



DPS-East  
Model United  
Nations  
Conference  
2018

Committee: United Nations Security  
Council



**Background Guide**  
**South Sudanese Crisis**

# Letter from the Executive Board

Greetings delegates,

*It is our distinct pleasure to welcome you to the United Nations Security Council at DEMUN 2018. My name is Aniruddh Vaddadi and will be serving as your chair/president for the duration of this conference along with my co-chair Nivedhitaa.*

*It is a privilege and honour for us to be a part of the Executive Board for UNSC in DeMUN2018.*

*While creating the country matrix of this committee, we intended to create something unique, and potentially to the point, hence the country matrix has a unique and decisive edge to it. The United Nations Security Council is often confused to be the most difficult committee at an MUN conference, however, this committee is the sole committee with power to execute actions among the primary organs of the United Nations. The power is here at the Security Council, but are you?*

*This study guide will never be enough research; however it will give you enough insight into the agenda. Also, embedded in this study guide, are a series of hints, at which direction your research should be heading. The Executive Board encourages you to research further about the agenda, position of the member states and the intricate details of this geo-political conundrum.*

*We hope that every delegate has a great time during the 2 days of the MUN, inside and outside committee. An MUN is not only about battling out your foreign policy but also meeting new people, fostering friendships, learning new things and having a time to remember.*

*Feel free to drop your queries to the Executive Board. If this is your first MUN, it's highly encouraged that you should contact the Executive Board and come to pace with the intricacy of the committee, agenda and the procedure of an MUN conference. There will be an orientation before the conference and we will explain the rules of procedure (ROP) before committee begins. Looking forward to a fun filled 2 days with exhilarating and top notch debate.*

## **A Brief History**

While the Republic of South Sudan is a newer Member State of the United Nations (UN), conflicts and concerns within the region have existed for decades. After Sudan declared its independence from Britain and Egypt in 1956, two extensive periods of civil war occurred during which over two million Sudanese died. In 2005, a Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) was achieved, and, after an established six-year period, the South decided to secede, with South Sudan becoming an independent country on July 9, 2011. In Security Council (SC) resolution 1999, the SC recommended the admittance of South Sudan to the UN, and the General Assembly officially recognized South Sudan on July 14, 2011. While South Sudan is now formally recognized as an independent country and a UN Member State, conflicts and humanitarian crises continue to exist within the region. Accordingly, an effective approach to ameliorating and stabilizing the situation in South Sudan must include political, economic, and social aspects. Many ethnic, political, developmental and humanitarian issues confront South Sudan. Conflicts and border violence still exist between South Sudan and Sudan, including within the Nuba Mountains and over the border region of Abyei. Ethnic violence between tribes in the region over land and tribal issues also continues within South Sudan. Displacement is also of great concern; due to both trans-national and inter-tribal ethnic conflict, an estimated 350,000 individuals were displaced in 2011. The use of child soldiers in South Sudan also remains prevalent within the region and needs continued international attention. While the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) agreed to no longer use or recruit child soldiers in 2003, and has removed 3000 from its military, the UN Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict recently stated that 2,000 child soldiers remain in the SPLM. Additionally, South Sudan lacks necessary transportation, educational, and medical infrastructure, and due to its economic dependence on oil resources, its economy remains tied to Sudan. Further humanitarian issues also continue to hinder South Sudan's stability and development. Only 55% of citizens have access to a drinking water source and 35.7% of the population does not have access to adequate food resources. A mere 10% of children complete their primary education, and for every one girl enrolled, there are three boys. These humanitarian concerns affect the lives of the South Sudanese and inhibit all forms of development. Given the situation in South Sudan and the SC's responsibility to address global peace and security issues, the SC continues to discuss the Member State. UNMISS is a subsidiary of the SC. It is a peacekeeping mission focused on security and development. The initial period of UNMISS was mandated through July 2012 and can be extended as necessary. In April 2012, the African Union (AU) specifically asked the SC to address the escalating border violence. In response, on May 2, the SC unanimously passed SC resolution 2046, which acknowledges the Roadmap established by the AU's Peace and Security Council towards alleviating

regional fighting and calls for the immediate end of the conflict. It also states that sanctions may be employed if such action does not occur, and establishes that South Sudan and Sudan must restart negotiations related to oil revenue and country borders.

On May 17, the SC adopted SC resolution 2047, which addresses the Abyei region, marking a commitment by the international community to build peace in the region. While the secession of South Sudan has occurred and the country has received its independence, the conflicts and social issues that contributed to, and resulted from, past civil wars continue to impede peace, security, and development within the region. As the situation in South Sudan is constantly changing, the SC must continue to address all aspects of these concerns.

## **TIMELINE**

1) On Jan. 9, 2005, after three years of negotiations, a peace deal was reached between the southern rebels, led by John Garang of the SPLA, and the Khartoum government, ending Africa's longest-running civil war. Under the deal, roughly half of Sudan's oil wealth was given to the south, as well as nearly complete autonomy and the right to secede after six years.

2) In April 2010 elections, Salva Kiir, head of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement, was re-elected president of the semi-autonomous South, taking 93% of the vote. He opted not to run for national president, choosing instead to remain the leader of southern Sudan — leaving no doubt that he supported independence

3) The countries teetered on the brink of border war in April 2012. South Sudan took over disputed oil fields in Heglig, a move the African Union and the UN called illegal. Both sides traded ground and aerial attacks, and Sudan's president Omar al-Bashir said South Sudan he would not negotiate with South Sudan because it only responds to "the gun and bullets." The South withdrew from the contested region, but the aggression continued, prompting the African Union to give the two sides three months to resolve the issues over oil and the disputed border.

4) In late July 2013, President Salva Kiir, dismissed his cabinet and vice-president, Riek Machar. He said the move was intended to streamline the government and rout out corruption. However, many saw it as an attempt to curtail the ambition and power of Machar. Machar and his backers called Kiir a dictator, and political unrest followed for months. In December, Kiir accused Machar of attempting a coup. Machar denied the allegation, and fighting broke out in Juba between government troops and rebels loyal to Machar. Tribal rivalries also factored into the violence, with the Dinka, the majority tribe, backing Kiir, and the second-largest

tribe, the Nuer, supporting Machar. Rebels took control of Unity and Upper Nile, two oil-producing states, but government troops remained better armed and in control of most other states. About 10,000 people died in what is considered a civil war and about 700,000 people fled their homes to escape the violence. The government and rebels signed a ceasefire in late January 2014 in Ethiopia. Both sides agreed to halt military operations while they negotiate further. The status of detainees, mostly supporters of Machar, remains a sensitive issue. Both sides violated the ceasefire, and negotiations in February produced few results.

5) Mr. Machar eventually returned from exile to be sworn in as first vice president of a new unity government under Mr. Kiir in April 2016.

## **Questions to be addressed by delegates in the committee:**

- 1) How should the Security Council address border violence and concerns of ethnic conflict? How can the region's history of civil war inform and influence future discussions and decisions of the Security Council in these matters?
- 2) How can the Security Council ameliorate continuing political and social concerns within South Sudan? What peacekeeping actions or sanctions may be necessary?
- 3) How can the Security Council ensure that the Government of South Sudan fulfills its obligations as contracted with the international community in relation to accountability, oil revenue, development, social services, and other factors?

Please do not restrict your research to this guide. This should only act as a base for your extended research. Please feel free to contact us through email about any doubts you may have, no matter how vague or trivial they may be.

With regards,

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