



UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL

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AGENDA:

Addressing the relevance and shortcomings of peacekeeping methods adopted by the council, keeping in mind the recent violation of resolutions in the Israel–Palestine conflict.

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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Welcome, Delegates!

On behalf of the Executive Board of the Security Council, it is with immense pleasure that we welcome you to the 12th edition of the Jaipuria Model United Nations. We are thrilled to have you join us this year as we delve into the critical and complex issue of **“Addressing the Relevance and Shortcomings of Peacekeeping Methods Adopted by the UN Security Council, Keeping in Mind the Recent Violation of Resolutions in the Israel-Palestine Conflict.”**

The Israel-Palestine conflict serves as a stark reminder of the ongoing challenges faced by the UN Security Council on its quest for global peace and stability. Recent violations of resolutions highlight the need for a thorough evaluation of current peacekeeping methods. This conference presents a unique opportunity for you, the future leaders of tomorrow, to engage in insightful dialogue, propose innovative solutions, and work towards a more effective and sustainable approach to peacekeeping.

The Jaipuria Model United Nations has always fostered a platform for intelligent discourse and diplomatic solutions. We encourage you to utilize this platform to its fullest potential. Through collaborative efforts, critical thinking, and a spirit of compromise, you have the power to shape the future of peacekeeping.

We look forward to witnessing your passion, dedication, and diplomatic prowess throughout the conference. We have an exciting program lined up, filled with stimulating debates and opportunities for networking. Don't hesitate to reach out to any member of the Executive Board for assistance or clarification.

Together, let us strive to create a world where dialogue reigns supreme and peaceful resolutions pave the way for a brighter future.

If at any point during your research, you have a query, please do not hesitate to reach out and feel free to contact us at unscjmun24@gmail.com and we'd be more than happy to help you out.

With this, the Executive Board hopes that we have an exhilarating journey on the days of the conference which the delegates of the committee will remember for the longest of times. We hope to see you all in the committee, with some strong opinions, diplomatic conduct and the spirit to 'deliberate, defend and deliver.'

Regards,

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INTRODUCTION

The United Nations Security Council is tasked with maintaining international peace and security and it has been doing so by adopting “resolutions”- 2733 of them till date.

But we must understand that these resolutions are mere “recommendations”. This makes us liable to introduce more effective and real-world solutions to international conflicts, rather than hypothetical treaties and sanctions.

Moreover, non-state actors rarely abide by the guidelines put out by the UNSC, directly affecting the concerned state’s international affairs.

Against this backdrop, it is essential to discuss the relevance and shortcomings of peacekeeping methods adopted by the UNSC. This is important for a number of reasons.

First, it is important to ensure that peacekeeping is still an effective tool for maintaining international peace and security.

Second, it is important to identify and address the shortcomings of peacekeeping.

Third, discussing the relevance and shortcomings of peacekeeping can help to build public support for this vital UN activity.

A better understanding of the challenges and opportunities of peacekeeping will help to generate greater support for peacekeeping operations from member states and the public.

1. The Syrian Civil War

The UNSC is struggling to resolve the ongoing conflict in Syria due to deep divisions among its permanent members, especially Russia and America. Russia, a close ally of the Syrian government, has passed several resolutions aimed at condemning or imposing sanctions on the Assad regime. This has undermined the UNSC's ability to take decisive action to end the violence and humanitarian crisis in Syria. The Syrian civil war, which began in 2011, has many political parties with different interests and affiliations. The main actors are:

a. Bashar al-Assad regime: The Syrian government, led by President Bashar al-Assad, has been struggling to hold on to power since the civil war began. Assad's government has used military force, including the use of chemical weapons, against armed groups and civilians suspected of supporting the rebels.

b. Opposition: Opposition to the Assad government is fragmented and includes a variety of groups, from religious fundamentalists to Islamists and jihadists. The group was initially tasked with eliminating Syrian soldiers, civilians and various rebel forces. Over time, some groups merged, others broke away and formed armed opposition groups.

c. Kurdish forces: Kurdish forces, mainly the People's Protection Units (YPG) and their political rival, the Democratic Unionist Party (PYD), have played a major role in northeastern Syria. They have established autonomy in the areas they control and are a key partner in the US-led coalition fighting the Islamic State (ISIS).

d. Islamic State (ISIS/ISIL): The Islamic State emerged from the chaos of the Syrian civil war and captured much of Syria and Iraq in 2014. It has lost most of its territory, but is still active in some areas. It conducts regional counterinsurgency strikes and continues to hold positions in Syria.

e. Russia: Russia has been a staunch supporter of the Assad regime, providing military support, including airstrikes and logistical support, since September 2015. Russia's intervention will actually strengthen the power of the Syrian government on the battlefield and play an important role in shaping the course of the war.

f. Iran and Hezbollah: Iran is a key ally of the Assad regime, providing financial, military and advisory support. Iran-backed militias, including Lebanon's Hezbollah, have fought alongside Syrian government forces.

i. Türkiye: Türkiye has intervened in northern Syria to curb the influence of Kurdish forces, most of whom are located along the border. Turkish military operations, such as Operation Euphrates Shield and Operation Olive Branch, were aimed at pushing back Kurdish forces and establishing a buffer zone under Turkish control.

j. US and coalition forces: US and coalition forces have been involved in the conflict through airstrikes against ISIS targets and support for Kurdish forces in northeastern Syria. However, the USA has little access to other actors, and policy approaches vary between administrations.

2. Rwandan Genocide (1994)

The UNSC failed to stop the Rwandan genocide despite being warned that mass violence was imminent. The lack of action and unwillingness to intervene, in part due to concerns about the deployment of peacekeepers and a lack of resources and political will on the part of member states, led to the killing of 800,000 people.

a. Hutu Government: The Hutu government of Rwanda at the time played an important role in organizing and fighting the genocide. Under the leadership of President Juvénal Habyarimana and his colleagues, the idea of Hutu power was promoted, oppressing the Tutsi minority and promoting hatred against them through propaganda.

b. Interahamwe Militia: Interahamwe, which means "people who attack together" in Kinyarwanda, is a Hutu group that engages in the practice of genocide. The Interahamwe, mostly young Hutus, were responsible for most of the killings, massacres, and violence against Tutsis and moderate Hutus.

c. Military and Political Evidence: Many military and political figures in the Rwandan government, including senior officials and military officers, were directly involved in the planning and execution of the massacre. Among them are individuals such as Colonel Théoneste Bagosora, considered one of the main perpetrators of the genocide.

d. Radio Télévision Libre des Mille Collines (RTLTM): RTLTM was a radio station that played an important role in spreading hate speech and inciting violence against the Tutsis. By spreading propaganda and encouraging Hutus to hunt down and kill Tutsis, they contributed to the escalation of violence during the genocide.

e. French Government: France has a long relationship with the Rwandan government and supported President Habyarimana's government. Some critics argue that French government support extended to tacit approval or active participation in the genocide, but this remains a matter of debate and controversy.

3. Rohingya Crisis in Myanmar

The persecution of Myanmar's Rohingya Muslim minority is a major humanitarian crisis that has drawn international condemnation. However, the UNSC was forced to intervene directly due to the refusal of China and Russia to support strong action against the Myanmar government. Despite efforts to pass resolutions against the violence and support for humanitarian aid, the UNSC has failed to implement concrete measures to protect the Rohingya population.

4. Yemeni Civil War

The Yemeni civil war, a complex interplay of internal and regional rivalries, has created a troubling humanitarian situation that has caused suffering and migration. Despite the ceasefire and diplomatic efforts, the UNSC was unable to negotiate a lasting peace agreement. Divisions among key players in the region, including Saudi Arabia and Iran, have hampered efforts to resolve the dispute through international arbitration. Several major political parties are involved in Yemen's civil war that began in 2014.

a. Houthi rebels (Ansar Allah): The Houthi movement, also known as Ansar Allah, is a Zaydi Shiite Muslim rebel group based in northern Yemen. The Houthis, led by Abdul-Malik al-Houthi, seized control of the Yemeni capital Sana'a in 2014 and took control of most of the country, including much of western and western Yemen. They are fighting the international government of President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi.

b. Yemeni government: The internationally recognized government of Yemen has been supported by various factions, including forces loyal to President Abdrabbuh Mansur Hadi, tribal militias and some separatist groups in the south. The basis of government operations changed during the war as the Houthis lost territory.

c. Saudi-led coalition: The coalition led by Saudi Arabia and most Arab countries, including the United Arab Emirates (UAE), intervened in Yemen in 2015 in support of the Yemeni government. The coalition launched airstrikes against Houthi targets and sent ground troops to halt the Houthi advance. The Saudi-led intervention was aimed at restoring the authority of the Hadi government in Yemen and curbing what it sees as Iranian influence through its support for the Houthi rebels.

d. Iran: Iran opposes military intervention in Yemen but has provided political, financial, and military support to the Houthis. Iran's support includes weapons, training, and torture. The war was seen as part of a wider regional rivalry between Iran and Saudi Arabia, with Yemen as a proxy battleground.

e. Southern Transitional Council (STC): The Southern Transitional Council is a separatist group in southern Yemen that seeks independence and autonomy for the southern region. The STC is sometimes allied with the Saudi-led coalition against the Houthis, but has also clashed with forces loyal to President Hadi, making it difficult to build a front against the Houthis.

f. Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) and the Islamic State in Yemen (ISY): These extremist groups have taken advantage of Yemen's chaos and instability to expand their influence and carry out attacks. Not only have the Houthis and the Yemeni government attacked them, but they have also engaged in violence against minority groups. Atrocities continued for years before NATO's international intervention helped bring about a ceasefire and a peace agreement.

5. Bosnian War (1992-1995)

The Bosnian War broke out despite UNSC intervention, including the creation of peacekeeping missions such as the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR). The conflict, characterized by ethnic cleansing and atrocities, continued for years before international intervention led by NATO finally contributed to a ceasefire and peace agreement. The following key groups participated:

a. Bosnian Muslims: Bosniak Muslims, who represent the largest ethnic group in Bosnia and Herzegovina, have sought to preserve Bosnia's multi-ethnic identity and remain independent from the nationalist aspirations of Serbs and Croats. They were directed by the Bosnian government under the president, and the Bosnian Muslims to fight against the Bosnian Serb forces. However, a conflict arose between Bosniaks and Bosnian Croats, which led to conflict and eventually the creation of the Republic of Croatia-Herzeg-Bosnia.

b. Bosnian Serbs: The Bosnian Serbs, led by political and military leaders such as Radovan Karadžić and Ratko Mladić, sought to establish an independent entity in Bosnia, the Republika Srpska, with the aim of joining Serbia or maintaining it as an independent Serbian state. They were supported by Serbia, led by Slobodan Milošević, and received military and political support.

d. Yugoslav People's Army (JNA): Initially, the JNA, the government army of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, played an important role in supporting Bosnian Serb forces. However, as the war continued and Yugoslavia fell, the JNA left and the remnants turned to the Army of Republika Srpska (VRS).

NEW AGENDA FOR PEACE

The New Agenda for Peace is a policy document released by the United Nations Security Council in 2023. It outlines the UNSC's vision for how to maintain international peace and security in the 21st century. The New Agenda for Peace is based on three core principles: trust, solidarity, and universality. It emphasises the importance of preventing conflict, protecting civilians, and sustaining peace. The New Agenda for Peace reflects the changing nature of conflict and the challenges facing peacekeeping in the 21st century. Moreover, there are many differences between the New Agenda for Peace and the previous Agenda for Peace:

- **Focus:** The New Agenda for Peace places a greater emphasis on preventing conflict and protecting civilians. The previous Agenda for Peace focused more on responding to conflict after it has occurred.
- **Challenges:** The New Agenda for Peace acknowledges the new challenges facing peacekeeping, such as the rise of complex and protracted conflicts, the increasing threat of transnational terrorism, and the lack of political will to support peacekeeping operations. The previous Agenda for Peace did not anticipate these challenges.
- **Reforms:** The New Agenda for Peace proposes a number of reforms to address the challenges facing peacekeeping, such as strengthening the UNSC's role in preventing conflict, developing more effective tools for protecting civilians, and improving the training and equipment of peacekeepers. The previous Agenda for Peace did not propose specific reforms.

Overall, the New Agenda for Peace is a more comprehensive and ambitious document than the previous Agenda for Peace. It reflects the changing nature of conflict and the challenges facing peacekeeping in the 21st century.

- The New Agenda for Peace calls for the UNSC to take a more proactive approach to conflict prevention, by identifying and addressing potential conflict triggers early on.
- The New Agenda for Peace also calls for the UNSC to do more to protect civilians from violence and abuse, both during and after conflict. This includes strengthening the UN's peacekeeping and peacebuilding capabilities, and developing more effective tools for responding to mass atrocities.

However, even after such ambitious measures undertaken by the UNSC, this 'new agenda for peace' faced a major setback within 3 months of its introduction.

It was introduced in July, proposing ways for world peace and security with international cooperation. Countries had agreed to subscribe to this idea of the Secretary-General but just 3 months later, the Israel-Palestine conflict began growing more than ever before. This was the epitome of examples, showing the ineffectiveness of such resolutions and that countries mend these resolutions to favour them. Moreover, this was a testament to the fact that these resolutions are not binding on non-state actors. This spectacle of the agenda is not only limited to the Israel-Palestine issue or only the 'new agenda for peace' but for every such resolution, and every such violation of a guideline.

RELEVANCE AND SHORTCOMINGS OF THE STEPS TAKEN BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL:

Relevance:

Multilateral approach: Peacekeeping operations authorized by the Security Council show a series of actions that demonstrate the commitment of the international community to resolve the conflicts peacefully. This approach makes use of the diverse resources, expertise and diplomatic support of Member States.

Conflict prevention and resolution: The goal of peacekeeping programs is to prevent conflicts from developing into full-scale conflicts and to promote the resolution of existing conflicts through mediation, negotiation, and implementation of peace agreements.

Humanitarian aid: Peacekeeping operations involve many aspects of humanitarian aid that provide essential assistance such as food, shelter and medical assistance to people affected by conflict.

Legitimacy and authority: Peacekeeping missions established by the UN derive their authority and power from Security Council resolutions that provide international recognition and support.

Shortcomings:

Limited mission and resources: Peacekeeping missions are often hampered by limited missions, resources, and troop contributions. This can hinder the ability to resolve complex and evolving issues, especially when conflicting parties are opposed.

Lack of enforcement mechanisms: Peacekeepers are tasked with maintaining peace and security, but often lack enforcement mechanisms to enforce the laws of belligerent powers.

Political Constraints: Peacekeeping operations are influenced by political considerations and strong influence in the Security Council, which can influence decisions and endanger the failure of peacekeeping operations.

Assent and Consent: Peacekeeping operations depend on the consent of host nations and parties to conflict, which are fragile and easily manipulated. Furthermore, it is difficult to maintain peace in multisectarian conflicts, which can complicate the failure of peacekeeping forces.

Addressing these weaknesses requires continued efforts to improve the effectiveness, flexibility and accountability of peacekeeping operations. This includes strengthening governance, ensuring adequate resources and capacity, promoting inclusive political processes and strengthening relationships with local organizations and community actors. Finally, the peacekeeping mechanisms adopted by the Security Council play an important role in conflict prevention and resolution, but must continue to be adapted and updated to meet the growing challenges of peacekeeping and security in today's world.

ABOUT THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict presents unique challenges and difficulties that reveal specific weaknesses in the peacekeeping mechanisms implemented by the United Nations Security Council, to the world.

Political Impasse: The serious political stalemate between Israel and Palestine has hampered progress towards a peaceful solution. Peacekeeping operations mandated by the Security Council have struggled to overcome this obstacle. This is because both sides are reluctant to make major concessions or engage in serious negotiations.

Lack of enforcement mechanisms: Despite several Security Council resolutions calling for an end to hostilities and the implementation of a two-state solution, effective enforcement mechanisms to enforce compliance by both sides remain lacking. This makes it possible to maintain impunity for violations of international law, such as the expansion of Israeli settlements in the occupied territories.

Impartiality and Neutrality: Maintaining impartiality and neutrality in the Israel-Palestine conflict has proven to be challenging for peacekeeping missions, particularly given the asymmetrical power dynamics and historical grievances between the two sides. Perceived biases or lack of impartiality can undermine the credibility and effectiveness of peacekeeping efforts.

Limited missions: Peacekeeping missions in the region are often hampered by limited missions that focus on monitoring firefighting operations and providing humanitarian assistance rather than addressing political and security issues that fuel the conflict. This narrow mandate prevents peacekeepers from playing a more active role in facilitating peace negotiations.

The divided international response: The Israeli-Palestinian conflict has provoked different responses from the international community, with different countries and regional blocs taking different positions on key issues such as the status of Jerusalem, borders and refugees. This lack of consensus makes it difficult for the Security Council to act unanimously and resolve the conflict.

Regional instability: The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is linked to broader regional issues, including tensions between Israel and its Arab neighbors and the influence of other non-governmental actors such as Hamas and Hezbollah. Peacekeeping operations must address the interrelated challenges that increase tensions and undermine efforts to achieve lasting peace.

Addressing these shortcomings requires a comprehensive approach that addresses the root causes of the conflict, promotes dialogue and reconciliation between the parties, and strengthens peacekeeping capabilities to benefit political and security efforts on the ground.

This will provide an opportunity to review and update current peacekeeping missions, strengthen diplomatic efforts, and promote a peace process that focuses on the aspirations and rights of the people of Israel and the Palestinians.

Overall, the failure of UN military forces in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is due to a combination of political, organizational and logistical problems. Addressing these challenges will require significant efforts to strengthen the mandate, resources and political support for peacekeeping

operations, as well as a renewed commitment to promoting negotiated settlements that address the legitimate grievances and aspirations of the people of Israel and the Palestinians.

THE HISTORY OF THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN WAR

The Israeli-Palestinian War is a complex and protracted struggle for territory, sovereignty, and national identity in the Middle East. Its roots go back to the late 19th and early 20th centuries, when national politics between Jews and Arabs emerged in the region as the power of the Ottomans and the decline of European colonialism.

1. Late 19th century - early 20th century: Zionism, a movement supporting the creation of a Jewish homeland, was active in Europe, especially in response to anti-Semitic persecutions. At the same time, Arab nationalism also emerged, expressing the desire for independence in the region.

2. The period of British Mandate (1920-1948): After World War I, the League of Nations handed over control of Palestine with the aim of promoting the establishment of a Jewish homeland and respect for the rights of non-Jewish communities. However, tensions between Jews and Arabs increased during this time.

3. Israel's Partition and Independence Plan (1947-1948): In 1947, the United Nations proposed a partition plan to divide Palestine into Jewish and Arab states, with Jerusalem as the world capital. Jewish leaders accepted the plan, but Arab leaders rejected it, leading to a full-scale war. Israel declared its independence in 1948 and the First Arab-Israeli War began. Hundreds of thousands of Palestinians have fled or been driven from their homes, creating a refugee crisis.

4. Arab-Israeli Wars and Activities (1950-1967): Israel fought many wars with its Arab neighbors, including the Suez Crisis (1956) and the Six-Day War (1967). After the Six-Day War, Israel occupied the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, the Sinai Peninsula, and the Golan Heights, significantly changing the landscape of the region.

5. The peace process and the Oslo Accords (1990s): Negotiations between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) in the 1990s led to the Oslo Accords, which sought to establish a framework for resolving the conflicts through mutual understanding and peace building. . Palestinian Authority in the West and parts of the Gaza Strip. However, progress was halted by the Second Intifada (2000-2005) and subsequent violence.

6. The Peace Process and the Gaza Blockade: Despite peace talks, efforts to reach a comprehensive peace deal are being hampered by the scale of Israeli settlement, divisions within Palestine and disputes over key issues such as borders, refugees and conflicts. It was interrupted many times by problems.

The Gaza Strip, which has been under the control of Hamas since 2007, suffers from humanitarian problems due to the blockade by Israel and Egypt. War is one of the oldest and most contentious issues in international relations, with historical grievances, geopolitical dynamics, and humanitarian consequences for millions of people living on the border. Efforts are underway to find a lasting solution, but violence and political repression have made no progress.

FAILED ATTEMPTS AT MAINTAINING AND IMPLEMENTING PEACE AMIDST PALESTINE AND ISRAEL HISTORICALLY

A. Fourth Geneva Convention

International treaty ratified in 1949 after World War II, focused on the protection of civilians in armed conflicts. It is part of the Geneva Conventions that establish the rules of international humanitarian law (IHL) that govern hostilities. The main provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention are as follows.

1. Protection of civilians in times of war: The Convention emphasizes the concept of civilian casualties, which states that civilians should not be attacked. It prohibits violence against life and limb, cruel treatment and torture, as well as violations of human rights, especially degrading and humiliating acts.

2. Treatment of Protected Persons: The Convention makes certain provisions for the treatment of natural persons not involved in hostilities, including persons arrested, detained or otherwise expelled. It requires humane treatment, access to health care and protection against discrimination.

3. Protection of property and community structures: the Convention prohibits the destruction of personal property unless authorized by the military. It also protects critical infrastructure such as hospitals, schools and places of worship from attack.

4. Prohibition of collective punishment: the Convention expressly prohibits the punishment of natural persons for the actions of individuals or groups. This includes threats or acts of terrorism.

5. Action: This convention describes the responsibilities of the occupying power towards the civilians of the occupied territories. It prevents some civilians from the occupied lands from moving into the occupied territories, and there is much talk of Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories.

6. Protection of humanitarian workers and facilities: the Convention protects humanitarian organizations and their personnel who provide assistance to civilians affected by armed conflicts.

B. Peace Process of the 1990s and Oslo Accords

1. Background: In the late 1980s, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict reached a critical stage due to continued violence, the Palestinian uprising (Intifada) and international pressure for a solution. In this regard, secret negotiations began between Israeli and Palestinian representatives in Oslo, Norway.

2. Oslo Accords (1993): The Oslo Accords were a series of agreements signed between the government of Israel, led by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), chaired by the face of Yasser Arafat. The negotiations were carried out by Norwegian mediators. The main components of the Oslo Accords were mutual recognition between Israel and the PLO, the establishment of the Palestinian Authority (PA) as an interim governing body for parts of the occupied territories (initially Gaza and Jericho), and the final issues of authority (territory, villages, refugees, Jerusalem, etc.).

3. Oslo II Agreement (1995): Building on the original Oslo Accords, Oslo II, also known as the West Bank and Gaza Strip Agreement, divided the West Bank into three administrative zones (Areas A, B and C), territories independent Palestinians Different degrees. Security measures were also outlined, including the restructuring of the Israeli army and the creation of a Palestinian police force.

4. Implementation Challenges: There are many challenges related to the implementation of the Oslo Accords, including militant violence on both sides, disputes over the interpretation of key provisions, the expansion of Israeli settlements into the occupied territories, and issues related to Palestinian governance and security.

5. Assassination of Yitzhak Rabin: The assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin by Jewish extremists in 1995 adversely affected the peace process, increasing tensions and the collapse of negotiations.

6. Final Status Negotiations: Despite the Oslo process, final status agreements on key issues have not yet been reached. Subsequent negotiations, including the Camp David talks in 2000 and US-led negotiations, failed to produce a peace agreement.

7. Legacy: Although the Oslo Accords did not achieve a permanent solution to the conflict, they marked a historic advance in Israeli-Palestinian relations, leading to mutual understanding and the establishment of Palestinian independence. But by failing to resolve key issues such as borders, settlements and the status of Jerusalem, tensions and violence have persisted in the region.

C. Annapolis Conference

On November 27, 2007, an important international conference was held in Annapolis, Maryland, USA. The quest to revive the Israeli-Palestinian peace process has ended due to continued violence and a lack of progress in negotiations. US President George W. Bush hosted this meeting, which was attended by representatives of countries and international organizations, including Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas.

The main objective of the Annapolis Conference was to initiate negotiations for a final status agreement between Israel and Palestine, with the aim of establishing a two-state solution based on the principles of mutual understanding, security and the destiny of Israel. It began in 1967. The meeting also sought to address other regional issues and promote peace efforts in the Middle East.

At the meeting, the parties reaffirmed previous agreements, including a road map for peace, and agreed to enter into negotiations on key issues such as borders, security, refugees and the power of Jerusalem. The negotiations were led by Condoleezza Rice, who was then the Secretary of State of the United States.

Although the Annapolis Conference initially looked promising and resumed direct negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians, progress toward a final reconciliation agreement has been difficult. There are many challenges, including continued violence, political instability and differences of opinion on key issues, stalled negotiations and a failed peace agreement.

Despite the limited success of the Annapolis Process in achieving its ultimate goals, the conference served as a platform for diplomacy and demonstrated the continued international commitment to a peaceful resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in negotiations and discussions.

D. Abraham Accords

The Abraham Accords are a series of agreements between Israel and several Arab countries negotiated by the United States that will be signed in 2020. This agreement represents a major change in the dynamics of the region and diplomacy in the Middle East. The scheme is as follows:

1. Background:- The Abrahamic covenants named after Abraham, who was considered the common patriarch of Judaism, Christianity and Islam, are a sign of the need to maintain peace and reconciliation between the signatory parties. The deal was promoted by the Trump administration of the United States, led by then-President Donald Trump, his son-in-law and senior adviser Jared Kushner and other officials.

2. Participants:- The original signatories of the Abraham Accords were Israel, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Bahrain. Other countries, including Sudan and Morocco, have expressed interest in establishing ties with Israel.

3. Key Agreements:

-Israel-UAE Agreement: The agreement between Israel and the United Arab Emirates, known as the Abraham Accords: The peace treaty between the United Arab Emirates and the Government of Israel was signed on 13 August 2020. This confirmed all diplomatic connections. Strengthen the relationship between the two countries, including exchanges of messages, trade, tourism and cooperation in various fields.

- Israel-Bahrain Agreement: The agreement between Israel and Bahrain, known as the Abraham Accords: Declaration of Peace, Cooperation, Diplomacy and Friendly Relations, was signed on September 15, 2020.

- Later Agreements: Sudan and Morocco later announced their willingness to establish relations with Israel, but their agreements were not in force with the Abraham Accords

- Economic activities: The Abraham Accords opened up economic opportunities for signatories, including trade, investment and tourism. For Israel, it entered new markets in the Gulf region.

- Regional Security: The deal is a way to cooperate on regional security, especially against common threats like Iran.

- Political considerations: For the participating Arab countries, this agreement represents a change in their approach to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. While confirming their support for the Palestinian cause, they also expressed their commitment to pursue their national interests and ensure stability and economic development.

SANCTIONS

The consequences of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict are few compared to other conflicts, due to the complexity of the situation and related geopolitical considerations. However, there were times when such punishments and measures were imposed by various actors.

1. Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS): The BDS movement, which advocates various types of boycotts, divestment and sanctions against Israel, has attracted international attention until it complies with international and Palestinian rights laws. BDS targets Israeli companies, products, educational institutions and cultural events that are said to implicate the occupation in the Palestinian territories. Although BDS has faced opposition and legal challenges in some countries, it remains an important movement in the country that is driving change.

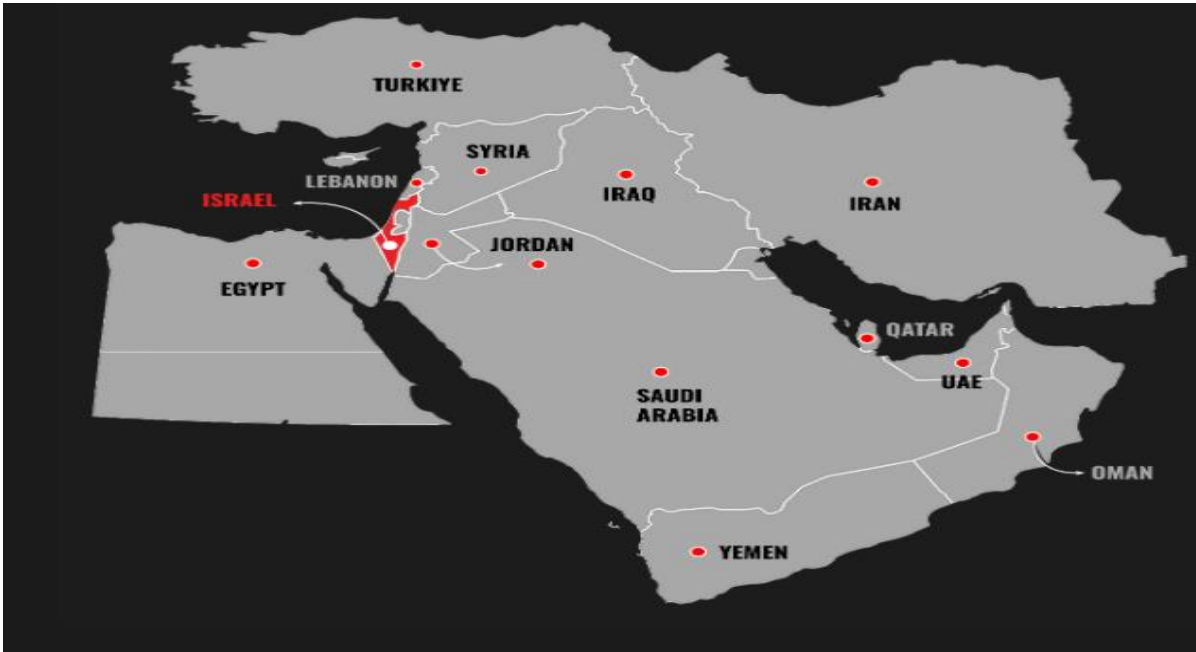
2. European Union labeling of settlement products: The European Union (EU) will apply labeling requirements for products produced in Israeli settlements in the occupied territories, and in addition to products produced in the recognized territories of Israel. The aim of the measures is to inform consumers about the origin of products and prevent trade through settlements, which are considered international law.

3. UN Resolutions and Statements: The UN General Assembly and other UN bodies have passed resolutions condemning Israel's actions in the occupied territories and calling for measures to arrest Israel for violating human rights. Although most of these resolutions are not binding, they have the potential to put international pressure on Israel to change its policies and actions in the Palestinian territories.

4. Actions by diplomats: Some countries have used diplomatic pressure, including withdrawing embassies, cutting diplomatic ties, and suspending aid and concessions or cooperation, to express their opposition to Israeli policies and actions in the Palestinian territories. However, diplomatic efforts vary from country to country and do not always translate into significant changes on the ground.

In general, although there have been sanctions and other measures aimed at Israel's policies in the Palestinian territories, the international community has been wary of using punitive measures that could deter actions or exacerbate problems on the border. Attempts to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through sanctions must navigate political, legal and humanitarian considerations to be effective and sustainable.

COUNTRIES INVOLVED AND THEIR RELEVANCE:



1. Egypt:

- Egypt borders the Gaza Strip, which is controlled by the Palestinian armed group Hamas. In the past, Egypt has played an important role in mediating between the Israeli and Palestinian authorities
- In the past, Egypt has participated in ceasefires between Israel and Hamas during major conflicts, such as the Gaza conflict with Israel in 2008-2009, 2012 and 2014.
- Egypt has also participated in reconciliation efforts. Rival Palestinian factions, especially Fatah and Hamas, seek to achieve Palestinian unity as a condition for peace talks with Israel.

2. Jordan:

- Jordan occupies a region of the West Bank and is home to a large Palestinian population, including Palestinian refugees.
- Jordan has previously played a role in defending Palestinian rights and providing diplomatic support to the Palestinian cause
- Jordan signed a peace treaty with Israel in 1994, making it one of only two Arab countries (along with Egypt) to have a formal peace agreement with Israel. The treaty not only normalized relations between Jordan and Israel, but also committed Israel to respect Jordan's exclusive role in managing Islamic holy sites in Jerusalem.

3. Lebanon:

- Lebanon borders Israel to the north. Relations between Lebanon and Israel have been marked by hostility, including armed conflict.
- Lebanon is home to a large number of Palestinian refugees, many of whom live in refugee camps in difficult conditions.

- Palestinian armed groups such as Hezbollah operate in Lebanon and participate in wars against Israel, most notably in the 2006 Lebanon War.

4. Syria:

- Syria borders Israel on the Golan Heights, which Israel captured from Syria in the 1967 War of Independence and annexed in 1981

.- It is very supportive of Syria in Palestine. It provided political and military support to Palestinian armed groups.

- The Syrian government has used the Israeli-Palestinian conflict as a way to consolidate domestic and regional support, often portraying itself as the champion of Arab resistance to Israel.

5. Saudi Arabia and the Gulf States:

- Although they do not share a direct border with Israel and Palestine, Saudi Arabia and some Gulf countries, including the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Bahrain and Qatar, have become influential and influential in various local activities. Mediation deals with the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

- In recent years, many Gulf countries, especially the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain, have normalized relations with Israel by signing peace agreements as part of the Abraham Accords Peace Accords. These agreements represent a change in the intensity of conflicts and regional relations. The UNSC needs a new mission.

6. USA:

The United States has historically maintained a strong and unwavering support for Israel in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. This support is deeply rooted in historical, cultural, and strategic ties between the two countries. The US provides Israel with significant military, economic, and diplomatic assistance, making it one of Israel's closest allies.

The US often emphasizes Israel's right to self-defense and security, frequently citing Israel's unique security challenges and the threats it faces from terrorist organizations like Hamas and Hezbollah. This has translated into diplomatic backing for Israel in international forums, including the United Nations Security Council, where the US has frequently used its veto power to block resolutions critical of Israel.

However, US administrations have also voiced support for a negotiated solution to the conflict, typically in the form of a two-state solution, where Israel and Palestine coexist peacefully within secure and recognized borders. Despite this, the US has faced criticism for what some perceive as a bias towards Israel in its approach to peace negotiations and conflict resolution.

Individual US administrations may differ in their approaches to the conflict. While some have been more actively engaged in facilitating peace talks, others have aligned more closely with Israeli policies, such as the Trump administration's decision to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital and move the US embassy there from Tel Aviv.

7. U.K.:

The United Kingdom has historically maintained close ties with Israel while also advocating for a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The UK's relationship with Israel encompasses various aspects, including trade, defense cooperation, and cultural exchanges.

While the UK is a staunch supporter of Israel's right to self-defense and security, it has also been critical of certain Israeli policies, particularly regarding settlement expansion in the occupied territories. The UK government has consistently called for a halt to settlement activity and the dismantlement of existing settlements, viewing them as obstacles to peace and a violation of international law.

At the same time, the UK has supported Palestinian statehood and the establishment of a viable, independent Palestinian state alongside Israel, based on the 1967 borders with mutually agreed land swaps. The UK government has actively engaged in diplomatic efforts to facilitate a negotiated solution to the conflict, often working in conjunction with international partners and organizations.

During periods of heightened tension and violence, such as the conflicts in Gaza, the UK has urged restraint and de-escalation from both sides while reaffirming its commitment to a just and lasting peace in the region. Additionally, the UK has provided humanitarian assistance to Palestinians affected by conflict and supported efforts to improve living conditions in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank.

8. China:

China's stance on the Israel-Palestine conflict has evolved over time, reflecting its broader foreign policy objectives and its role as a permanent member of the UN Security Council. Historically, China has supported the Palestinian cause and advocated for the establishment of an independent Palestinian state alongside Israel based on the pre-1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital.

China's support for the Palestinian cause is rooted in principles of national sovereignty, territorial integrity, and the rights of oppressed peoples to self-determination. China has consistently condemned Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories, settlement expansion, and the use of force against civilians. It has called for the immediate cessation of hostilities and the resumption of peace talks under international mediation.

As a major global power, China has sought to play a constructive role in resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. It has supported diplomatic initiatives aimed at achieving a two-state solution, including efforts by the United Nations, the Arab League, and other international actors. China has called for a more active role for the international community in promoting dialogue and reconciliation between Israelis and Palestinians.

While China maintains diplomatic relations with both Israel and the Palestinian Authority, its engagement with Israel has expanded significantly in recent years, particularly in the areas of trade, investment, and technology cooperation. However, China has made it clear that its growing ties with Israel do not come at the expense of its support for the Palestinian cause or its commitment to a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

9. France:

France has traditionally maintained a balanced stance on the Israel-Palestine conflict, emphasizing the need for a two-state solution and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state alongside Israel. France's engagement with the Middle East peace process is guided by principles of international law, human rights, and multilateralism.

France has consistently condemned Israeli settlement expansion in the occupied territories, viewing it as a major obstacle to peace and a violation of international law. It has called for the immediate cessation of settlement activity and the dismantlement of existing settlements, including those in East Jerusalem. France has also criticized Israeli military operations in Gaza and the West Bank, calling for restraint and the protection of civilian lives.

At the same time, France maintains close diplomatic, economic, and cultural ties with Israel and has expressed solidarity with Israel's legitimate security concerns. France recognizes Israel's right to exist within secure and internationally recognized borders and opposes any form of terrorism or violence directed against Israeli civilians.

France has actively engaged in diplomatic efforts to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, including through its participation in the Middle East Quartet and its support for international initiatives aimed at promoting dialogue and reconciliation. France has called for a more active role for the European Union in the peace process and has emphasized the importance of a comprehensive and just solution that addresses the root causes of the conflict.

10. Russia:

Russia's stance on the Israel-Palestine conflict is multifaceted and rooted in historical, geopolitical, and ideological considerations. As one of the major global powers and a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, Russia's position significantly influences the dynamics of the conflict.

Historically, Russia has maintained close ties with various Arab states and the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) since the Soviet era. This historical relationship has shaped Russia's stance, with Moscow often expressing solidarity with the Palestinian cause and advocating for the rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination and the establishment of an independent state.

Geopolitically, Russia views the Middle East as a crucial region for its interests, particularly in terms of energy resources, military presence, and regional influence. While Russia maintains relations with Israel, including cooperation in areas such as security and technology, it also seeks to balance its relationships in the region to preserve its strategic interests. This balancing act often manifests in Russia's diplomatic maneuvers regarding the Israel-Palestine conflict.

Ideologically, Russia espouses a multipolar world order and opposes what it perceives as unilateralism or hegemony, particularly by Western powers, including the United States. In the context of the Israel-Palestine conflict, Russia often criticizes the U.S.'s unwavering support for Israel and its role as a mediator in the peace process, advocating for a more inclusive approach involving the United Nations and other international stakeholders.

In recent years, Russia has increasingly positioned itself as a mediator and facilitator in the conflict, hosting talks between Israeli and Palestinian officials and offering to play a more active role in resolving the longstanding dispute. However, Russia's influence in the region is limited compared to other major powers, such as the U.S., and its efforts have yet to yield significant breakthroughs in the peace process.

Additionally, Russia's stance on the Israel-Palestine conflict is also influenced by its broader foreign policy objectives, including its rivalry with the United States and its support for regimes that oppose Western dominance. This has led Russia to align itself with countries and factions that are critical of Israel, such as Iran and certain Palestinian militant groups like Hamas, albeit with some reservations and strategic calculations.

11. India:

India's stance on the Israel-Palestine conflict has evolved significantly in recent decades, reflecting its broader foreign policy objectives, regional dynamics, and domestic considerations. India's engagement with the Middle East is guided by principles of non-alignment, sovereignty, and respect for international law.

India has historically maintained friendly relations with both Israel and the Palestinian Authority, balancing its support for the Palestinian cause with its growing strategic partnership with Israel. India was one of the first countries to recognize the State of Israel in 1950 and established diplomatic relations with Israel in 1992. Since then, bilateral ties between India and Israel have expanded significantly, particularly in the areas of defense, technology, and agriculture.

At the same time, India has consistently supported the Palestinian cause and advocated for the rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination and statehood. India has reaffirmed its support for a two-state solution, where Israel and Palestine coexist peacefully within secure and internationally recognized borders.

India has called for the resumption of direct negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians to address the core issues of the conflict, including borders, security, Jerusalem, refugees, and settlements. India has also supported international efforts to promote dialogue and reconciliation, including through its participation in the Non-Aligned Movement, the United Nations, and other multilateral forums.

India's engagement with Israel and the Palestinian Authority is guided by its national interests, including energy security, counter-terrorism cooperation, and economic development. While deepening its ties with Israel, India remains committed to the Palestinian cause and the pursuit of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

IMPORTANT TERMS

- **Balfour Declaration:** this declaration was a public support for the Zionist movement from the British government and a promise that they would establish a Jewish state in Palestine at the end of World War I.
- **Partition Plan:** at the end of World War II, this plan was developed by the United Nations through Resolution 181. It created two states (one Arab and one Israeli) in Palestine.
- **1948 Arab-Israeli war:** This war was the first of many Arab-Israeli wars and was initiated by Arab states in the region as a response to the Partition Plan. It resulted in more land for Israel and granted Jordan and Egypt control of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, respectively.
- **Gamal Abder Nassar:** President of Egypt that nationalized the Suez Canal. This led to the reigniting of tensions between Egypt and Israel in the late 1950s.
- **Six Day War:** Short war in June of 1967 which resulted in massive territorial gains for the Israeli government and a lot of resentment from the Arab nations.
- **Yom Kippur War:** In response to the gains attained by Israel in the Six Day War, Egypt and Syria launched an attack on Israel on one of their religious holidays, catching them off guard.
- **Resolutions 242 and 339:** A result of the Six Day War and the Yom Kippur War respectively, these resolutions required that Israel return land illegally obtained during their conflict with the Arab countries and respect the sovereignty of surrounding states. This effectively cut off Israeli expansion.
- **Intifada:** Term that means “shaking off” in Arabic and refers, in this context, to uprisings of the Palestinian people against Israel with the goal of gaining their autonomy.

RELEVANCE OF ISRAEL-PALESTINE CONFLICT:

Since we are concerned with reforming the peacekeeping methods of the council, we must present an example of violation of these resolutions first.

Following were the main resolutions adopted by the council regarding the Israel-Palestine conflict:

1. *Calls* for full respect by all parties for international human rights law and international humanitarian law, including in regard to the protection of the civilian population, and reiterates the need to take appropriate steps to ensure the safety and well-being of civilians and ensure their protection, as well as to ensure accountability for all violations;
2. *Deplores* the use of any excessive, disproportionate and indiscriminate force by the Israeli forces against Palestinian civilians in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and particularly in the Gaza Strip, including the use of live ammunition against civilian protesters, including children, as well as medical personnel and journalists, and expresses its grave concern at the loss of innocent lives;
3. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, refrain from such actions and fully abide by its legal obligations and responsibilities under the fourth Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949;
4. *Deplores* any actions that could provoke violence and endanger civilian lives, and calls upon all actors to ensure that protests remain peaceful;
5. *Also deplores* the firing of rockets from the Gaza Strip against Israeli civilian areas;

Since 7th October, 2023, all of these resolutions have been violated by both the states. This calls for discussing and addressing the faults present in these resolutions that are adopted to curb international conflicts but are ultimately incapable of doing so.

The Israel-Palestine conflict due to its great relevance and adherence to the agenda, is fit as the perfect example to be referred to while discussing this issue. Delegates will be required to assess the faults of the peacekeeping methods employed for this conflict and even try to resolve the conflict further if time permits.

DISCUSSING THE REAL-WORLD EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PEACEKEEPING INITIATIVES IMPLEMENTED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL

There have been many (2730+) resolutions adopted by the council to ensure international peace and security but, we all know that not all have been successful in doing so, in turn decreasing people's faith they have in the UN.

We must understand that it is important to ensure that peacekeeping is still an effective tool for maintaining international peace and security. The UNSC should regularly review its peacekeeping policies and practices to ensure that they are adapted to the changing nature of conflict. Also, it is important to identify and address the shortcomings of peacekeeping which helps to improve the performance of peacekeeping operations and make them more effective in preventing and resolving conflict.

Lastly, discussing the relevance and shortcomings of peacekeeping can help to build public support for this vital UN activity. A better understanding of the challenges and opportunities of peacekeeping can help to generate greater support for peacekeeping operations from member states and the public.

Here are some specific examples of UNSC resolutions that have not been effective in the real world:

- **UNSC Resolution 1973 (2011):** This resolution authorised the use of force to protect civilians in Libya. However, the intervention led to the overthrow and killing of Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi, and the country has since descended into chaos.
- **UNSC Resolution 2118 (2012):** This resolution demanded that Syrian President Bashar al-Assad withdraw his forces from populated areas and allow humanitarian aid to reach those in need. However, Assad has ignored the resolution, and the Syrian civil war has continued to rage.
- **UNSC Resolution 2216 (2015):** This resolution authorised the use of force against the Houthi rebels in Yemen. However, the intervention has failed to end the conflict, and Yemen is now in the midst of a humanitarian crisis.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. How well has the 'new agenda for peace' been effective and what must be done for its proper implementation?
2. Questioning the effectiveness of 'on-paper resolutions'
3. Need to change the UNSC Mandate, keeping in mind the consequences of the actions of the non-state actors and to make resolutions "binding" over them.
4. Why did the Israel-Palestine conflict gain momentum in mere three months of adopting the 'new agenda for peace'?
5. Is there a need to seriously revisit the 'veto power'?
6. How can we stop states from mending resolutions in ways that benefit them, by compromising international harmony?
7. The need to ensure humane living conditions, free from any attacks, for refugees.
8. Encouraging the members of UNSC to deliberate upon Palestine being recognised as an individual state or becoming a prestigious state of Israel.
9. The Oslo Accords and the Camp David I & II demonstrated that diplomatic solution may be attainable, but only with negotiations and mediating parties. Egypt has also served numerous times as an intermediary for Palestine and Israel. Is mediation and negotiation still a viable vehicle towards peace?
10. Is there room for innovation within this conflict? Is there a solution other than the "two-state solution"?
11. (1) Jerusalem—an important setting for religious & historical narratives
 - Should the city be left "unified" within Israel's political control?
 - Should Palestinians be allowed to claim at least the parts of the city which were not part of Israel prior to June 1967?(2) Palestinian refugees of the 1948 war
 - Definition of Palestinian refugee— should it remain as "a person whose normal place of residence was Palestine between June 1946 and May 1948 and who lost both their homes and means of livelihood as a result of the 1948 Arab-Israeli conflict"?
 - Should the descendants of these original Palestinian Refugees be eligible for registration and UNRWA services? Do they have the "right to return" although they were born outside of Israel?(3) Israeli settlements in the West Bank
 - Are the Israeli settlements in the West Bank illegal?
 - Should they be disengaged, following the pattern from 2005 Disengagement Plan in the Gaza Strip?

ADDITIONAL LINKS (FOR REFERENCE ONLY)

1. <https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2018/country-chapters/israel/palestine>
2. <https://reliefweb.int/report/syrian-arab-republic/lack-unrwa-funding-exacerbateshousing-crisis-palestine-refugees>
3. <http://english.pnn.ps/2018/02/19/gaza-125000-homes-required-to-overcomehousing-crisis/>
4. <https://electronicintifada.net/content/housing-situation-occupied-palestinianterritories-and-establishment-human-settlements-fund>



POSITION PAPER GUIDELINES

- Font- Times New Roman
 - Font size- 12
 - The position papers must be mailed to unscjmun24@gmail.com on or before 11th July, 2024
 - Use of AI chat bots like ChatGPT, Gemini etc. is strictly prohibited.
 - Following is a sample position paper which is meant FOR REFERENCE ONLY and is not meant to be copied in any way.
- [Sample Position Paper UNGA.pdf](#)