

The background of the page features a large, light blue United Nations emblem. It consists of a laurel wreath encircling a globe, with a city skyline silhouette at the base of the globe.

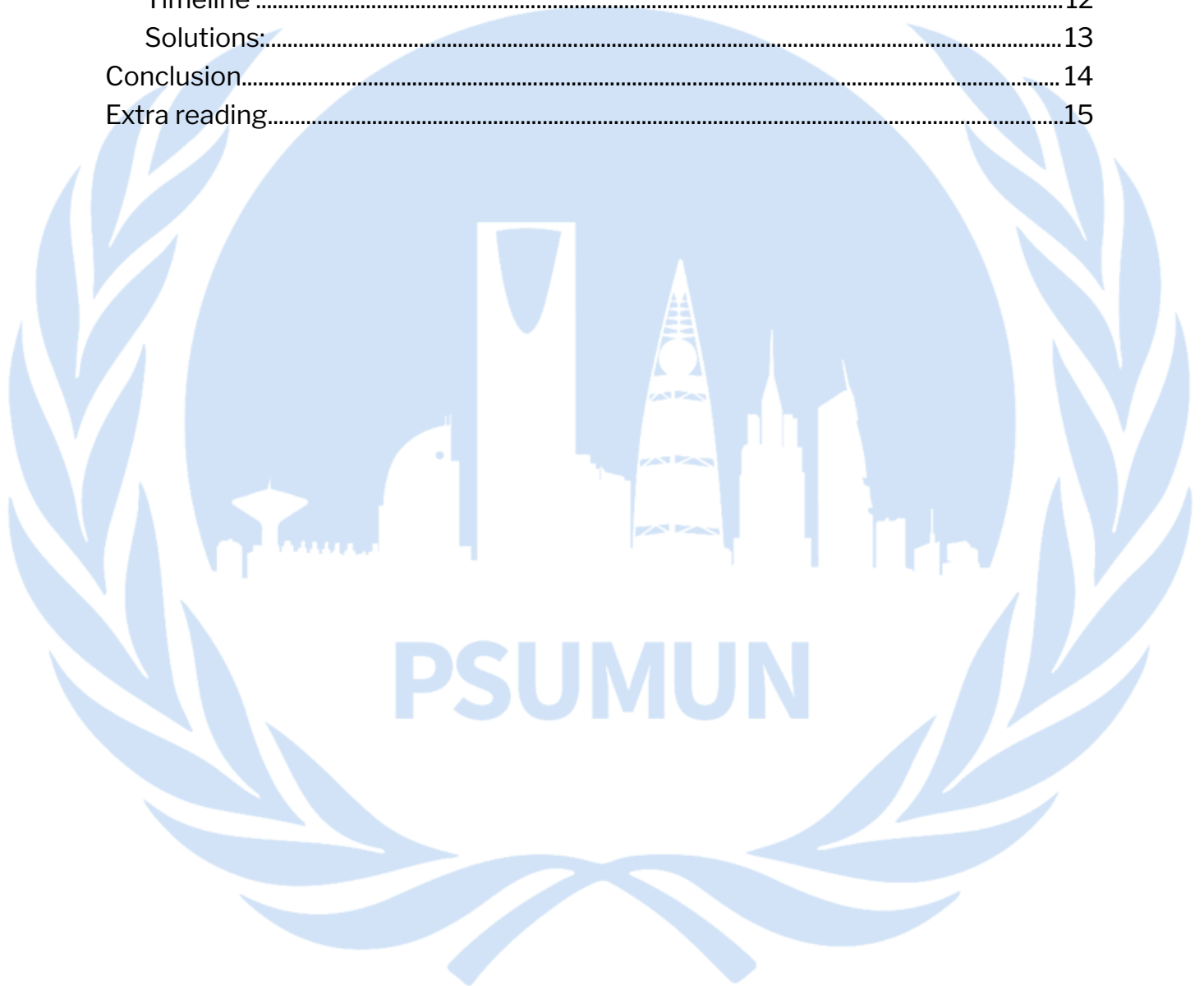
The Korean War United Nations Security Council (Historical)

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PSUMUN

Table of contents

Introduction to chairs:.....	3
Committee Overview:.....	5
Introduction.....	8
Background information:.....	9
Major Countries Involved:.....	11
Timeline :.....	12
Solutions:.....	13
Conclusion.....	14
Extra reading.....	15



Introduction to chairs:

Dear delegates! It is our pleasure to welcome you to Prince Sultan University's Model United Nations 2023 edition under the special historical committee of the United Nations Security Council.

Model United Nations is a unique world that places you into the perspective of nations on a global scale using all their means to resolve conflicts, create change, and improve life for all humanity.

For us it is so much more, MUN was a catalyst of change that allowed us to meet and become friends with a global community, it was an event that tested our skills in speaking, debating, teamwork, and writing. Together we have managed to attend 10+ conferences within Saudi Arabia and outside as delegates, chairs, and organizers of our very own Prince Sultan University's Model United Nations! Throughout these conferences we've gone through numerous life lessons and created lifelong bonds across the Kingdom.

We look forward to channeling all of these experiences into creating the best experience for you, the delegate! We ask you to bring your A-game for this weekend and come prepared with as much research as possible (the coffee's on us :D) to make this an enjoyable experience for all of us.

Regardless of your experience, take this opportunity to truly make the most out of it! and feel free to reach out to us should you want to know about anything related to MUN or outside of it. We look forward to interacting with you all and hope you leave this MUN with a new perspective on this world.

Sincerely yours,

Abdelrahman Babiker & Naif Aldhaban

HUNSC Chairs – PSUMUN 2023

WELCOME ADDRESS TO PSUMUN 2023

Dear Delegates,

We are very happy to have you all with us at PSUMUN'23. This year we have the largest event we have had at PSUMUN since its beginning and we are honored that you are a part of it.

This year we have a large number of committees and a plethora of delegates from all around the Kingdom and beyond. We hope you use this opportunity to research the topics that will help you learn more about the past, present, and future of our world. We would also like you to learn from the other delegates that may come from completely different backgrounds.

Model UN conferences are very fun and entertaining, but we hope that PSUMUN becomes more than that to you. We hope that you leave our conference taking a step into the right direction of your future. Everything we learn in life is one step further on the ladder of success and PSUMUN aims to help you with that.

We strive to help educate our delegates to learn more about world issues and learn all the amazing skills that come with joining Model UN conferences. We wish you all the best in the conference and in all your future endeavors.

With that, we hope you have fruitful and constructive debates. The SG yields the floor to you.

Good luck!

*Best regards,
Hend Moughrabiah, Secretary - General*



Figure 1 United Nations Security Council Mural

Committee Overview:

The United Nations Security Council is the pinnacle of the United Nations as a whole. The entire essence of it is represented in a single committee with 15 member nations aiming to represent the world's various regions and blocks.

Since its inception in 1945 the UNSC has authorized numerous peacekeeping missions and interventions in various conflicts throughout the world. All in the name of peace and security around the globe. While their presence has attracted criticism with several studies pointing out that the responsiveness of the member states in the committee are formed greatly by the political interest of

those member states, a RAND Corporation study found that 88% of the UN interventions ended up in lasting peace to those regions.

The committee is comprised of 15 nation states:

- Permanent members: Nations that have the permanent veto power to block any resolution from the UNSC or UN General Assembly
 - People's Republic of China
 - French Republic
 - Russian Federation
 - United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
 - United States of America
- Non-permanent members: A rotating group of nations each aiming to represent a block. Each member is elected for a 2-year term.
 - Africa is represented by 3 members
 - Latin America and the Caribbean by 2
 - Western Europe and others by 2
 - Asia pacific by 2 (traditionally one nation is usually Arab)
 - Eastern Europe by 1

The **historical** committee we'll be engaging in is very special. The Korean war blew out just 5 years after the formation of the UNSC. The permanent members of today's Russian Federation, People's Republic of China were occupied by the United States of Soviet Republics and Republic of China. This topic was one of the first real challenges to be faced by this committee.

For the sake of engaging in a fair debate and conversation the following guidelines will be reflected during the committee session:

- Official member list:
 - P5
 - People's Republic of China **not** the Republic of China (Taiwan)
 - French Republic
 - Soviet Union
 - United Kingdom
 - United States
 - Non-p5

- 
- North Korea
 - South Korea
 - Dominion of Canada
 - Commonwealth of Australia
 - Republic of Turkey
 - Republic of India
 - Dominion of Pakistan
 - Kingdom of Belgium
 - Republic of the Philippines
 - Kingdom of Thailand

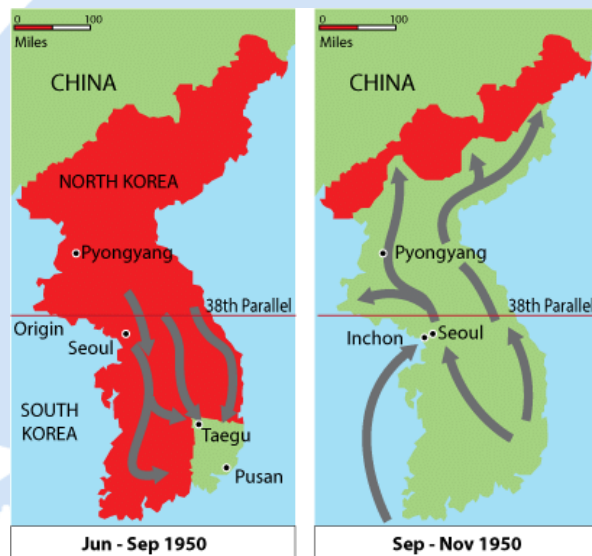
- The Chinese seat will be represented by the People's Republic of China **not** the Republic of China (Taiwan).
- The USSR which was boycotting the sessions during early 1950 is attending for your sake.
- As this is a historical committee the cut off year will be 1950. Meaning that any facts, figures, analysis collected **after** this year will **not** be allowed to be discussed during moderated debate and cannot be used as evidence in any working paper.

Introduction

The Korean war

The Korean war is an ongoing conflict which has thrown the lives of millions of humans across the Korean peninsula into chaos and disarray.

Korea was left divided and broken from the previous international presence in its geography. After the second world war North Korea was occupied by the USSR which established a communist regime whilst the south was occupied by the United States which established a capitalist government. This division created ideological differences and animosity between the two regions.



After failed attempts unify the two Koreas which were divided along the 38th parallel. North Korea supported by the Soviet Union and China invaded South Korea capturing the capital city of Seoul in just three days.

The United Nations responded with a peacekeeping force led by the US to quickly defend the Pusan Perimeter.

Afraid of foreign influence China intervened, sending 200k+ troops across the river shaking the landscape and inflicting heavy losses on the US led forces. As it stands the Chinese are ready to fight back and reclaim the gains by the won by the US led forces.

Background information:

To understand the Korean war, you must start from the Japanese occupation of Korea from 1910 to 1945. The Japanese were a force of colonial oppression which put the southeast of Asia under their footsteps. The Japanese occupation sought to milk the Korean economy. Many of Korea's resources, such as rice, fish, and minerals, were extracted and sent to Japan to support its growing empire. This export-oriented model bankrupted many local industries and left the Korean population impoverished. Moreover, the development under the Japanese colonial rule was highly uneven and concentrated in certain areas, which led to serious regional disparities. For example, heavy industries were mainly established in the north with its rich mineral resources and hydroelectric potential, while the southern part, being predominantly agriculture-oriented, was geared towards the production of food and raw materials. As a result, the north became more urbanized and industrialized, while the south remained largely rural.

After the end of the second World War and with Japan's defeat Korea saw a power vacuum which caused a formal division across the 38th parallel which was a result of negotiations between the Soviet Union and the United States.

At the end of World War II in 1945, Japan, which had occupied Korea since 1910, surrendered to the Allied forces. The question of what would happen to Korea after Japan's defeat was a complex issue.

However, the onset of the Cold War between the United States and the Soviet Union delayed these plans. The ideological differences between the two major world powers resulted in two different administrations: a communist-inspired regime in the north directed by Kim Il-sung (supported by the Soviet Union), and the democratic south overseen by Syngman Rhee (supported by the United States).

The efforts to conduct nationwide elections failed due to the disagreement over who would hold these elections. As a result, both North and South held separate elections and declared independence as two separate nations in 1948, thereby solidifying the division. However, the ideological differences between the Soviet Union and the United States, the two major power players in the post-war world order, quickly became a stumbling block in these efforts. The Cold War was starting to take shape, and the ideological divide between communism and capitalism was intensifying around the globe.

In North Korea, the Soviets established a communist regime under the leadership of Kim Il-sung. In the South, the United States helped install a pro-Western regime under Syngman Rhee. Despite several attempted negotiations to reunify

the nation, their political, ideological, and economic differences made it impossible. In 1948, both North and South Korea declared themselves independent nations with diametrically opposing political systems: the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North) and the Republic of Korea (South).

South Korea experienced significant political instability in the period leading up to the war. Syngman Rhee, the first President of South Korea, faced multiple civil uprisings and insurrections against his rule. His government's repressive measures, including extensive purges and suppression of opposition, intensified internal discord in South Korea. Economic Fragility: As a predominantly agricultural region during Japanese occupation, South Korea lacked the heavy industry and infrastructure present in the North. After the partition, South Korea faced a significant loss in productivity and a severe shortage of electricity, contributing to economic hardship and insecurity. Rhee's government initially didn't have a strong, well-organized military force. The United States, keen on avoiding another global conflict so soon after World War II, had been reluctant to provide substantial military aid to South Korea. This changed when in January 1950, U.S. Secretary of State Dean Acheson publicly excluded South Korea from America's "defensive perimeter" in Asia. This statement may have led North Korea to perceive South Korea as an easy target. North Korea may have believed the South Korean populace, particularly the poor and disenfranchised, would support a communist regime, or would at least not resist it. The economic hardship, social unrest, and political corruption within South Korea could present favorable conditions for an invasion.

Overall, North Korea's decision to invade the South was a gamble based on the perceived political and military weaknesses of South Korea. However, they underestimated the international community's willingness to intervene, leading to the protracted and devastating Korean War.

Major Countries Involved:

The Korean War saw significant involvement from a number of countries. Below is a list of major participants and a brief overview of their roles up until December 1950:

1. North Korea (Democratic People's Republic of Korea): Invaded South Korea on June 25, 1950, to attempt to unify the peninsula under communist rule.
2. South Korea (Republic of Korea): Defended against the North Korean invasion with the aid of United Nations forces.
3. United States: As a key member of the United Nations, the U.S. provided the majority of the foreign military force to aid South Korea. U.S. General Douglas MacArthur led the UN Command.
4. Soviet Union: Although it did not officially participate in the war to avoid direct confrontation with the U.S., the Soviet Union provided significant military equipment, logistical support, strategic planning, and training to North Korea. They also deployed Soviet air force units.
5. China: Initially China was not directly involved, but as UN forces moved northward towards its borders, it felt threatened and officially entered the war in late November 1950 as the People's Volunteer Army to assist North Korea.
6. United Nations: The UN played a crucial role, and other member states including the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa, and many others, provided military and/or medical support to South Korea. It's noteworthy to mention the remarkable involvement of Turkish Brigade and the contribution of medical units from countries like India and Denmark.

Involvement on both sides significantly escalated past 1950, drawing in more countries as the war continued until 1953.

Timeline :

1. June-July: Rapid North Korean advance - The North Korean forces quickly captured Seoul and pushed the South Korean and American troops to the southeastern corner of the Korean Peninsula, forming a perimeter around the city of Pusan, the so-called "Pusan Perimeter."
2. July-August: Defense of the Pusan Perimeter - South Korean and UN forces, predominantly American troops, managed to stop the North Korean advance at Pusan, establishing a defensive perimeter.
3. September: Inchon Landing - A daring amphibious assault at Inchon, masterminded by General Douglas MacArthur of the United States, was executed. This surprise attack was behind North Korean lines, and it allowed UN forces to push the North Koreans back.
4. September-October: UN Offensive and Recapturing of Seoul - After the successful Inchon landing, UN forces launched a major counter-offensive, managing to recapture Seoul and push North Korean forces back across the 38th Parallel.
5. October-November: Push into North Korea - UN forces continued their assault, capturing the North Korean capital Pyongyang and reaching the Yalu River, the border between China and North Korea.
6. November-December: Chinese Intervention and UN Retreat - As a reaction to UN forces nearing its border, China entered the war on the side of North Korea in late November. Outnumbered and outmaneuvered, UN forces were forced into a significant retreat, ending the year in a situation similar to the start of the war, with the battle line close to the 38th parallel.

By the end of 1950, the Korean War had fully transitioned to a prolonged, brutal conflict that would continue for another three years.

Attempted solutions in the past:

There were some early negotiations attempted in the Security Council

On June 27, 1950, the Security Council passed Resolution 82, which called upon member states, including the United States, to provide military assistance to South Korea and repel the North Korean forces. This resolution effectively authorized a multinational coalition to intervene in defense of South Korea.

During this initial phase, the focus was primarily on military action rather than diplomatic negotiations. The United Nations forces, primarily led by the United States, fought back against the North Korean invasion, and gradually pushed back the enemy forces.

Although there were discussions at the United Nations about a ceasefire and a potential resolution to the conflict, these early negotiations were limited because the Soviet Union, who supported North Korea, was absent from the proceedings. Absent such participation, the negotiations did not result in a formal agreement or significant progress towards a resolution.

Proposed solutions:

1. One possible solution might have involved negotiations for a withdrawal of both North Korean and United Nations forces from the Korean Peninsula. This could have aimed to restore the pre-war status quo and create a demilitarized zone along the 38th parallel.
2. Diplomatic discussions could have centered on reunification of the Korean Peninsula under a neutral or unified government. This might have included negotiations on the structure and governance of a unified Korea, addressing issues of representation, political systems, and guarantees of human rights.
3. Another potential solution could have been a ceasefire agreement with specific conditions. For example, negotiations could have focused on establishing a buffer zone or demilitarized zone along the 38th parallel, with guarantees of non-aggression and non-interference from external powers.
4. Efforts could have been made to involve neutral third parties, such as countries or organizations with no direct stake in the conflict, to mediate the dispute. This could have provided a platform for impartial discussions and helped facilitate a peaceful resolution.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the Korean War was a result of various factors, including the Japanese occupation of Korea and the division of the country along the 38th parallel after World War II. The exploitative nature of the Japanese occupation left Korea economically depleted, and the division of the nation into two separate entities with opposing political ideologies increased tensions. These factors set the stage for the outbreak of the war.

The Korean War showcased the impact of Cold War politics, as the conflict became a battleground for the larger ideological struggle between communism and capitalism. The invasion of South Korea by North Korea in 1950 further deepened the divide and initiated a devastating war that resulted in significant loss of life and destruction.

The war also highlighted the vulnerabilities and instabilities within South Korea, struggling with political unrest and an underdeveloped economy. The conflict stemmed from a combination of external aggression and internal challenges, underscoring the importance of domestic stability and regional security.

When venturing into this topic think about the following questions

- What caused the split in ideology across the Koreas?
- What's so special about the 38th parallel?
- Can the Koreas be unified? If so, how?
- Which nations gain politically from this conflict? Who stands to lose from it?
- How are the neighboring countries reacting to the conflict?
- Is there a potential for nuclear arms to be involved in the conflict?

Extra reading

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