset the Muslims residing in Kashmir. The Indian government ended up creating a permanent military presence in the region to formalize its control over the territory, therefore, applying India's constitution in that area.

Currently, the most violent area of the Kashmir Region is the India-administered area, which has been ravaged by militant groups, a fight that has taken up to tens of thousands of lives.

What makes the conflict with the militant groups even more aggravating for the Indo-Pakistani relationships is the fact that India continuously accuses Pakistan of backing up the militant groups (who come from Pakistan). This is an accusation which Pakistan denies, and it is not clear what the truth of the matter is.

On an even more recent note, it is important to take into account India's article 370 in their national law and constitution, which is a clause created to give the Kashmir people in the India-administered area special power and autonomy over Kashmir. It allows them to create their own constitution, their own flag, and their own way of managing internal affairs. What caused controversy is that fact that India revoked and eliminated this clause (which has lasted more than 7 decades), and therefore the status of Kashmir within India, in order to gain more national control over their

part of the region. This resulted in a lot of disturbances as the India-administered area has a mainly Muslim population. This change to the constitution was put into place by the BJP, as it was one of the political promises the party had made before the elections. Just as this measure was put into action by the Indian government, they also shut down the internet in their part of Kashmir, public gatherings were cancelled and the military was sent into the region. This was supposedly due to new terrorist threats and the presence of militant groups, because the new measures had caused revolts among the different Muslim groups in the region, who make up more than the 60% of Kashmir´s population. Kashmir is the only Indian state with a Muslim majority.

As soon as the news was known, Pakistan expressed its rejection of India´s actions, which they deemed to be illegal. They urged India to do everything in their power to halt the elimination of article 370, but this didn't happen, so Pakistan suspended trade and diplomatic ties with India for a period of time. In reply, India simply said that the matter was an internal affair of their country. Muslims in the region felt that the move attempted to reduce the role of Muslims in Indian politics, as it would increase the number of Indians from others states settling in Kashmir, and eventually it would reduce the percentage of Muslims in the region. This led to a strong feeling among Muslims in India-administered Kashmir that it should become independent from India or join to Pakistan.

Now that the Indian-administered region of Kashmir has been reorganized, thanks to the removal of article 370 of the Indian constitution, the Indian zone of Kashmir is now divided into two areas/states, Kashmir and Jammu, which of course, both fall under the Kashmir region territory. Due to this reorganization, China, who also administers part of Kashmir in the Ladakh area (a disputed region with India), accused the Indian government of undermining China's sovereignty over the territory, causing tension to go beyond only Pakistan and India, and bringing in China. This scaled to the point where China and Pakistan threatened to take India to the International Criminal Court and the Security Council. However, Indian still insists that the matter in an internal affair, as it does not change the borders and the Line of Control. On the other hand, Pakistan argues that everything done within Kashmir affects the region as a whole.

Now, the United States has offered to act as a mediator, but this offer was rejected by the parties involved. Taking all of the events into account, the conflict between India and Pakistan remains unchanging, and is a security concern for the entire region due to the fact that it is an epicentre for terrorist activity, militant groups, ethnic groups rivalry, religious conflicts and extremism – all caught between two nuclear weapons-owning states. This means that Kashmir is not only an interstate issue, it is a conflict which raises concerns at an international level.

III.   Key Points of the Debate

- International security concerns
- Impacts of the rivalry on a social, economic and political level (locally, regionally and globally)
- Terrorism in the Kashmir region and its impact on an international scale
- Security concerns and living standards of those living in Kashmir
- The role of the military in Kashmir
- De-escalation of the tensions between the nations
- The role of foreign actors (besides India and Pakistan) in the Kashmir region
- Addressing nuclear threats caused by the conflict over this region

IV.   Participating Organisms

- Security Council
- BJP
- Kashmir National Assembly
- Indian Union Government

V.   Guiding Questions

1. Has your country been involved in the conflict? If so, how?
2. Has your nation ever been involved in a territorial dispute? Explain.
3. How is your delegation connected with India and Pakistan? Socially, economically, etc.
4. What are your nation's interests in the disputed region?
5. How can this conflict/tensions be resolved? What can your nation do?
6. How can/are the tensions affect your nation?

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Topic 2: *Regulation of Modern Weaponry*

I.   History/Context

Humans have constantly been in a state of evolution, therefore, improving the way we produce food, resources, energy, materials, and in this specific situation, improving the way we produce and create weapons, increasing their effectiveness in exponential ways, all with the sole purposes of defending ourselves, attacking enemies or protecting allies. Taking into account that any event that happened more than 10 years ago is considered history, we can apply that same logic to weapons; modern weapons are viewed as a specific niche of weaponry considered as lethal devices that were introduced very recently onto the market. In this particular case, we are talking about armed conflict types of weapons, those that can have an immediate impact on a region, as they have the capability to destroy large areas.

Over the decades, innovative and modern weapons have been introduced, posing a new threat for the international community; among these we can find weapons of mass destruction such as nuclear weapons, chemical weapons, biological weapons and explosive weapons. Nuclear weapons and their pathway towards regulation will be used here as an example, as they were once considered "modern weaponry", having a huge impact on international politics and conflicts around the globe.
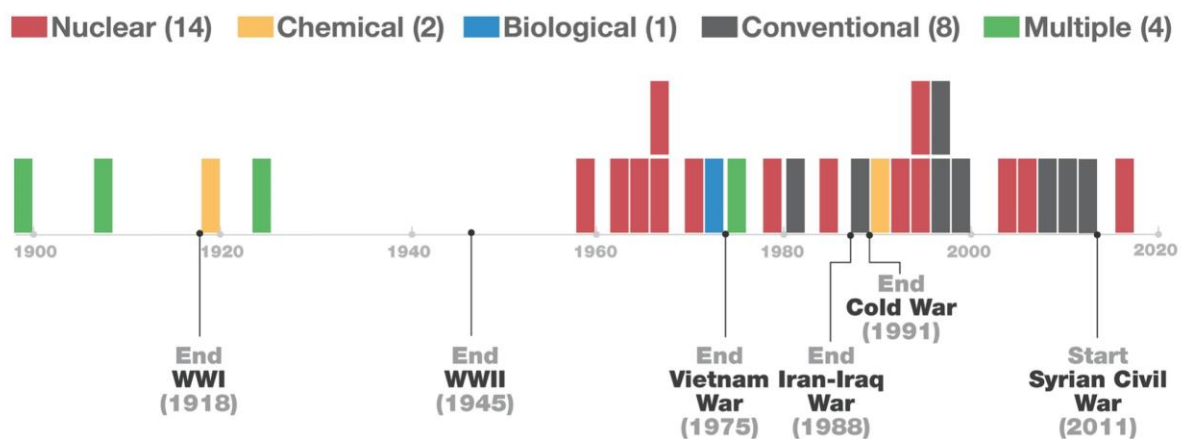
The first nuclear weapons test was carried out on July 16th, 1945, in New Mexico in a desert north of Alamogordo. The code name was "Trinity". The test was performed with a plutonium implosion-type device, which released energy equivalent to 22 kilotons of TNT, far more powerful than any weapon ever used before. If we compare kilotons, the Hiroshima bomb had 15 Kilotons that alone destroyed 13 square km. In 1945, this 22 kilotons bomb could have destroyed almost double the area, proving that regulation of nuclear weapons was not being considered at the time. How would they control any external damage?

Nuclear weapons have been around since the year 1945, following global tensions, and it took only 10 years for different world leaders to call for an end to the proliferation of this kind of advanced weapon of mass destruction; this led to the creation of agencies such as the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), whose purpose and mission was to oversee the

peaceful use and creation of nuclear technology, nuclear weapons included. The creation of agencies such as the IAEA were one of the methods to regulate weapons of mass destruction as, even though each nation was still independent when it came to the weapons they owned, the agency was able to hold nations accountable for their actions.
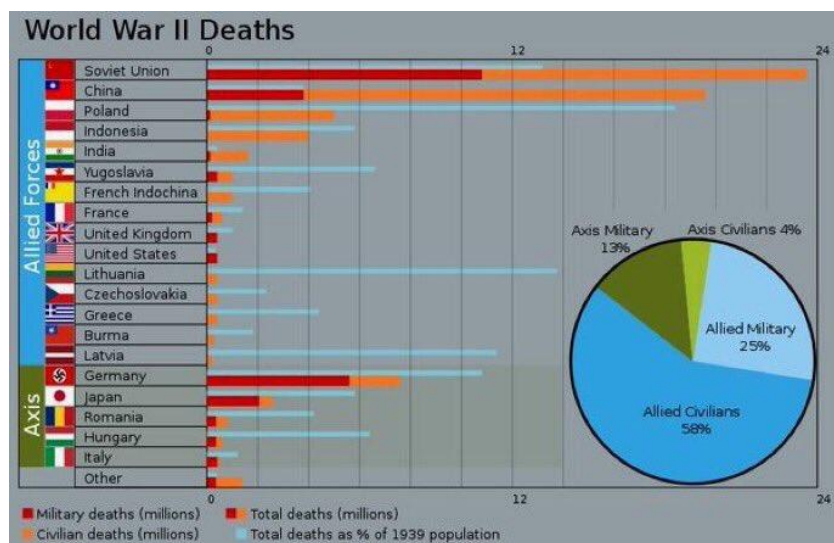
Global disarmament treaties

Over the past century, dozens of treaties have been signed to regulate the use and stockpiling of nondiscriminating weapons in war.

Nuclear (14)   Chemical (2)   Biological (1)   Conventional (8)   Multiple (4)

1900   1920   1940   1960   1980   2000   2020

End
Cold War
(1991)

End
WWI
(1918)

End
WWII
(1945)

End
Vietnam
War
(1975)

End
Iran-Iraq
War
(1988)

Start
Syrian Civil
War
(2011)

Source: UNODA

https://www.aljazeera.com/features/2017/10/28/can-the-world-be-free-of-weapons

Nuclear weapons were seen as a modern threat, especially after WWII, which caused other sorts of weapons to be analyzed as a threat that could play a huge role in modern warfare back then. However, it is important to take into account one of the main reasons behind

World War II Deaths

Soviet Union
China
Poland
Indonesia
India
Yugoslavia
French Indochina
France
United Kingdom
United States
Lithuania
Czechoslovakia
Greece
Burma
Latvia
Germany
Japan
Romania
Hungary
Italy
Other

Allied Forces
Axis

Military deaths (millions)   Total deaths (millions)
Civilian deaths (millions)   Total deaths as % of 1939 population

Axis Military 13%   Axis Civilians 4%
Allied Military 25%
Allied Civilians 58%

https://twitter.com/xruiztru/status/1092387581642317824

the fact that nuclear weapons and modern weapons of mass destruction have gone through such a regulation process is that these types of weapons violate several international rules that would be considered as "war crimes", for example, the rule of not directing attacks against civilians; anyone who uses them will face the consequences at the International Criminal Court. The fear of the proliferation of these kinds of modern weapons have compelled world leaders to pursue treaties regarding their use. Some examples of treaties are: the Non-Proliferation Treaty (1963); the Seabed Treaty (1971); and the Biological Weapons Convention (1972). Treaties like these have the goal of controlling the weapons at an international level and also avoiding the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. However, in world history that has never happened to a full extent.

Moving forward, it is important to know that regulation is a code language for control; in this case we mean the control of weapons, more specifically, modern weapons. Before WWII in 1945, the term "weapons control" or "weapon regulation" wasn't really known or used, as it was simply

reduced to the term "disarmament", a term that refers to the reduction or the complete abolishment of the military capacities of a nation or organization. In contrast, "regulation" encompasses a more complete approach, as it refers to the creation of strategies to reduce the dangers of conflicts breaking out due to weapons, and it encourages transparency through the monitoring and inspection of the weapons of the parties involved in a conflict.
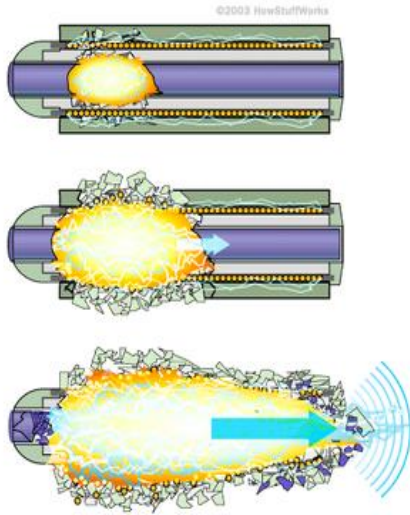
This term came into power during the Cold War, as it emphasises transparency in the weaponry of nations, a technique that could be applied between the United States and the Soviet Union at the time to reduce the tensions between these nations; especially taking into

account that during this time, new and modern weaponry, such as the F4 Phantom, a modern bombing aircraft, was introduced as a way of making threats between the different blocks.

Later on, modern weaponry wasn't only bombs and missiles but also other types of science; chemistry came into the picture when chemical weapons became popularized for the use of war, which of course, violated international agreements. Instead of being regulated, these were banned at the 1997 Chemical Weapons Convention, highlighting the fact that it is important to know the difference between those armaments that can have a pathway to regulation and those that do not.

II.   Current Situation

After years of change and evolution of weaponry, we have developed some modern weapons which are extremely dangerous if not regulated. As an example of how weaponry has developed, we can evaluate the electromagnetic pulse (EMP) weapon also called e-bombs. These are weapons designed to take advantage of the dependency we all have on energy. e-bombs would not only cut off electricity in a small area, but would also destroy most machines that use electricity. Generators would not work, cars wouldn't run, and phone calls would not be possible. In a matter of seconds, a big enough e-bomb could thrust an entire city back 200 years, or cripple a military unit. These artefacts are designed to overwhelm electrical circuitry with an intense electromagnetic field. An e-bomb could effectively neutralize: vehicle control systems; targeting systems on the ground and on missiles and bombs; communications systems; navigation systems; and long and short-range sensor systems. Since nowadays everything relies on technology, this would create chaos in seconds. Electromagnetic Pulse weapons (EMP) could be useful in an invasion of countries such as Iraq. This is due the effectiveness that the bomb would have on neutralizing bunkers. Most of Iraq's underground bunkers are hard to reach with conventional bombs and missiles. An e-bomb could pass through the ground, knocking out the bunker's lights, ventilation systems, communications and even electric doors. The bunker would be completely uninhabitable, creating chaos.

While EMP weapons are generally considered non-lethal, they could kill people if these are directed with a clear target. If an EMP knocked out a hospital's electricity, for example, every patient on life support would die immediately. An EMP weapon could also neutralize vehicles, including aircraft, causing catastrophic accidents.

https://science.howstuffworks.com/e-bomb.htm

Regulations should be implemented on fabrication and sales as well as use. If not, guerrilla groups as well as militia groups could implement these harmful artefacts for their benefit. Countries such as China, United States, Russia and North Korea possess these weapons, but they have not actually been used in any attack. It was used to assess its range of destruction in the United States, and it caused electrical damage over 900 miles.

https://www.sandboxx.us/blog/what-exactly-are-hypersonic-missiles-and-why-do-they-matter/

Hypersonic missiles are another example of modern weapons, Hypersonic weapons are especially useful at the onset of battle, when they can attack an opponent's high-value targets,

including air defence radars, fighter bases, missile batteries, and command-and-control facilities. The inhibition of those facilities early on in the conflict could help facilitate the way for follow-on attacks by air, sea, and ground forces. Yet, attacks such as these could be interpreted by the targeted state as a "first strike" by the enemy, and trigger the early use of their own weapons of mass destruction.

All three major powers (China, USA and Russia) explored very similar applications of hypersonic technologies; the variant being determining how to do it in a strategic way. The United States primarily seeks weapons for use in a regional, non-nuclear conflict, and Russia emphasizes the use of hypersonic weapons for both conventional and nuclear applications.

The United States previously considered hypersonic weapons because of their ability to attack an enemy's high-value targets, including order-and-control frameworks and portable rocket batteries, without having to utilise atomic warheads. This was the first reason for the worldwide strike mission defined as "providing integrated global strike planning and command and control support to deliver rapid, extended range, precision kinetic (nuclear and conventional) and non-kinetic (elements of space and information operations) effects in support of theatre and national objectives.", first reported in 2003.

Since President Barack Obama reported a "pivot to the Pacific", (a concentration on economic and military issues in the region) in 2011, U.S. military organizers have looked for cutting-edge weapons to counter what they have seen as upgraded Chinese protective military capacities. China has been building up an arsenal of many middle-reach long-range missiles with the ability to target U.S. warships and bases in the area; a U.S. pre-emptive strike on those arsenals utilizing hypersonic weapons at the beginning of a dispute would help the U.S. to protect its key resources in the region and to prepare for follow-on attacks.

After the United States pulled out of the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty in 2002, Russian authorities stressed that uncontrolled U.S. missiles could threaten Russia's security. With its speed and mobility, Russia's Avangard (nuclear-armed, manoeuvrable hypersonic delivery system) is intended to neutralize any current or future U.S. threats of missiles. Last December, when he presented the new strategic weapon, Russian President, Vladimir Putin,

told the country that this was a significant time in the existence of Russia's military and maybe even in the existence of the country itself.

China furtively tested an advanced hypersonic missile in August 2021. The weapon, a hypersonic float vehicle, dispatched through a rocket by the Chinese military, orbited the Earth at low altitudes prior to plummeting onto its objective. However, the missile clearly missed its objective by around two dozen miles. This test took the U.S. military by surprise, as no international agreements have been made about their testing.

As we can see, these missiles are still not 100% precise, they are not the best version and, for that reason, the regulation in powers like the US, China and Russia are still not quite established. Complications regarding other weapons come up when discussing hypersonic missiles so it's still a debatable area.

Modern weaponry should be assessed based on regulations that are established and agreed in every country. Complications with past policies mean that policies should be replaced or updated. There is also the question of which type of weapon should be banned completely at an international level. Every country needs to make a risk-assessment of these new weapons and think about how the risk can be minimized. Nations also need to keep in mind that weapons are constantly evolving, so any agreements must be adaptable towards weapons of the future that have not been invented yet.

III.   Key Points of the Debate

- The impact of modern weaponry on armed conflicts
- Weapons of mass destruction and their regulation
- Civilian casualties caused by modern weaponry
- The use of modern weaponry in current armed conflicts
- The problems of modern weaponry falling into the hand of illegal groups
- Pathways to regulation of current and future weaponry

IV.   Participating Organisms

- IAEA
- GCA
- BWC

V.   Guiding Questions

1. What regulations does your country have in place regarding weapons on the battlefield?

2. Does/has your country own/owned weapons of mass destruction? If so, why? Are they regulated?

3. Has your nation been involved in the development and implementation of ultra-modern weaponry? *(example: Hypersonic Missiles)* If so, why? If not, what nations have?

4. Has your country ever suffered from an attack in which modern weapons were used? If not, what nations have suffered this?

5. How does your nation´s military control its own use of weaponry? What regulations are in place?

6. Should all countries have the same regulation when it comes to weapons?

7. What is your nation´s opinion regarding the use of modern weaponry in a battle zone? Is it always justified?

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