

COMMITTEE GUIDE

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United Nations Security Council

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1. Presidents' Letter

Honourable delegates,

Welcome to the United Nations Security Council! We are very honoured that you have decided to join this committee. Our names are Lucia Losada and Kate Robinson, and we are both in 12th grade at Colegio Bolivar. Both of us have been part of numerous models, starting from 7th grade, and each of us has been the recipient of several awards. Both of us have also acted as presidents in previous models, so we will do everything in our power to turn this into an exceptional model for everyone.

As your presidents, we hope you enjoy this committee. We also hope that you learn a lot during the three days of the model and that you see a new perspective of how the world works using diplomacy. MUN is a unique experience to see how all delegations differ in terms of points of view from one another. Participating in Model United Nations is great for learning outside a normal classroom; they teach their participants to have patience, to listen, comprehend problems in our society, and to come up with innovative solutions to these problems. It also helps develop several skills such as researching, public speaking, and diplomacy skills. For all of the reasons stated above, we expect each of you to be willing to give your best during the model.

We expect all of you to be prepared so there can be a great and fluent debate on the committee. All of you must become experts in your delegation's point of view. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask us. We will try our best to answer all your inquiries and help you during the debate. If you have any questions regarding the commission guide or the topics, you can ask us through the committee's email: **sc@ccbcali.edu.co**

A lot of planning and hard work has gone into making this a great committee, so we hope that you make the most of it. We can't wait to see you at CCBMUN XIX!

Yours sincerely,

Lucia Losada and Kate Robinson
Presidents of the Security Council

2. Committee Information

I. History

In 1945, after the huge repercussions of World War II, society was left in diplomatic disorder. Therefore, the United Nations was established as an international organization to maintain worldwide peace, to prevent conflicts of severe magnitudes. The United Nations Security Council is the main organism of the UN. Its primary goal is to maintain international peace and security by diplomatically addressing issues of great concern. This committee was established under the 5th chapter of the United Nations charter of June 26th, 1945. (Jaramillo, Robles, 2020).

II. Structure

The United Nations Security Council operates under chapter V (articles 23 to 32) of the Charter of the United Nations, which includes the composition, functions, powers, and procedures of the entity. The following is the structure imposed by these articles:

Article 23:

1. The Security Council shall consist of fifteen members of the United Nations. The Republic of China, France, the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America will be permanent members of the Security Council. The General Assembly will elect another ten Members of the United Nations that will be non-permanent members of the Security Council, paying particular attention, first of all, to the contribution of the Members of the United Nations to the maintenance of international peace and security and the other purposes of the organization, as well as equitable geographical distribution.
2. Non-permanent members of the Security Council will be elected for two years. In the first election of non-permanent members held after the number of members of the Security Council has been increased from eleven to fifteen, two of the four new members will be elected for one year. Outgoing members will not be re-eligible for the subsequent period.
3. Each member of the Security Council will have a representative. (UN Charter, art 23)

Article 24:

1. To ensure rapid and effective action by the United Nations, its Members give the Security Council the primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security and recognize that the Security Council acts on their behalf in their performance of the functions imposed by that responsibility.

2. In carrying out these functions, the Security Council shall proceed following the Purposes and Principles of the United Nations. The powers granted to the Security Council for the performance of these functions are defined in Chapters VI, VII, VIII, and XII.
3. The Security Council shall submit annual reports and, when necessary, special reports to the General Assembly. (UN Charter, art 24)

Article 25

The Members of the United Nations agree to accept and carry out the decisions of the Security Council by the present Charter. (UN Charter, art 25).

Current members of the UN Security Council:

With the above articles in mind, the current members of the United Nations Security Council are as follows:

- Permanent: China, France, Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, and the United States
- Non-permanent: Estonia, India, Ireland, Kenya, Mexico, Niger, Norway, Saint Vincent, and the Grenadines, Tunisia, Vietnam.

* The election is held by secret ballot, and there are no nominations. Non-permanent members must be elected by a 2/3 majority of all member states.

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3. Simulation: The Situation in the Kashmir region

I. History/Context

The region of Kashmir is a disputed territory found between the northern borders of Pakistan and India and has caused four major wars between the two countries in the last 70 years. As a result, it remains occupied by 500,000 Indian troops and dozens of militias and terrorist groups. The conflict started while India and Pakistan were still under British occupation, during which time the territory was made up of hundreds of provinces and princely states. When this territory won independence on 15th August 1947, the British left and decided to divide the country into two areas based on religious beliefs. These areas would be a Muslim-majority country, Pakistan, and a mostly Hindu India.

Most princely states and provinces were given the choice to join either country. Unfortunately, the partition resulted in complete chaos, and about 1 million people became refugees. In most cases, the ruling monarch followed the will of the people and joined whichever country the majority of the population abided by, but there was one exception. The province called Jammu and Kashmir was unique since it had a Muslim-majority but a Hindu ruler. Although the ruler decided to stay neutral in the division and attempted to gain independence, the Muslim Kashmiri population feared that the monarch would join India, leading them to rebel in the town of Poonch in 1947. Shortly after, armed tribesmen from Pakistan also joined the fight. As a result, the monarch of Jammu and Kashmir turned to India for military help and, in exchange, accepted to join the Hindu country. This was the start of the first Indo-Pakistan war.

In 1949, two years after the war broke out, the United Nations Security Council agreed on a ceasefire that established the division of Kashmir. One part was controlled by Pakistan and the other by India. The terms of the ceasefire requested both Pakistani tribesmen and Indian troops to withdraw from the territory so that Kashmir could hold a popular plebiscite and decide its own future. Unfortunately, none retired from the area. Pakistan continued to argue that Kashmir's Muslim population belonged to them, while India insisted that the Hindu

monarch had already agreed to join them. Consequently, both countries added Kashmir to their constitution and the plebiscite was never held.

In 1962 the Sino-Indian War, also known as the Indo-China War broke out. It resulted from the build-up of many issues, but mainly the disputed Himalayan border. The war ended with China seizing 38,000 km² from India and receiving another 5,180 km² of northern Kashmir from Pakistan in the 1963 pact. However, India does not recognize the 1963 pact and continues to claim that the Pakistani-controlled part of Kashmir belongs to Indian territory. The territory controlled by China was named the Aksai Chin.

The second Indo-Pakistani war broke out in 1965. The war only lasted 17 days, but thousands of casualties were recorded. After a diplomatic intervention by the Soviet Union in the United States, the UN established another ceasefire to end the war, but it did not change the division of Kashmir. Therefore, the area remained heavily occupied. Years later, during the Bangladesh Liberation War, a third Indo-Pakistani War broke out. Bangladesh used to be part of Eastern Pakistan, but with the rise of Bengali Nationalism, it tried to gain independence. India took advantage of this and supported the Bengali Nationalist Forces rebels. The third Indo-Pakistan War was one of the shortest wars in history, lasting only 13 days. However, it ended with the independence of East Pakistan and the formation of Bangladesh.

The loss of the territory of Bangladesh made Kashmir even more important for Pakistani interests, becoming one of the most militarized and polemic places on Earth. Political tensions continued to escalate when India allegedly rigged the 1987 Kashmir election in favour of a pro-Indian party. This was a huge turning point for many Kashmiris who felt silenced and took to the streets in protest. They were quickly and brutally stopped by the Indian troops, which led to a rise in Kashmiri separatist militias, such as the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front, who recruited Muslim youth to fight for independence. Meanwhile, Pakistan helped introduce radical Islamic fighters to battle for a more pro-Pakistan Kashmir. These groups grew exponentially and, by the mid-1990s, they dominated the insurgency. India responded by deploying 500,000 troops to Kashmir and cracking down on protesters. Hundreds of unarmed civilians were killed and even more were forced to flee the violence.

In the year 1998, both India and Pakistan began nuclear testing. This raised the stakes immensely since Kashmir became a battleground between two nuclear-armed countries. Later on, in 1999, the fourth Indo-Pakistani War broke out. The conflict began with the infiltration of both Pakistani troops and terrorists into Indian territory. It was believed to be orchestrated by the then Pakistan army chief, General Pervez Musharraf, without the knowledge or approval of the prime minister. Finally, the war ended with yet another ceasefire. The official death toll was 527 on the Indian side and between 357 and 453 on the Pakistani side. Yet, this didn't stop any country or the militant groups from continuing to launch attacks. The militias started launching terror attacks in and outside of Kashmir. Since then, there have been several reports of terror incidents by Pakistan militias in India. Cities like New Delhi and Mumbai have been increasingly targeted in these attacks.

II. Current Situation

Kashmir continues to be one of the most militarized places on earth. Both sides have committed various human rights violations. In a 2018 report, Human Rights Watch suggested, "To address the human rights concerns, the OHCHR calls for an independent mechanism to further investigate human rights allegations in the Kashmir region. Human rights experts have urged the Indian government to allow the creation of such an investigation." However, the Indian government's immediate response was to reject the report, calling it "fallacious, tendentious and motivated." Meenakshi Ganguly, the Human Rights Watch South Asia Director, said, "The Indian government's dismissal of the serious concerns raised in the UN's Kashmir report is unjustified and counterproductive."

The militarized environment in the region has led to a cycle of violence. The Indian army crackdown has dragged some Kashmiris, even Hindus, to join Pakistani-backed militant groups which carry out violence against the Indian forces. This can be directly connected to one of the deadliest and most recent attacks in Kashmir; on 14th February 2019, Adil Ahmed Dar drove his explosive-carrying car into a bus transporting Indian paramilitary troopers. There was a total of 42 casualties, and dozens were injured. "It was the worst attack in 20 years," a

senior police official told news media Al Jazeera. A witness said, “There were arms and hands lying all over. I even saw the brain that had come out of a trooper’s body.” (Al-Jazeera, 2019)

The suicide bomber was 19-year-old Adil Ahmed Dar from Pulwama (the Indian side of Kashmir). As Dar’s family searched for answers and tried to find out why their son did this, they recalled that one day, as he was returning from his school, men from the STF [Special Task Force] had stopped him and made him rub his nose on the ground. They also forced him to draw a circle around their Jeep with his nose. Later, during a protest for pro-freedom politics in Kashmir, Dar was hit by a bullet in the leg by the Indian military. The following year, Dar left home along with his brothers to join Jaish-e-Mohammed, which is a Pakistani-supported militia and trained to become a suicide bomber.

On 5th August 2019, the Indian government decided to eradicate the special “autonomous state” that was previously granted to Kashmir due to their Muslim-majority culture. Following this, in May 2020, the government passed the Domicile Rules. These new rules meant that minorities now had to face a more complicated process for becoming civilians. A domicile certificate became mandatory to obtain an education, properties, and employment. Before this, Kashmiris only needed a permanent residence certificate. A 2020 UN report, explained how the Indian government is using this law to accept more foreigners into the country, whilst preventing minorities from obtaining it. “These legislative changes may have the potential to pave the way for people from outside the former state of Jammu and Kashmir to settle in the region, alter the demographics of the region and undermine the minorities’ ability to exercise their human rights effectively.¹”

On July 13th, 2021, the Pakistan prime minister, Imran Khan, wrote on his Twitter, “This indomitable spirit of resistance remains alive as Kashmiri men & women continue to fight illegal Indian Occupation. Pakistan stands with the Kashmiris in their struggle & will not compromise till they get their right to self-determination guaranteed by UNSC resolutions.²” Soon afterwards, Pakistan’s national security adviser declared that a bomb which exploded in Lahore was an orchestrated attack by the Indian government.

¹ “Loss of Autonomy in Indian-Administered Jammu and Kashmir Threatens Minorities' Rights – UN Independent Experts | | UN News.” United Nations Human Rights, United Nations, 18 Feb. 2021, news.un.org/en/story/2021/02/1085112.

² <https://twitter.com/ImranKhanPTI/status/1414797435818369025?s=20>

Pakistani and Indian history has always been intertwined, with Kashmir at its center\$3.4 billion influence being a disputed land since 1947, and where Kashmiri civilians have been forced to endure decades of violence and loss. This has led to the formation of many protest groups and extremist rebel marginalized groups. Unfortunately, these groups have only increased the brutality, and further polarized these territories. In April 2021, the world got a clear example of the current conflict between the governments and subversive civilians, when the Indian government killed 5 rebel ex-policemen and two soldiers were severely wounded.

Even after countless attempts made by the United Nations to bring peace to Kashmir with different treaties, India and Pakistan have not been able to settle their differences. The battle remains to cause thousands to lose their lives, while others decide to flee in search of peace. The Kashmiri civilians are forced to constantly look over their shoulders, and minorities are having their basic human rights neglected.

III. Key Points of the Debate

- The complicated history between Pakistan and India
- The effects of the religious intolerance in the region
- The presence of belligerent groups in the area
- The division of the Kashmir territory and how it is not accepted by all countries

IV. Participating Organisms

- Islamic Republic of Pakistan
- Republic of India
- People's Republic of China
- Jammu and Kashmir Insurgent Groups
 - Hizb-ul-Mujahideen
 - Jammu & Kashmir National Liberation Army

V. Guiding Questions

1. Has your country ever had any territorial disputes? If so, how have they handled it?
2. Is your country providing military aid to either side of the conflict?
3. Is your delegation allied with either of the countries in the Kashmir conflict?
4. Has your country ever dealt with belligerent groups? If so, how have they handled it?
Are there any procedures or protocols in place?
5. Does your country recognize the current line of control (the line that divides Kashmir)?
6. Does your country believe sanctions should be imposed on India and/or Pakistan for the lack of accountability and mismanagement of military forces?

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4. Topic 1: *De-escalating tension between the Middle East and the United States*

I. History/Context

The United States has had a very complicated relationship with Middle Eastern countries (Cyprus, Oman, Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Syria, Kuwait, Iraq, Qatar, Iran, Israel, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Libya, Afghanistan, Sudan, United Arab Emirates, Yemen), and those who border it. For the last 60 years they've had a strong military presence in these territories, and while some see it as a "helping hand" others see it as an overbearing invasion. Tensions started during World War II with the U.S. Truman administration. The British, the Soviets, and U.S. forces were all stationed in Iran, using it for trading routes, but they were also interested in protecting Iranian oil. However, tensions started to rise in the Middle East during the Cold War after Truman forced the Soviet Union to leave Iran. Ever since, the United States has been involved in numerous conflicts across the Middle East, which has caused international tensions to rise.

The US has always influenced the decisions made in the Middle East. A clear example of this is the Palestinian and Israeli conflict, with Truman immediately recognizing the State of Israel on May 14, 1948, but not recognizing the legal existence of the state of Palestine. Following this, in 1967, the U.S. aided Israel during the Six-Day War against Egypt, Jordan, and Syria, and then dealt with the counterattack in 1973, only ending in a ceasefire after receiving nuclear threats from the Soviet Union. In the 1970s, the U.S. became the most dominant foreign force in the Middle East, trying to block Soviet rule from reaching these countries.

However, Iran has remained one of the Middle Eastern countries with which the United States has had the most tension, partially due to their alliance with Russia. Tensions began after the Iranian Islamic Revolution when the new Islamic Republic was formed in Iran fronted by the Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini. Shortly after, a U.S. embassy in Tehran was held hostage for 444 days until Reagan's inauguration day. During the 1980s the Shiite and Sunni conflict started to rise. In June 1982 Israel invaded Lebanon again until Reagan insisted on a ceasefire, but still resulted in the assassination of the Lebanese president Bashir Gemayel

and the assassination of thousands of Palestinians in a refugee camp. Unfortunately, this also resulted in an Iranian Shiite marginalized group, Hezbollah, taking many American hostages. They are also suspected responsible for the April 1983 bomb in the US Beirut Embassy - killing 63 people- and the October 23 bomb that same year - murdering 241 American soldiers and 57 French paratroopers in their Beirut barracks. Simultaneously happening was the Iran-Iraq war (1980-1988). Intent on bringing down the Iranian Shia Regime by claiming that they were aiding and abetting different illegal armed groups, the U.S. decided to support Iraq during this conflict, this would be the beginning of the long and antipathetic relationship that would follow.

The Clinton Administration was the instigator of two important events in the Middle East. The first one was the 1994 peace treaty between Jordan and Israel. The second one was the 1993 Oslo Accords ending the first intifada in Palestine. These accords acknowledged the legitimacy of the Palestine Liberation Organization and recognized them as Palestine's legitimate rule in parts of the Gaza strip and the West Bank. However, Jerusalem - an important holy territory for both states - remained unresolved. This led to the Camp David Summit in the 2000s, where Clinton, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, and Israeli leader Ehud Barak, tried to solve settlement and territory disputes to form a peace treaty, which ultimately failed.

At that time, the United States was concentrating more on peace treaties than anything else for the Middle East, but this narrative changed entirely in 2001 with the 9/11 attack in which four planes were targeted by Al-Qaeda. One of the planes was redirected by the passengers, another hit the Pentagon, and the other two hit the World Trade Centre. The result was over 3,000 casualties, with the American people calling for vengeance and reparation. The Taliban, an insurgent rebellious group formed in 1994, was in de facto control of Afghanistan at the time, were close allies to Al-Qaeda, and allegedly provided them with refuge after 9/11. This consequently led to President Bush declaring an ultimatum to the Taliban in his famous 2003 speech, forcing the Taliban to cease the allied relationship they had with Saddam Hussein and Al-Qaeda, "All the decades of deceit and cruelty have now reached an end. Saddam Hussein and his sons must leave Iraq within 48 hours. Their refusal to do so will result in military conflict, commenced at a time of our choosing" (Bush, 2003).

This resulted in the U.S. - Afghanistan war with the singular mission to dismantle Al-Qaeda, and remove the Taliban from power. The United States finally reached its goal after Kandahar (a city in Afghanistan) surrendered, Hamid Karzai became the new Afghanistan president, and the United States achieved occupation in 2002. However, Operation Anaconda (a conflict between the Taliban and the US) resulted in a Taliban victory. Finally, in 2011, with Barack Obama as president, Osama bin Laden was killed by US Navy SEALs in Pakistan. Nonetheless, many criticised the United States for starting an armed conflict and violating Pakistan's national sovereignty, claiming there was insufficient investigation and proof to back up their claims that Al-Qaeda was responsible.

II. Current Situation

The United States still maintains a crucial position in a lot of Middle Eastern conflicts. One of its key roles in the last decade has been its ongoing conflict with Iran over nuclear weapons. In 2003, US intelligence found that Iran had been attempting to construct atomic bombs. Worried about the ramifications this could have on international security, the United States tried to halt the construction. In 2013, they were finally able to reach a deal where six different countries (China, Germany, France, Great Britain, the United States, and Russia) agreed to eradicate economic sanctions against Iran as long as they slowed down their nuclear development. However, in 2017, after some anti-Muslim remarks made by President Donald Trump, Iran started to carry out missile tests. Subsequently, in 2018, Trump withdrew the U.S. from the Iran nuclear proliferation deal, and in 2019 the situation escalated further. Sanctions were reinstated, the US labelled the Iran Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) a terrorist organization, and Iran continued to work on its nuclear armament program.

This hasn't been the only conflict that the United States has had influence over. Israel and Palestine have been in a fifty-four-year-long territorial dispute, especially over Jerusalem, which both consider a "holy territory" for their different religions. This is why Palestinians were outraged when Donald Trump recognized Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and moved the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, completely disregarding the Muslim occupation of the city. United States' involvement in different Middle Eastern countries can have both advantages and disadvantages. For example, the U.S. has provided \$3.4 billion dollars to

Yemen for humanitarian purposes during the 2015 Houthi conflict, while also helping the government to fight against rebel armed groups.

After 20 years of conflict in Afghan territory, president Joe Biden decided that “It’s time to end the war in Afghanistan” (Biden, 2021), withdrawing all American troops in August 2021. Consequently, on the 16th August 2021, the Taliban regime took power and became the new de-facto government, after taking Kabul by force and occupying the Afghan Presidential Palace - forcing the current president, Ashraf Ghani, into exile. The United States armed forces have successfully evacuated over 120,000 American civilians and militants, claiming their reasoning for entry was to disarm Al-Qaeda, and not to nation-build (constructing a national identity and unity). Additionally, Biden stated that he found himself at a crossroads between escalating the conflict or retreating, and he chose to retreat and end further bloodshed. Furthermore, he declared that there would have never been an optimum time to release American troops, and even though he didn’t expect Kabul to fall so quickly, it was inevitable. He claimed that for far too long American troops had been fighting “someone else’s armed conflict”, whilst receiving no support or interest from the Afghanistan government. This is why the United States decided to withdraw all troops, ending a decade-long armed conflict.

III. Key Points of the Debate

- The involvement of American troops in Middle Eastern conflicts
- The advantages and disadvantages of American involvement in Middle Eastern affairs
- The effects of American troops supporting governments against belligerent armed groups
- The circumstances where the deployment of troops to a foreign country is justified
- The human rights violations occurring in Middle Eastern countries
- The impact that tensions between the Middle East and the United States have on the rest of the world

IV. Participating Organisms

- Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)
- Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA)
- US Army Intelligence
- Arab League
- Gulf Cooperation Council
- International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA)
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)

V. Guiding Questions

1. Describe your country's relationship with the United States. Have there ever been any tensions? If so, what was done to de-escalate these tensions?
2. Has your country ever had tensions or conflicts with the Middle Eastern countries? How were these resolved?
3. What is your country's view on national sovereignty? Should sanctions be imposed for violating a nation's sovereignty?
4. Has your country ever dealt with foreign troops in your territory? Were there any tensions?
5. How does your delegation feel about US involvement in national politics/civil conflicts?
6. Has your country ever had any marginalized armed groups aided by the US? If so, how did they de-escalate tensions?

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5. **Topic 2:** *Open Agenda*