



General Assembly

IIITA MUN 2014



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Effervescence MM14

Source of Information

Documents from the following sources will be considered as creditable proof for any allegations or statements that require verification.

Reuters: Appropriate Documents and articles from Reuters News Agency will be used to corroborate or refute controversial statements made in committee.

UN Document: Documents by all UN agencies will be considered as a sufficient proof. Reports from all UN bodies including treaty based bodies will also be accepted.

Government Bodies: Government reports of a given country used to corroborate an allegation on the same afore mentioned country will be also accepted as a proof.

Committee – United Nations General Assembly

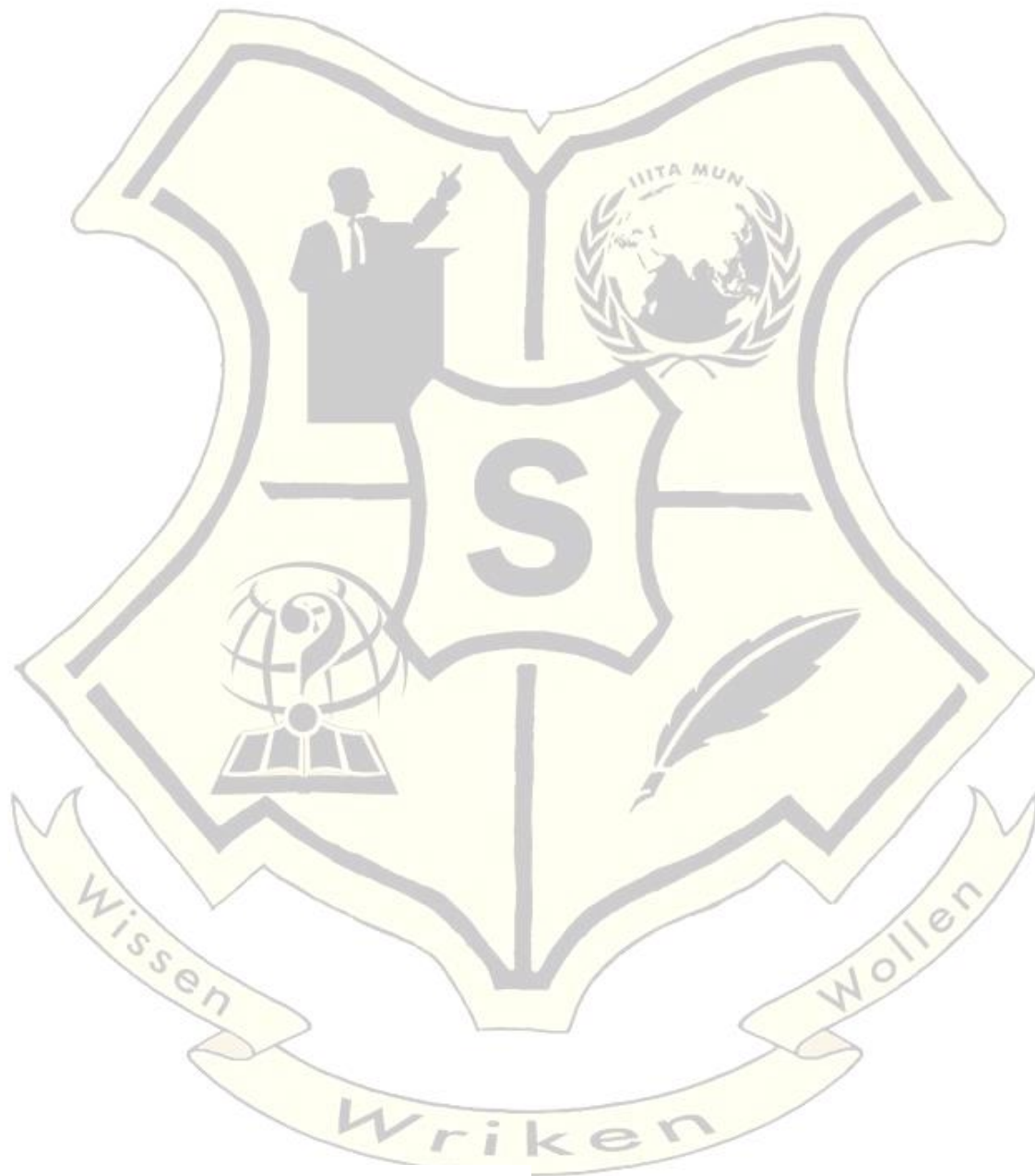
The First Committee, one of the six main committees of the general assembly, is allocated agenda items related to inclusion of G4 namely Brazil, Germany, India and Japan as the permanent members in the United Nations Security Council.

The **First Committee** would be responsible for creating a report that;

- Indicates the meetings at which item was considered
- Summarizes the committee's consideration of the item
- Identifies the sponsors of the draft resolution
- Reports the vote, if any, of Member States on draft texts
- Transmits the final version of the draft resolution and/or decision recommended to the plenary for adoption

This documents serves as a DISEC for the General Assembly meeting, to be held with the topic,

“The G4 nations namely Brazil, Germany, India and Japan should be included as the permanent members of the Security Council, taking in consideration their current world contribution and representation “.

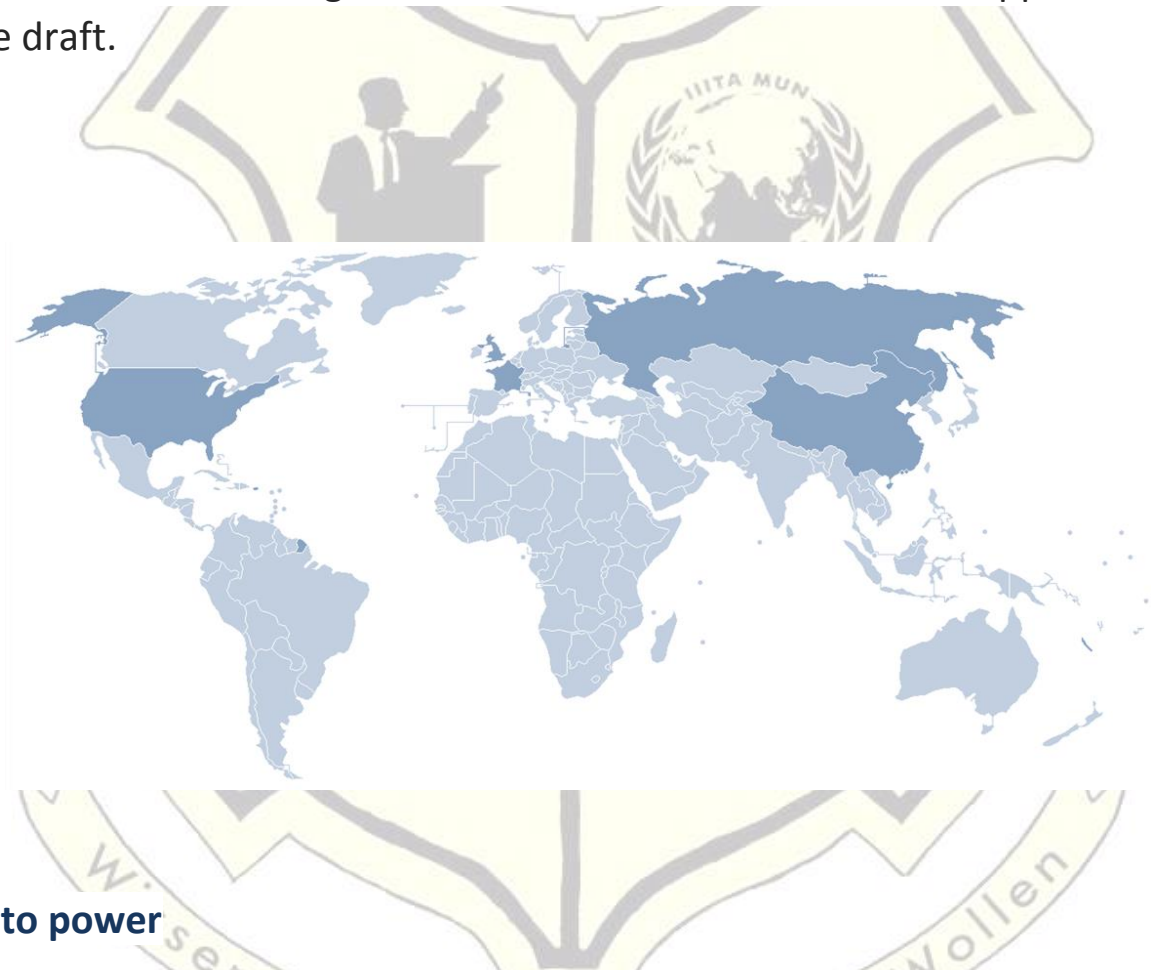


Overview of Security Council

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) is one of the principal organs of the United Nations. According to article 24 of the UN Charter, the foundational treaty of the United Nations, the UN Member States have conferred the primary responsibility of maintenance of international peace and security to the Security Council and have agreed that this body, in order to carry on this duty, acts on their behalf. The Member States have agreed to accept and carry out the decisions of the Security Council through article 25 of the Charter. While other organs of the United Nations can only make recommendations to governments, the UNSC is the only organ capable of issuing resolutions that are legally binding on all Member States. In order to fulfil its responsibility of maintaining international peace and security and when faced with a conflict, the first action of the Council is to recommend to the parties that they reach agreement through peaceful means. It may appoint special representatives, may ask the Secretary-General to appoint special representatives, and may set some principles for the peaceful settlement of the conflict. When a dispute leads to fighting, the UNSC will try to bring it to an end as soon as possible. It can do so by issuing ceasefire directives, sending UN peacekeeping forces or eventually deciding on enforcement actions such as economic sanctions or collective military action. The Council's other responsibilities include recommending the admission of new members and the appointment of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly of the United Nations (UNGA). Together with the UNGA, it is responsible for electing the judges of International Court of Justice.

The permanent nations

The permanent members of the [United Nations Security Council](#), also known as the Permanent Five ,Big Five, or P5, include the following five governments: [China](#), [France](#), [Russia](#), the [United Kingdom](#), and the [United States](#). Each of the permanent members has [power to veto](#), enabling them to [prevent the adoption of any "substantive" draft Council resolution](#), regardless of the level of international support for the draft.



Veto power

As mentioned earlier, [Article 27 of the UN Charter](#) allows the permanent members of the Security Council to [quash any non-procedural draft resolution](#) with their negative votes, irrespective of its level of international support and popularity. This power is referred to as the “veto power” of the Permanent Five although the word “veto” is never mentioned in the Charter.

The initial reason for the inclusion of this power in the Charter was to prevent the UN to take direct actions against any of its **principal founding members**.

The first veto was cast in February 1946 by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) and since then the permanent members have used their veto power a total of 263 times. Veto power has become distant from that initial reason and how this power has turned into a tool for protecting national interests of permanent members or their strategic allies.

“Pocket Veto”

As mentioned before, instead of casting a veto and attracting criticism, countries increasingly prefer to use the “pocket veto” (namely the threat of the use of veto). They use that threat either implicitly or explicitly, either in the private meetings of the Permanent Five or in the larger Council. On many occasions, they managed to reach their intended outcome and could keep an issue off the Council’s agenda or soften the language of a resolution. The examples of “pocket veto” are abound.

Veto Power and permanent nations

RUSSIA

Russia has used its prerogative more times than any other permanent member. Moscow has blocked resolutions 127 times since the UN was formed. Of those vetoes, 93 pertained to entire resolutions and 29 were objections to specific paragraphs or amendments.

The vast majority of those vetoes were undertaken before 1991, when Russia was part of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR). The USSR exercised its veto 119 times from 1946 to 1991.

The use of the veto by Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet foreign minister at the height of the Cold War with the West between 1957 and 1985, was so common that he was known at the UN as "Mr Nyet".

Between 1946 and 1968, the USSR exercised its veto 80 times, compared to three times by the UK, twice by France and zero by the US.

Moscow's last two vetoes have been on resolutions relating to Syria. Churkin argued that the resolutions, the first of which was vetoed on October 5, have put the UN in a position of taking sides in an internal matter and discouraging a resolution based on political dialogue.

UNITED STATES of AMERICA

The United States did not exercise its first veto until 1970, on a resolution regarding Southern Rhodesia, which is present-day Zimbabwe.

Since then, it has used its veto 79 times, with more than 40 related to issues in the Middle East.

The majority have been resolutions that have criticised the Israeli government or failed to condemn armed Palestinian factions in the same language as that being used for Israel.

It used **its last veto** to block a resolution that would term Israeli settlement activity in Palestinian territory "illegal" and demand a halt to all such actions.

Susan Rice, the US ambassador to the UN, **said** her country "reject[ed] in the strongest terms the legitimacy of continued Israeli settlement activity", but the resolution "risk[ed] hardening the positions of both sides" and moving them away from negotiations.

UNITED KINGDOM

The United Kingdom has used its veto 31 times; the first in 1956 when it joined France in opposing a resolution ordering Israel to withdraw from Egypt.

It's most recent veto was in 1989, when it joined the United States and France in rejecting a resolution that criticised the US military intervention in Panama.

London tends to use its veto in conjunction with other countries, usually France and the US, although it has used a unilateral veto on seven occasions.

FRANCE

France has used its veto 17 times, most recently against the 1989 resolution on US involvement in Panama.

Like the UK, its first veto was in 1956 during the war between Israel and Egypt. France stood alone in 1947 to block a resolution relating to Indonesia.

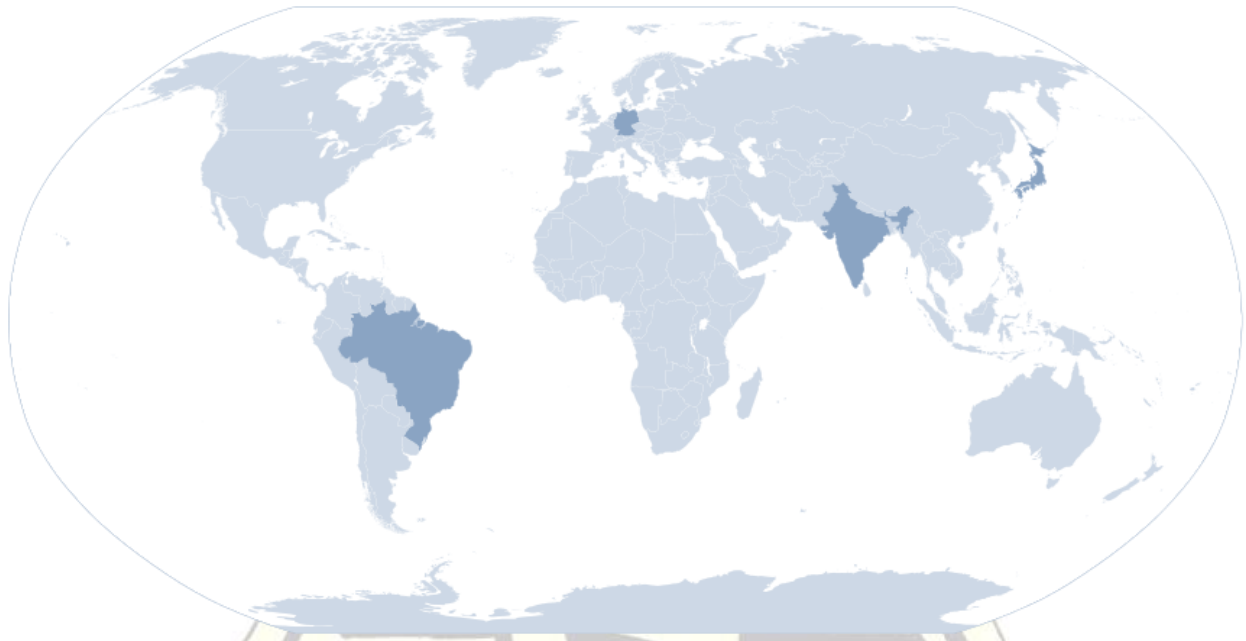
Its only other unilateral veto came in 1976, on a resolution dealing with the Comoros Islands.

CHINA

China's Security Council seat was occupied by the Republic of China (Taiwan) from 1946 to 1971. During that period, it used its veto only to block Mongolia's entry into the UN in 1955.

In total, it has used its veto nine times. Each of Beijing's four vetoes since 2005 have been come in unison with Russia.

The last veto China undertook on its own was during the Kosovo War in 1999, blocking a resolution regarding the refugee situation in the then-Yugoslav republic of Macedonia.



The G4 Nations

The G4 nations comprising [Brazil](#), [Germany](#), [India](#), and [Japan](#) are four countries which support each other's [bids for permanent seats](#) on the [United Nations Security Council](#). The G4's primary aim is the [permanent member seats](#) on the Security Council. Each of these four countries have figured among the elected non-permanent members of the council since the UN's establishment. Their economic and political influence has grown significantly in the last decades, reaching a scope comparable to the permanent members (P5).

Wriken










Background

The G4 nations are regularly elected to two-year terms on the Security Council as non-permanent members by their respective regional groups: in the 24-year period from 1987 to 2010, Japan was elected for five terms, Brazil for five terms, Germany for four terms and India for two terms. Cumulatively, the G4 has spent 64 years on the Security Council since the UN's inception, with each country serving at least a decade. By comparison, the three permanent members of the Security Council who have maintained their seats since the UN's founding (France, the U.K., and the U.S.) have each accrued 68 years of membership. The People's Republic of China has held its permanent seat for 42 years, since it replaced the Republic of China in 1971, and the Soviet Union held a permanent seat for 45 years before being replaced by Russia.

According to the IMF, all countries in the current "P5" members of the Security Council and the G4 currently rank among the 10 economies with the highest nominal GDP in the world, both regarding the calculation of GDP by Purchasing Power Parity, and nominal GDP, with Italy being the only non P5 or G4 member among them. They also account for 9 of the world's ten largest defense budgets, with Saudi Arabia being the only non P5 or G4 member among them. In both scenarios, the P5 and G4 countries combined account for over 60% of the world's GDP, and around half of the world's total population.

Opposition

There has been discontent among the present permanent members regarding the inclusion of controversial nations or countries not supported by them. For instance, Japan's bid is heavily opposed by the People's Republic of China and South Korea, who believes that Japan needs to atone further for its war crimes in World War II. At the

Quick Comparison of G4 and P5 Members							
		Population	GDP ¹	UN funding ²	Defense budget ¹	Active military	Nuclear arsenal
 Brazil	G4	190,732,694 (5th)	\$2,443 (7th)	1.611% (14th)	\$35.4 (10th)	327,710 (14th)	✗ NO
 Germany	G4	82,329,758 (16th)	\$3,577 (4th)	8.018% (3rd)	\$46.7 (9th)	250,613 (22nd)	✗ NO ³
 India	G4	1,210,193,422 (2nd)	\$1,827 (10th)	0.534% (27th)	\$46.8 (7th)	1,325,000 (3rd)	✓ YES
 Japan	G4	128,056,026 (10th)	\$5,867 (3rd)	12.53% (2nd)	\$59.3 (6th)	230,300 (24th)	✗ NO
 China	P5	1,347,338,352 (1st)	\$7,298 (2nd)	3.189% (8th)	\$143.0 (2nd)	2,285,000 (1st)	✓ YES
 France	P5	65,821,885 (21st)	\$2,778 (5th)	6.123% (5th)	\$62.5 (5th)	352,771 (13th)	✓ YES
 Russia	P5	143,056,383 (9th)	\$1,850 (9th)	1.602% (15th)	\$71.9 (3rd)	1,027,000 (5th)	✓ YES
 UK	P5	63,047,162 (22nd)	\$2,494 (6th)	6.604% (4th)	\$62.7 (4th)	197,780 (26th)	✓ YES
 US	P5	312,913,872 (3rd)	\$15,076 (1st)	22.00% (1st)	\$711.0 (1st)	1,458,219 (2nd)	✓ YES
¹ \$US billions ² Percent contributed to total UN budget ³ Takes part in NATO nuclear weapons sharing agreement							

same time Japan finds strong support from the United States and the United Kingdom.

Under the leadership of Italy, countries that strongly oppose the G4 countries' bids have formed the Uniting for Consensus movement, or the *Coffee Club*, composed mainly of regional powers that oppose the rise of some nearby country to permanent member status. In East Asia, both China and South Korea heavily oppose Japan's bid. In Latin

America, Colombia, Argentina and Mexico are opposing a seat for Brazil. In South Asia, Pakistan is opposing India's bid.

	China	USA	Britain	France	Russia	Coffee Club	Pak.	Latin Opp.	South Korea
India	Unclear	Support	Support	Support	Support	Oppose	Oppose	Support	Support
Brazil	Support	Support	Unclear	Unclear	Unclear	Oppose	Unclear	Oppose	Support
Japan	Oppose	Support	Support	Support	Support	Oppose	Unclear	Support	Oppose
Germany	Unclear	Support	Support	Unclear	Unclear	Oppose	Unclear	Support	Support

Latin America opposition:

Argentina, Columbia, Mexico possess an opposition for Brazil permanent membership.

Coffee Club:

Uniting for Consensus (UFC) is a movement, nicknamed the Coffee Club, that developed in the 1990s, in opposition to the possible expansion of the [United Nations Security Council](#). Under the leadership of [Italy](#), it aims to counter the bids for permanent seats proposed by [G4 nations](#) (Brazil, Germany, India and Japan) and is calling for a consensus before any decision is reached on the form and size of the Security Council

Conclusion

The G4 nations comprising Brazil, Germany, India, and Japan are four countries which support each other's bids for permanent seats on the United Nations Security Council. Unlike the G8, where the common denominator is the economy and long-term political motives, the G4's primary aim is the permanent member seats on the Security Council.

Each of these four countries have figured among the elected non-permanent members of the council since the UN's establishment. Their economic and political influence has grown significantly in the last decades, reaching a scope comparable to the permanent members (P5). However, the G4's bids are often opposed by certain countries, particularly their economic competitors or political rivals.

Questions to be considered:

- Stand of the country towards the G4 nations
- Possible Economic and political dominance permanent membership could bring upon.
- India possessing Nuclear Armament brings forward a greater threat.
- Negligence towards African countries and presenting South Africa or Middle East as possible candidature.
- 9 veto holders could affect the decision making efficiency of the Security Council.
- Possibility of semi-permanent members not as powerful as permanent members.
- Considering only a certain countries of the G4 for permanent membership.
- Japan's maligned reputation due to world war.
- Second most populous country does not have a voice as a permanent member in UN Security Council.