IITI MUN 2022

UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL

AGENDA-
DELIBERATION OVER THE TAIWAN CRISIS

Letter from the Executive Board

Dear Prospective Members,

At the outset on behalf of the Executive Board, we extend a warm welcome to all of you and congratulate you on being a part of the United Nations Security Council Committee simulation at IIT Indore Model United Nations 2022.

We believe that 'study guides' are detrimental to the individual growth of the members since they overlook a very important aspect of this activity, which is - Research. We are sure however that this background guide gives you a perfect launching pad to start with your research. The Background guide would be as abstract as possible, and would just give you a basic perspective on what the executive board believes you should know before you commence your research.

This being clear, kindly do not limit your research to the areas highlighted, further but ensure that you logically deduce and push your research to areas associated with the issues mentioned.

The objective of this background guide is to provide you with a 'background' of the issue at hand and therefore it might seem to some as not being comprehensive enough.

We are not looking for existing solutions, or strategies that would be a copy paste of what countries you are representing have already stated; instead we seek an out of the box solution from you, while knowing and understanding your impending practical and ideological limitations.

The onus is on you, members, to formulate a resolution which gives a fair attempt and frame practical solutions for impairment of treaties, failing and showing no progress, crippled by political interest pushing humanity towards the brim of war.

Wishing you all a very warm good luck and hoping to see you all at this conference discussing imperative issues of international interest and we look forward to meeting you all at IIT Indore MUN 2022.

Warm Regards

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President   Vice President
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Proofs/Evidence In Council

While researching for the committee, keep in mind the credibility of the source you are using. You can use all the sources for gaining information and studying different angles/ viewpoints, but non-credible sources, won't be accepted by the Executive Board as a proof and supporting document to your argument/ statement.
Evidence/proof is acceptable from the following sources:

1. News Sources:

A. **REUTERS -** Any Reuters article which clearly makes mention of the fact or is in contradiction of the fact being stated by a delegate in council. (http://www.reuters.com/)

B. **STATE OPERATED NEWS AGENCIES -** These reports can be used in support of or against the state that owns that news agency. These reports, if credible or substantial enough, can be used in support of or against any country as such but in that situation, they can be denied by any other country in the council. Some examples are:
i.   RIA Novosti (Russia) http://en.rian.ru/
ii.   IRNA (Iran) http://www.irna.ir/ENIndex.htm
iii. Xinhua News Agency and CCTV (P.R. China) http://cctvnews.cntv

2. Government Reports: These reports can be used in a similar way as the state operated news agencies reports can, in all circumstances, be denied by another country. **However, a nuance is that a report that is being denied by a certain country can still be accepted by Executive Board as credible information.** Examples are -

i.   **Government Websites** like the State Department of the USA
      (http://www.state.gov/index.htm) or the Ministry of Defense of the Russian
      Federation (http://www.eng.mil.ru/en/index.htm)
ii.   **Ministry of Foreign Affairs** of various nations like India
      (http://www.mea.gov.in/), PRC (http://fmprc.gov.cn/eng/), France
      (http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/), Russian Federation
      (http://www.mid.ru/brp_4.nsf/main_eng)
iii. **Permanent Representative to the United Nations Reports**
      (http://www.un.org/en/members/) (Click on any country to get to the website of the
      Office of its Permanent Representative)
iv.   **Multilateral Organizations** like the NATO
      (http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/index.htm), ASEAN
      (http://www.aseansec.org/), OPEC (http://www.opec.org/opec_web/en/), etc.

3. UN Reports: All UN Reports are considered are credible information or evidence for the Executive Board of the Security Council.

i.   **UN Bodies:** Like the SC (http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/), GA (
      http://www.un.org/en/ga/), HRC
      (http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/Pages/HRCIndex.aspx), etc.
ii.   **UN Affiliated Bodies** like the International Atomic Energy Agency
      (http://www.iaea.org/), World Bank (http://www.worldbank.org/), International
      Monetary Fund (http://www.imf.org/external/index.htm) , International Committee of
      the Red Cross (http://www.icrc.org/eng.index.jsp), etc.

iii. **Treaty Based Bodies** like the Antarctic Treaty System
(http://www.ats.aq/e/ats.htm), The International Criminal Court
(http://www.icc-cpi.int/Menus/ICC)

Under no Circumstances will sources like Wikipedia (http://www.wikipedia.org/), Amnesty International (http://www.amnesty.org/), Human Rights Watch (http://www.hrw.org/) or Newspapers like The Guardian (https://www.guardian.co.uk/), Time of India (https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/), etc. be accepted as PROOF but may be used for better understanding of any issue and even be brought up in debate if the information given in such sources is in line with the beliefs of a Government.

Research Guide for Beginners

Research is possibly the most intimidating yet most important part of preparing for any Model United Nations conference. Without proper preparation, not only are representatives unable to accurately represent their country's position in a global scenario but they also restrict themselves from gaining the most out of the memorable MUN learning experience.

 A delegate's aim at a MUN conference is to most faithfully represent their country's stand on a certain issue being debated, and to do this, thorough research is needed. It goes beyond retelling speeches of national leaders and requires a genuine understanding of national policy, as only this can provide the basic foundation of role-playing at the MUN.

Here you will learn methods and tips for researching, understanding your country's perspective and policies and writing your position paper using critical information

Three Levels of Research:

For any Model United Nations conference, your research should focus on a **top-down approach** on three levels which goes from the general to the specific, although the areas will naturally overlap on several occasions. The idea is to research each area thoroughly in order to develop a proper understanding of your country and the issues that will be discussed.

The three levels are:
1. The UN system;
2. Country Information and;
3. The Assisted Agenda.

1. The United Nations System

It is interesting that this is an area which is often overlooked when researching for a MUN conference. MUNs aim to recreate the United Nations and so it is absolutely imperative that to do so, you know what the UN is, what it does and how it functions. Successful and proactive participation in the simulation requires a level of understanding of the United Nations organization itself, regarding structures, functions and protocols.

The more conferences you attend, the less time you will find yourself spending on this aspect, since the only new research required is if you are going to a committee, you've never been in before.

It is important for delegates to familiarize themselves with:
- ★ The UN Charter: https://www.un.org/en/charter-united-nations/index.html
- ★ The history of United Nations
- ★ The main bodies and committees of UN
- ★ The functioning of your own committee
- ★ Your country's history within the UN, its role and reputation. Information on this can be found on the websites of the permanent mission of the UN to your country.
- ★ Recent UN actions pertaining to your country or the agenda – including statements, press releases, publications, resolutions etc.

Although there are countless publications and documents on the United Nations, the best source to studying about the United Nations is the UN itself.
Below are a further collection of useful links:

-www.un.org
- http://www.un.org/en/members/index.shtml
- www.un.org/Pubs/chronicle/online.html
- http://www.icj-cij.org/
- http://treaties.un.org/Home.aspx

2. Country Information

Build a knowledge base of your country - delegates must be aware of their assigned country's historical, geographical, political, economic, social and environmental aspects. Build a country profile on your government – what systems, ideologies, political parties and leaders represent your country? What is your country's foreign policy and how is this affected by important historical and domestic aspects? Who are your allies and your adversaries? What other bilateral, regional and international organizations is your country a part of?
After building a basic profile, you must study your country's broad stand on global issues, particularly at the UN. Develop a basic understanding of your country's voting pattern, its involvement in the UN – speeches given by leaders and delegates of your country at the UN and resolutions/treaties it has been a part of.

- http://www.countryreports.org/
- http://www.un.org/esa/national.htm
- http://countrystudies.us/
- www.un.org/popin/data.html
- www.unausa.org
- http://www.un.org/en/members/
- http://www.gksoft.com/govt/en/

You may also wish to visit the national embassy of your country as it is the best source of information and research for sources that are not as readily available. It is the best way to get first-hand information on your country and where it stands on various issues. It could also give you the opportunity to interact with a real diplomat from the country you're representing, and pick up tips on how they carry themselves and respond to questions.

3. The Assisted Agenda

This will form the bulk of your research – it will be what is used directly in committee sessions. You will be informed of the agenda of issues to be discussed at the MUN by your organizers before the conference.
A thorough study of the tabled topic for debate and discussion with respect to your country, UN and the world as a whole will aid you to properly represent your country and actively participate in the simulation. You will be provided a study guide for your assigned agenda by your MUN committee, which you should use as your starting point.
Within your agenda topic, the three areas that must be covered are:
a) A background and overview of the agenda topic and your country's policy on it
b) Detailed information on important aspects of the topic
c) Broad information on where other main countries and blocs stand

A) *Background*

After the background guide, news articles relating to your topic can be a good place to find a brief overview of the most recent developments. While only verified news agencies such as Reuters and Al Jazeera are accepted in committee, news and op-ed articles can provide an entry point into deeper issues. However, you must be careful to look for writers' biases on the Internet in particular.

The next step is to look for resolutions and treaties that are relevant to the topic – the most recent resolution from the UN Documentation Centre should refer to the documents most central to your agenda.

You must then look into your country's voting history on the matter, for indications on action, inaction, presence and absence, looking for changing policies and exploring their causal factors. Statements explaining votes can be found in records on the UN website.

B) *Details*

Once your background research is done, you need to dive deep into the topic to understand the primary aspects, and try to **logically 'frame' the agenda into main sub-headings** of sorts, under which all the important points can be organized. This can help you break down complex agendas into neatly manageable chunks, and score brownie points if your frame is accepted by the committee. It's important to make a clear distinction between facts, arguments based on those facts and opinions, particularly when reading on the Internet.

At this stage, sometimes as you're framing the problems, you're also coming up with innovative solutions to put in the proposal. Looking up implementation of past resolutions is a helpful starting point, but op-eds, blog posts, local and international NGO reports, think tank papers and academic papers will likely be more useful in shaping your ideas. Remember to focus on solutions that are politically, economically and sustainably feasible.

C) *Other Arguments*

One of the most important lessons from MUNs is learning to accommodate difference – it is important to be aware of the arguments and facts used by those holding the opposite stand to yours. While as a delegate you are bound to espouse the views of your country, individually your opinions can be shaped through the push and pull of opposing ideas. Also, this research will help you logically counter the arguments put forth by radically opposed delegations, and bring the committee around to your point of view.

In some conferences, delegates research countries other than their own in order to surprise other delegates with allegations and throw them on the back foot. Needless to say, this is not only undiplomatic but also entirely counter-productive to the cooperative purpose of the conference. While it is important to be aware of the policies of other countries, antagonistic behaviour can only harm the atmosphere of the committee and hamper consensus-building, and thus is discouraged.

The most important part of research is being able to synthesize the data you've found in an organized way and identify the key pieces of information, including facts and figures, which you can use to illustrate and defend your position. If your country plays a central role in the agenda topic, it becomes all the more important to be able to explain your actions. Finally, all your research comes down to being able to justify your position, explain your ideas and convince the other delegates that these are the most valuable approaches to solving the problem.

Points to Remember

A few aspects that delegates should keep in mind while preparing:

Procedure: The purpose of putting in procedural rules in any committee is to ensure a more organized and efficient debate. The committee will follow the UNA-USA
Rules of Procedure. Although the Executive Board shall be fairly strict with the Rules of Procedure, the discussion of the agenda will be the main priority. So, delegates are advised not to restrict their statements due to hesitation regarding procedure.

Foreign Policy: Following the foreign policy of one's country is the most important aspect of a Model UN Conference. This is what essentially differentiates a Model UN from other debating formats. To violate one's foreign policy without adequate reason is one of the worst mistakes a delegate can make.

Role of the Executive Board: The Executive Board is appointed to facilitate debate. The committee shall decide the direction and flow of debate. The delegates are the ones who constitute the committee and hence must be uninhibited while presenting their opinions/stance on any issue. However, the Executive Board may put forward questions and/or ask for clarifications at all points of time to further debate and test participants.

Nature of Source/Evidence: This Background Guide is meant solely for research purposes and must not be cited as evidence to substantiate statements made during the conference. Evidence or proof for substantiating statements made during formal debate is acceptable from the following sources:

1. United Nations: Documents and findings by the United Nations or any related UN body is held as credible proof to support a claim or argument. Multilateral Organizations: Documents from international organizations like OIC, NAFTA, SAARC, BRICS, EU, ASEAN, the International Criminal Court, etc. may also be presented as credible sources of information.

2. Government Reports: These reports can be used in a similar way as the State Operated News Agencies reports and can, in all circumstances, be denied by another country.
   3. News Sources:

(a)   Reuters: Any Reuters article that clearly makes mention of the fact or is in contradiction of the fact being stated by a delegate in council.

(b)   State operated News Agencies: These reports can be used in the support of or against the State that owns the News Agency. These reports, if credible or substantial enough, can be used in support of or against any country as such but in that situation, may be denied by any other country in the council. Some examples are – RIA Novosti (Russian Federation), Xinhua News Agency (People's Republic of China), etc.

Please Note- Reports from NGOs working with UNESCO, UNICEF and other UN bodies will be accepted.

Under no circumstances will sources like Wikipedia, or newspapers like the Guardian, Times of India, etc. be accepted. However, notwithstanding the criteria for acceptance of sources and evidence, delegates are still free to quote/cite from any source as they deem fit as a part of their statements.

UNA-USA Procedure

- Dias (Chairs) begins with roll call
- Delegates may respond "present" or "present and voting"
- Next, the Dias asks to hear any points or motions
- If there are no points or motions on the floor, the Dias will recognize the next speaker on the Speakers' List from the previous session
- In the first committee session, a delegate must move to open the Speakers' List ● During the first committee session, the agenda must also be set (choose topic 1 or 2)

Speakers' List:

- The Speakers' List is the default format of committee, if there are no points or motions ● A country may only appear on the list once at any given time
- A delegate can be added by raising their placard when the Dias asks or by sending note to the Dias
- The speaking time will be set by the delegate who moves to open the Speakers' List, but a delegate may move to change the speaking time
- If the Speakers' List is exhausted and no other delegates wish to be added, committee moves immediately into voting procedure on any draft resolutions that have been introduced ● If there is still time remaining when a delegate concludes his or her speech, he or she must yield his or her time (to the Dias, to another delegate, or to questions, by saying either "I yield my time to …")
- Yielding to Dias ends the speech, yielding to another delegate allocates the remainder of the time to that delegate (the second delegate may not yield to a third delegate), and yielding to questions allows for feedback from other delegates

Moderated Caucus:

- When the Speakers' List is open, a delegate may introduce a motion for a moderated caucus, which is a less formal debate format to debate a specific subset of the topic
- No set speaking order; each new speaker is chosen after the previous speaker concludes ● A delegate may not yield her or his time; if delegate finishes early, move to next speaker ● Must have a

set topic, duration, and speaking time (which will be voted on)

- When the Speakers' List is open, a delegate may introduce a motion for an unmoderated caucus, the least formal debate format
- Delegates may move around the room and speak freely to one another to draft resolutions ● Delegate may not leave the room without permission from the committee director

Points and Motions:

- Points and motions are tools for delegates to ask questions about committee and its proceedings, rather than the content of debate
  - Motions change what the committee is *doing* and generally require a *vote*
  - Points do not require a vote
- Delegates may only introduce motions while the Speakers' List is open and between speakers ○ When motions require a vote, the vote may be either substantive or procedural ○ Some votes require a two-thirds majority to pass, while other require a simple majority.
- Points may be raised during caucuses, and some points may be used to interrupt a speaker ● There are four common points, as follow:
  - 1) Point of Inquiry - used to ask a question about parliamentary procedure
  - 2) Point of Order - used when a delegate believes the Dias has made a procedural error
  - 3) Point of Personal Privilege - used to express concerns about comfort such as the temperature of the room or the ability to hear a speaker
  - 4) Point of Information - used to ask a clarifying question about the content of a speech or statement (only during the speakers list)
- Only a point of order and a point of personal privilege may be used to interrupt a speaker.

The rules of procedures will be explained in the training session as well but it would be better if you go through these basics first so it's easier to understand during the session and ask your doubts if any.

Background Guide

United Nations Security Council

Agenda: Deliberation Over the Taiwan Crisis

Mandate of United Nations Security Council

The Charter of the United Nations is the foundation document for all the UN work. The UN was established to "save succeeding generations from the scourge of war" and one of its main purposes is to maintain international peace and security.

Peacekeeping, although not explicitly provided for in the Charter, has evolved into one of the main tools used by the United Nations to achieve this purpose.

The Charter gives the UN Security Council primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. In fulfilling this responsibility, the Council may adopt a range of measures, including the establishment of a UN peace operation.

- Chapter VI deals with the "Pacific Settlement of Disputes". UN peace operations have traditionally been associated with Chapter. However, the Security Council need not refer to a specific Chapter of the Charter when passing a resolution authorizing the deployment of a UN peacekeeping operation and has never invoked Chapter VI.

- Chapter VII contains provisions related to "Action with Respect to the Peace, Breaches of the Peace and Acts of Aggression'. In recent years, the Council has adopted the practice of invoking Chapter VII of the Charter when authorizing the deployment of UN peace operations into volatile post-conflict settings where the State is unable to maintain security and public order. The Security Council's invocation of Chapter VII in these situations, in addition to denoting the legal basis for its action, can also be seen as a statement of firm political resolve and a means of reminding the parties to a conflict and the wider UN membership of their obligation to give effect to Security Council decisions.

- Chapter VIII of the Charter provides for the involvement of regional arrangements and agencies in the maintenance of international peace and security provided such activities are consistent with the purposes and principles outlined in Chapter I of the Charter.

Mandate on Peacekeeping Missions

UN peace operations are deployed on the basis of mandates from the United Nations Security Council. Over the years, the range of tasks assigned to UN peace operations has expanded significantly in response to shifting patterns of conflict and to best address threats to international peace and security.

Although each UN peace operation is different, there is a considerable degree of consistency in the types of mandated tasks assigned by the Security Council. Depending on their mandate, peace operations may be required to:

- Deploy to prevent the outbreak of conflict or the spill-over of conflict across borders;
- Stabilize conflict situations after a ceasefire, to create an environment for the parties to reach a lasting peace agreement;
- Assist in implementing comprehensive peace agreements;
- Lead states or territories through a transition to stable government, based on democratic principles, good governance and economic development.

Depending on the specific set of challenges, UN peacekeepers are often mandated to play a catalytic role in the following essentially peacebuilding activities:

- Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants;
- Mine action;
- Security sector reform and other rule of law-related activities;
- Protection and promotion of human rights;
- Electoral assistance;
- Support for the restoration and extension of State authority;
- Promotion of social and economic recovery and development.

Key Peacekeeping Resolutions

Security Council mandates also reflect a number of cross-cutting, thematic tasks that are regularly assigned to UN peace operations on the basis of the following landmark Security Council resolutions:

- Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security;
- Security Council resolution 1612 (2005) on children and armed conflict;
- Security Council resolution 1674 (2006) on the protection of civilians in armed conflict.

Introduction to the Taiwan Crisis

In order to understand the crisis pertaining in Taiwan we need to holistically understand the ongoing situation, the problems, the root of the problems, the consequences, attempted solutions, the reasons they failed, and what to keep in mind while further deliberating more solutions to the issue at hand.

It is a very clear disclaimer to all the delegates that the background guide is just the start of your research and only gives you briefings about certain aspects of the situation that are crucial to be aware of and shall consist of links and info from the internet alongside certain key messages wherever necessary from the side of the executive board. You all are requested to go beyond the background guide and upon understanding the base of the agenda, conduct your own research to get an upper hand in the committee.

Background

Tensions between the Mainland China and the Island of Taiwan have been high ever since the Chinese Civil War that began in 1927, where Republican forces fought the Communists for control over the country. By 1935 and later the Japanese War efforts had begun and in wake of the this, the Communist party began to gain the support of the peasantry and prepare them for the continued civil war after the Japanese were defeated. By 1949, republican forces under the leadership of the Kuomintang President Chiang Kai Shek, were defeated, and forced out of the mainland. They were left with no other option but to reside on the island of Taiwan. Since the retreat to the Island, there have been 3 crises that have nearly led to war.

The first crisis began in 1954, when the Mainland Communist Forces began bombardment of the Island as a measure to liberate Taiwan. However, with the news that USA was considering the use of Nuclear Weapons on the Mainland, the PRC had to halt its measures. Shortly after 4 years, Communist forces once again began invading islands through the use of amphibious landings and bombardment. This also came to an end after a mutual stalemate. In 1994, I response to the U.S government inviting President Lee Teng-hui of Taiwan to speak at Cornell, the Chinese Communist party operated missile tests and naval exercises in an attempt to intimidate both Taiwan and the United States. In response, the United States sent 2 carrier battle groups, ultimately forcing China to step down. Since then, the United States and Taiwan have held strong military ties, alongside Japan.

The United States has been selling its military technology and weapons to Taiwan for decades now, which angers the Communist Party. Despite the United States officially recognizing the Communist Party in 1979, both Taiwan and the US have kept close ties since then.

The US has backed the defence of Taiwan since its creation, hindering China's ability to invade and ultimately take over the island. While the United States has acted as a deterrent against a Chinese invasion, China has become increasingly aggressive over the years.

While the past crisis between China and Taiwan was nearly 20 years ago, tensions are still incredibly high between the 2 nations. Under Xi Jingping, the Communist party has been making more and more bold moves in order to counter both Taiwanese and American interests. The People's Republic of China has seen extensive military growth under the new President's leadership. Multiple amphibious training exercises have been held, mimicking a potential invasion of Taiwan. While the island does have the backing of the United States and her forces, Taiwan's military has been criticized as "ill-prepared" for a defence against China.

The military currently relies on a large amount of dated technology, with 2 of Taiwan's submarines being constructed in the 1980s. Meanwhile, the Chinese government has been investing heavily in expanding its military potential. Its military technology is quickly improving, and combined with its massive size, China's military proves a real threat to both Taiwan and the United States.

Historical sources suggest that the island first came under full Chinese control in the 17th Century when the Qing dynasty began administering it. Then, in 1895, they gave up the island to Japan after losing the first Sino Japanese war.

China took the island again in 1945 after Japan lost World War Two. But a civil war erupted in mainland China between nationalist government forces led by Chiang Kai-shek and Mao Zedong's Communist Party.

The communists won in 1949 and took control in Beijing. Chiang Kai-shek and what was left of the nationalist party - known as the Kuomintang - fled to Taiwan, where they ruled for the next several decades. China points to this history to say that Taiwan was originally a Chinese province. But the Taiwanese point to the same history to argue that they were never part of the modern Chinese state that was first formed after the revolution in 1911 - or the People's Republic of China that was established under Mao in 1949.

The Kuomintang has been one of Taiwan's most prominent political parties ever since - ruling the island for a significant part of its history. Currently, only 13 countries (plus the Vatican) recognise Taiwan as a sovereign country. China exerts considerable diplomatic pressure on other countries not to recognise Taiwan, or to do anything which implies recognition.

Successorship of China in UN

At the time of the creation of the United Nations in 1945, China was amongst the 51 original Member States. In 1949, the CCP proclaimed the People's Republic of China (PRC) in Beijing, and the remaining mainland ROC forces were forced to retreat to Taiwan, which Japan evacuated from in 1945 and renounced all right, title and claim to in the Treaty of San Francisco in 1951. After January 1950, the PRC was in control of mainland China, the PRC was unable to capture Taiwan, Penghu, Matsu and Kinmen as well as Hainan, Dachen, and thus these remained as ROC ruled lands.

The PRC claimed to be the successor government of the ROC, while the Kuomintang in Taiwan championed the continued existence of the Republic of China.

Both claimed to be the only legitimate Chinese government, and each refused to maintain diplomatic relations with countries that have recognized the other. The ROC continued to represent China in the UN until Resolution 2758 was passed.

Article 3 of the UN Charter provides:
The original Members of the United Nations shall be the states which, having participated in the United Nations Conference on International Organization at San Francisco, or having previously signed the Declaration by United Nations of 1 January 1942, sign the present Charter and ratify it in accordance with Article 110.

Additionally, the ROC had signed and ratified the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations on 18 April 1961 and 19 December 1969 respectively. However, by the late 1960s concerns regarding human rights surged, turning the tables of the situation.

On 15 July 1971, 17 UN members, led by Albania, requested that a question of the "Restoration of the lawful rights of the People's Republic of China in the United Nations" be placed on the provisional agenda of the twenty-sixth session of the UNGA.

In an explanatory memorandum accompanying their request, the 17 UN members observed that for years they had protested against what they considered were hostile and discriminatory policy followed by several governments with regard to the communist government of mainland China, which they considered to be the genuine representative of the Chinese people. The existence of the People's Republic of China, they declared, was a reality which could "not be changed to suit the myth of a so-called Republic of China, fabricated out of a portion of Chinese territory." In the view of the 17 UN members, the ROC were unlawful authorities installed in the island of Taiwan which claimed to represent China, and they remained there only because of the permanent presence of United States Armed Forces. No important international problems, they added, could be solved without the participation of the People's Republic of China. It was in the fundamental interests, they concluded, of the United Nations to "restore" promptly to the People's Republic of China its seat in the organization, thus putting an end to a "grave injustice" and "dangerous situation" which had been perpetuated in order to fulfil a policy that had been increasingly repudiated. This meant the immediate expulsion of the representatives of the Chiang Kai-shek regime from the seat which it held in the United Nations.

On 17 August 1971, the United States requested that a second item, "The representation of China in the United Nations" also be placed on the provisional agenda. In the explanatory memorandum accompanying the U.S. request, the U.S. said that in dealing with the problem of the representation of China, the United Nations should take cognizance of the existence of both the People's Republic of China and the Republic of China; it should reflect that incontestable reality in the manner in which it made provision for China's representation. The U.S. asserted that the UN should not be required to take a definitive position on the respective conflicting claims of the People's Republic of China or the Republic of China, pending a peaceful resolution of the matter as called for by the United Nations Charter.

Thus, the U.S. added, the People's Republic of China should be represented and at the same time provision should be made to ensure that the Republic of China was not deprived of its representation.

On 22 September 1971, the United States proposed at the UN General Committee that the two items be combined into one item called "The Question of China". The proposal was, however, rejected by 12 votes to 9 with 3 abstentions.

The Assembly then adopted draft Albanian proposed resolution A/L. 630 and Add. L and 2, by a roll-call vote of 76 to 35, with 17 abstentions, as Resolution 2758. The Beijing government began representing China at the UN from 15 November 1971 and its delegates were seated at the UN Security Council meeting held on 23 November 1971, the first such meeting where representatives of the Beijing government represented China.

China's claim over Taiwan

Beijing asserts that there is only "one China" and that Taiwan is part of it. It views the PRC as the only legitimate government of China, an approach it calls the One-China principle, and seeks Taiwan's eventual "unification" with the mainland.

Beijing claims that Taiwan is bound by an understanding known as the 1992 Consensus, which was reached between representatives of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and the Kuomintang (KMT) party that then ruled Taiwan. However, the two sides don't agree on the content of this so-called consensus, and it was never intended to address the question of Taiwan's legal status. For the PRC, as Chinese President Xi Jinping has stated, the 1992 Consensus reflects an agreement that "the two sides of the strait belong to one China and would work together to seek national reunification." For the KMT, it means "one China, different interpretations," with the ROC standing as the "one China."

Taiwan's KMT-drafted constitution continues to recognize China, Mongolia, Taiwan, Tibet, and the South China Sea as part of the ROC. The KMT does not support Taiwan's independence and has consistently called for closer ties with Beijing. But in the face of recent election losses, KMT leaders have discussed whether to change the party's stance on the 1992 Consensus.

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In order to better understand why the claim of China over Taiwan is highly undisputed it is essential to understand the position of China in the United Nations which many political thinkers believe is the reason for the lack of action taken on behalf of the United Nations and other countries on this matter and heavily criticised both the parties for the same as well.

US-Taiwan Relations

In 1979, the United States established formal diplomatic relations with the PRC. At the same time, it severed its diplomatic ties and abrogated its mutual defense treaty with the ROC. But the United States maintains a robust unofficial relationship with the island and continues to sell defense equipment to its military. Beijing has repeatedly urged Washington to stop selling weapons to and cease contact with Taipei.

The U.S. approach is governed by its One-China policy [PDF]. It is based on several documents, such as three U.S.-China communiqués reached in 1972, 1978, and 1982; the Taiwan Relations Act, passed by the U.S. Congress in 1979; and the recently declassified "Six Assurances" [PDF], which President Ronald Reagan conveyed to Taiwan in 1982. These documents lay out that the United States:

- "acknowledges the Chinese position that there is but one China and Taiwan is part of China" and that the PRC is the "sole legal government of China" (some U.S. officials have emphasized that the use of the word "acknowledge" implies that the United States doesn't necessarily accept the Chinese position);
- rejects any use of force to settle the dispute;
- maintains cultural, commercial, and other ties with Taiwan, carried out through the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT);
- commits to selling arms to Taiwan for self-defense; and
- will maintain the ability to come to Taiwan's defense, while not actually committing to doing so—a policy known as strategic ambiguity.

The United States' chief goal is to maintain peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait, and it has implored both Beijing and Taipei to maintain the status quo. It says it does not support Taiwanese independence.

Through its policy of strategic ambiguity, the United States has for decades attempted to maintain a delicate balance between supporting Taiwan and preventing a war with China. But President Joe Biden has seemingly rejected the policy, stating several times that the United States would come to Taiwan's defense if China attacked. White House officials have walked back his comments, saying the policy has not changed, but ultimately, the president gets to decide how to respond.

Under President Donald Trump, the United States deepened ties with Taiwan over Chinese objections, including by selling more than $18 billion worth of arms to the military and unveiling a $250 million complex for its de facto embassy in Taipei. Trump spoke with Tsai by telephone ahead of his inauguration, the highest level of contact between the two sides since 1979. He also sent several senior administration officials—including a cabinet member—to Taipei, and during his last days in office, the State Department eliminated

long-held restrictions governing where and how U.S. officials can meet with their Taiwanese counterparts.

The Biden administration has taken a similar approach, continuing arms sales and affirming the Trump administration's decision to allow U.S. officials to meet more freely with Taiwanese officials. Biden was the first U.S. president to invite Taiwanese representatives to attend the presidential inauguration. The United States participates in military training and dialogues with Taiwan, regularly sails ships through the Taiwan Strait to demonstrate its military presence in the region, and has encouraged Taiwan to increase its defense spending.

Also, Taiwan has received bipartisan support in Congress over the years, with lawmakers proposing and passing legislation to boost U.S.-Taiwan relations, bolster the island's defenses, and encourage its participation in international organizations. The latest proposed legislation, the Taiwan Policy Act of 2022 [PDF], includes designating Taiwan as a major non–North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) ally. In August 2022, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) visited Taipei—the first speaker to do so since Newt Gingrich (R-GA) in 1997—and met with Tsai. Beijing strongly condemned the visit and in response planned military exercises that effectively surround the island and banned imports of some fruit and fish from Taiwan, among other actions.

Projected State of Involvement

Although Taiwan is only recognized by 18 UN member states, it is treated as a de facto political entity by many states including the US.

The PRC's One China policy make Taiwan's independence and self-determination a delicate topic. Beijing's heavy handedness with Hong Kong undermines any propositions of unification based on Taiwanese home rule.

Any attempt to force Taiwan to unify with mainland China through force would almost certainly result in victory for the PRC, despite the US supplying Taiwan with military equipment. However, the US has a vested interest in keeping Taiwan out of Chinese hands. Control of Taiwan could allow China to project it's power and influence both into the South China Sea, an already hotly contested region, and the wider Pacific.

Taiwan's economy is also a major factor. It dominates the global production of computer chips, which play a vital role in much of the world's electronics – unification would give China control over major industries worldwide. Thus, the US has long adopted a policy of 'strategic ambiguity" towards Taiwan – neither committing to its defence, nor committing not to intervene in case of any incursion by the PRC. Furthermore, it has also formed the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, a semi-formal alliance between the US, Australia, Japan, and India, whose current goal is to prevent Chinese domination of the Indo-Pacific – an alliance that China views as provocative.

Bloc Formation

All three principal actors – China, America, and Taiwan – appear to be adopting more hard-line stances. Despite the US's official policy of strategic ambiguity and recognition of the One China policy, comments by President Biden committing to the defence of the island and a visit by Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi have aggravated tensions. In response, China has sent military aircraft into Taiwan's Air Defense Zone and increased their military exercises in the waters surrounding the island, and any settlement based on Taiwanese independence would be a tough sell to say the least. Taiwan, meanwhile, continues to advocate for their status as an independent sovereign state, and given Russia's recent invasion of Ukraine are especially security-conscious.

America's European allies would certainly prefer to keep the PRC contained to mainland China, although events closer to home take priority and unlike the Russian invasion NATO has no official say in the matter. However, one key ally for the US in the South China Sea region is Australia, both as a land base in the region, as a member of the Five Eyes Intelligence-sharing initiative, and as taking a leading role in attempting to keep many of the nations in the South China Sea region out of the Chinese sphere of influence.

As for those states, such as the Philippines, Vietnam, and other island states, they are fearful of Chinese dominance but may well reconcile themselves to Beijing's influence with the right combination of carrots and sticks. Furthermore, the other Quad nations (India and Japan) are also wary of China's larger ambitions in the Indo-Pacific and are unwilling to see Taiwan as the first stepping stone for China to project it's influence beyond its current maritime borders.

Trade Disruptions from China-Taiwan Conflict

International businesses are assessing the implications for global trade following possible intense disruption of trade in the event of an escalation of conflict between Taiwan and China. This comes after the conflict between Russia and Ukraine led to a disruption in the supplies of oil, gas and wheat along with a price surge all across world.

Asia-Pacific supply chains is expected to enter a period of intense disruption and reconfiguration if a conflict between China and Taiwan occurs, an article in The Singapore Post said quoting China Neican, a current affairs website.

Even though Taiwan and China's conflict can have many likely scenario, several western and Asian analysts have predicted that the end result would be the same and will "involve an economic or military blockade of Taiwan or its outlying islands".

The economic or military blockade will prevent Taiwan from accessing the freight supply routes by sea. These routes will involve the ones passing through the Strait of Malacca, which is a trade chokepoint between the Malay Peninsula and Sumatra, and Luzon Strait, south of Taiwan's main island of Formosa, it added.

The telecommunication and financial services in Taiwan will be disrupted if a blockade occurs in the Luzon Strait as there are several of fibre-optic cables running through the trait which connect China, Japan, Hong Kong and Taiwan with the United States.

The economy of Taiwan will weaken if the Strait of Malacca is blocked as it would prevent the island nation from exporting semi-conductor and sporting goods to the United States and Europe causing them to languish in the ports.

"China will likely conduct denial of service cyber-attacks on critical Taiwanese infrastructure as part of a hybrid warfare strategy, compounding logistical difficulties for businesses. As a result, increased freight costs and circuitous supply routes would quickly ramp up inflationary pressure on consumer technology and renewable energy products," the publication said quoting China Neican.

Meanwhile, several Japanese industrialists and traders have started noticing "growing risks in China as supply chain disruptions from strict COVID-19 restrictions and mounting tensions over the Taiwan Strait loom large over the supersized market," Nikkei Asia said.

The example of Ukraine and Russia are being used to display the devastating realities of war and to make the people in Taiwan submissive.

Consequently, the people of Taiwan have made local efforts to protect themselves from an uncertain future by conducting workshops to teach and empower people to survive in warfare while waiting for government resources.

The increasing aggression by China has caused the Taiwanese people to prepare for the unknown even though a peaceful resolution can still be attained.

Taiwan and mainland China have been governed separately since the defeated Nationalists retreated to the island at the end of the Chinese civil war more than 70 years ago. But China's ruling Chinese Communist Party (CCP) views the self-ruled island as part of its territory despite having never controlled it.

Beijing has not ruled out military force to take Taiwan and has kept the pressure on the democratic island over the past few years with frequent warplane flights into the island's ADIZ.

An ADIZ is unilaterally imposed and distinct from sovereign airspace, which is defined under international law as extending 12 nautical miles from a territory's shoreline.

Source: The Print

Critical Thinking: Is there a connection between the Ruso-Ukraine and Taiwan Conflict in the current times?

Since the committee will be running in a semi-crisis format it is expected of the delegates to think about such possibilities and scenarios which are out of the ordinary and could be a fetched but realistic truth of geopolitics. For the same a few articles have been shared in case anyone is interested in conducting research on the same. Use the articles as the base of your research and then try to analyse all the present facts on your own to figure out if there is in fact an insurable link between the two situations.

https://www.nytimes.com/2022/08/03/world/europe/china-russia-taiwan-ukraine-analysis.html

https://www.cfr.org/blog/ukraine-war-china-and-taiwan

https://www.usip.org/publications/2022/03/china-not-russia-taiwan-not-ukraine

https://thediplomat.com/2022/07/china-is-not-russia-taiwan-is-not-ukraine/

https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/taiwan-warns-russia-china-ties-harm-international-peace/article65898043.ece

With this, we come to an end of the background guide. As explained in the very start, the committee is supposed to be semi-crisis and there will be multiple happenings taking place while the committee goes on in a realistic fictional setting which shall be explained well in the training session and the committee to the delegates, therefore its requested of the delegates to not only rely on the background guide but rather use their own creative thinking and rationale to go beyond this document and search for multiple scenarios and backgrounds behind this conflict. And at the end of their research, the most crucial task is to understand and analyse the facts and figures in order to turn them into arguments of their own.

Regards and Happy Researching!