

10 October 2025

General List 31

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

10 October 2025

**CASE CONCERNING THE REPUBLIC OF AZORIA – KINGDOM OF CALVERA
CONFLICT**

ORDER

The International Court of Justice,

Having regard to Article 48 of the Statute of the Court and to Articles 31, 44, 45(1), 48, 49, and 80 of the Rules of Court;

Having regard to the Application filed in the Registry of the Court on 12 January 2025, whereby the Government of the Republic of Azoria (Applicant) instituted proceedings against the Kingdom of Calvera (Respondent) with regard to a dispute concerning alleged violations of international law, including the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (1948), the Geneva Conventions (1949), the United Nations Charter, and the Treaty of Valmont (1998), arising from military operations and civilian casualties in the Duralin Valley;

Whereas the Application was communicated to Calvera on the day it was filed;

Whereas, on 25 January 2025, Calvera informed the Registrar and the Agent of Azoria of its intention to file a counterclaim under Article 80 of the Rules of Court;

Whereas Azoria and Calvera have appointed their respective Agents;

Whereas, at a meeting with the President of the Court on 20 September 2025, the Agents of the Parties agreed to have all claims and counterclaims heard together in a single set of proceedings;

Whereas, after negotiations, the Agents of the Parties jointly communicated the Statement of Agreed Facts on 30 September 2025;

Whereas the Agents of the Parties have agreed that they shall each make oral pleadings solely on the claims presented in the Statement of Agreed Facts;

Whereas the Agents of the Parties have agreed that a “dispute” exists between the Parties with respect to each of the aforementioned claims and counterclaim and that the counterclaim is “directly connected with the subject matter” of at least one of the claims within the

meaning of Article 80 of the Rules of Court;

Whereas the Parties have agreed that the designation of Azoria as Applicant and Calvera as Respondent shall be without prejudice to the allocation of the burden of proof;

Taking into account the agreement of the Parties,

Adopts the Official Rules of *OAKMUN'25, Bengaluru*.

Done in English at the Peace Palace, The Hague, this tenth day of October two thousand twenty-five, in three copies, one of which will be placed in the archives of the Court and the others transmitted to the Governments of Azoria and Calvera.

(Signed)

Iwasawa YUJI

President

(Signed)

Philippe GAUTIER,

Registrar

Letter From The Executive Board

Dear Delegates,

Greetings from the Executive Board of the International Court of Justice at OAKMUN2025. We are pleased to welcome you to this prestigious committee and thank you for your commitment to upholding international law and fostering constructive dialogue.

The primary focus of this committee will be the case of **Azoria v Calvera**, under the agenda ***“reevaluating the principle of proportionality in international law with special emphasis on its role in armed conflicts and state responsibility”***. Throughout the committee, you will be expected to engage in nuanced legal analysis, collaborate with fellow delegates, and work towards a verdict that reflects the principles of fairness, justice, and due process.

We are confident that this committee will be an enriching experience, and we look forward to your active participation. Let us strive to emulate the integrity and spirit of the International Court of Justice.

Should you have any questions or require assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We wish you the best of luck and look forward to fruitful deliberations.

Regards,

The Executive Board of ICJ of OAKMUN 2025

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Introduction

The International Court of Justice (ICJ) is seized of a contentious dispute between the Republic of Azoria (Applicant) and the Kingdom of Calvera (Respondent), centered on the volatile Duralin Valley—a mineral-rich border region claimed by both States. What began as a localized insurgency in 2021 has spiraled into a full-scale interstate conflict, marked by escalating violence, mass displacement, and grave allegations of international law violations, drawing urgent scrutiny from the global community.

Azoria accuses Calvera of committing genocide against its ethnic minority within Calvera's borders, alleging that aerial bombardments, blockades, and mass detentions in the Duralin Valley reflect a deliberate intent to destroy the Azorian population “in whole or in part,” in violation of the Genocide Convention (1948), the Geneva Conventions (1949), and the United Nations Charter. Calvera vehemently denies these claims, asserting that its military operations were lawful counterinsurgency measures and self-defense against cross-border attacks orchestrated by the Azorian Liberation Front, allegedly with Azoria's support.

This case presents complex legal questions, including the elusive threshold for proving genocide, the boundaries of proportionality in armed conflict, and State responsibility for non-state actors. Both States, as parties to the Genocide Convention, the Geneva Conventions, and the bilateral Treaty of Valmont (1998), now seek a definitive ruling from the Court on allegations of genocide, unlawful aggression, treaty breaches, and violations of international humanitarian law. Delegates must navigate a delicate balance of fact, law, and evidence to resolve this multifaceted dispute.

STATEMENT OF AGREED FACTS
CASE CONCERNING THE AZORIA – CALVERA CONFLICT
The Republic of Azoria v. The Kingdom of Calvera



1. The Republic of Azoria and the Kingdom of Calvera, located in the region of South-Eastern Meira, share a contested border along the Duralin Valley, a region endowed with vast deposits of cobalt, rare earth minerals, and fertile agricultural land, contributing significantly to both states' economies. The Valley's population is ethnically diverse, with 25% Azorians, 60% Calverans, and 15% other minorities, including nomadic tribes and expatriate communities. Historically, the Valley was part of the Meiran Commonwealth, a unitary state with a robust mining and agricultural economy, which collapsed in 1995 due to ethnic, cultural, and economic divisions.
2. In 1995, following protracted negotiations between Azorian and Calveran leaders, the Meiran Commonwealth dissolved into two independent states: Azoria and Calvera.

The Treaty of Valmont (1998) formalized their separation, granting shared access to the Duralin Valley's resources, prohibiting unilateral military deployments, and establishing a joint commission for dispute resolution (Annexure 1). The treaty entered into force on 15 August 1998. Azoria adopted a presidential republic, while Calvera established a constitutional monarchy under King Alaric IV. Both states were admitted to the United Nations via UN Security Council Resolution 10245 (Annexure 2) in 1999 and accepted the ICJ's compulsory jurisdiction under Article 36(2) of the ICJ Statute.

3. Despite the treaty, ethnic diversity persisted, with Azoria's population including 20% Calverans and Calvera's including 15% Azorians. In 2016, the Azorian minority in Calvera began protesting alleged systemic discrimination in education, land rights, and political representation. Demonstrations in Calveran cities, particularly in the Duralin Valley, occasionally turned violent, with Calveran authorities accused of excessive force, including tear gas and arrests. Calvera claimed the unrest was fueled by covert funding and cross-border agitation from Azoria, a claim Azoria denied.
4. In July 2021, an armed group known as the Azorian Liberation Front (ALF) emerged in the Duralin Valley, launching attacks on Calveran police stations, mining facilities, and supply depots. Calvera classified the ALF as a terrorist organization and initiated counterinsurgency operations, including checkpoints, mass detentions, and food blockades in Azorian-majority areas. Azoria condemned the ALF's violence but argued that Calvera's measures disproportionately targeted Azorian civilians. Independent observers reported civilian hardships, including shelling of villages, with casualty estimates ranging from 50 to 200 by late 2022, though no consensus was reached on the figures.
5. In 2022, Calvera held general elections, electing Prime Minister Elara Vorn, a moderate who campaigned on economic reform and ethnic reconciliation, winning a 65% parliamentary majority. Azoria elected President Markus Kael, a nationalist whose campaign focused on protecting Azorian interests, including those of ethnic Azorians abroad. His election sparked protests among Calvera's Azorian minority, who feared it would escalate tensions. The Duralin Valley's economic importance grew, with cobalt exports accounting for 40% of Calvera's GDP and 30% of Azoria's, intensifying competition over resource control.
6. On 14 February 2023, Calvera alleged that Azoria supported an ALF cross-border raid that killed 37 Calveran soldiers near the Duralin Valley border. Calvera retaliated

with airstrikes on Azorian border posts, claiming self-defense under Article 51 of the UN Charter. Azoria denounced the airstrikes as aggression, alleging they targeted civilian infrastructure, including a hospital in the town of Lirith, causing 200–800 civilian deaths according to disputed NGO reports. Azoria launched Operation Resolute Dawn, targeting ALF bases but also striking Calveran-majority villages. Survivors reported Azorian paramilitary units shouting slogans like “Clear the Valley of Calverans,” though Azoria attributed these actions to rogue militias not under state control.

7. From March to June 2024, the conflict escalated significantly. Calvera intensified its operations, detaining over 5,000 Azorian civilians and soldiers in camps across its territory. NGO reports described inhumane conditions, including food shortages, lack of medical care, and reports of torture, with deaths estimated at 300–700. A leaked Calveran military memorandum, dated 10 March 2024, instructed forces to “neutralize resistance and break the Azorian will,” which Azoria cites as evidence of genocidal intent. Calvera insists the memo referred to counterinsurgency against ALF fighters embedded among civilians. Conversely, Calvera alleges that Azoria’s raids on Calveran villages, which killed 400–600 civilians and destroyed entire communities, aimed to eradicate the Calveran ethnic group in the Valley. No official Azorian orders have been found to confirm this intent.
8. The conflict displaced approximately 40,000 Azorians and 20,000 Calverans by mid-2024. Both states accused each other of ethnic cleansing, though no conclusive evidence of genocidal intent has been established. A UN fact-finding mission reported “systematic violations of humanitarian law” but could not verify specific intent to destroy either group. On 15 April 2024, the UN Security Council held an emergency meeting, passing Resolution 10477 (Annexure 2), which expressed grave concern over civilian casualties and urged both states to seek adjudication before the ICJ. No binding measures were adopted due to vetoes by permanent members.
9. In July 2024, Azoria’s President Kael issued a public statement accusing Calvera of “systematic extermination” of Azorians, citing the detention camps and a leaked audio of Calveran General Thalia Ren shouting, “No Azorian will remain in our Valley.” Calvera denied the audio’s authenticity, claiming it was fabricated. Calvera’s Prime Minister Vorn countered that Azoria’s raids were orchestrated to “purge” Calverans, pointing to a burned village with graffiti reading “Azoria Forever.” Both sides

presented these as evidence of genocide, though independent verification remained inconclusive.

10. On 12 January 2025, Azoria filed an Application with the ICJ, alleging that Calvera's actions violated the Genocide Convention (1948), the Geneva Conventions (1949), the UN Charter, and the Treaty of Valmont. On 25 January 2025, Calvera filed preliminary objections and counterclaims, accusing Azoria of sponsoring terrorism, unlawful aggression, and genocide. Both states agreed to consolidate their claims and counterclaims for a single proceeding, as reflected in the Court's order of 20 August 2025. The parties finalized this Statement of Agreed Facts on 30 September 2025.
11. In line with the order of the Court, Azoria, as Applicant, respectfully requests the Court to:
 - a. Adjudge that Calvera violated the Genocide Convention by committing acts with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, the Azorian ethnic minority through detentions, blockades, and airstrikes in the Duralin Valley.
 - b. Adjudge that Calvera's airstrikes and ground operations, commencing 14 February 2023, violated the principle of proportionality and Article 2(4) of the UN Charter.
 - c. Adjudge that Calvera's treatment of Azorian detainees violated Common Article 3 and other provisions of the Geneva Conventions.
 - d. Adjudge that Calvera breached Articles 2 and 5 of the Treaty of Valmont by unilateral military actions.
 - e. Declare that Azoria's Operation Resolute Dawn was a lawful exercise of self-defense under Article 51 of the UN Charter.
12. Calvera, as Respondent, respectfully requests the Court to:
 - a. Adjudge that Azoria violated the Genocide Convention by committing acts with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, the Calveran ethnic group through paramilitary raids in the Duralin Valley.
 - b. Adjudge that Azoria's Operation Resolute Dawn, commencing 14 February 2023, violated the principle of proportionality and Article 2(4) of the UN Charter.
 - c. Adjudge that Azoria's failure to control paramilitary units violated Common Article 3 and other provisions of the Geneva Conventions.
 - d. Adjudge that Azoria breached Articles 2 and 5 of the Treaty of Valmont by unilateral military actions.

- e. Declare that Calvera's military operations and detentions were lawful measures of self-defense under Article 51 of the UN Charter and compliant with international law.
13. Both states are members of the United Nations and have ratified or acceded to the following treaties: the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR); the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR); the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR); the Convention Against Torture (CAT); the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC); the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (VCLT); the four Geneva Conventions (1949); the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (1948); the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings (1997); and the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BTWC, 1972), among others.

JURISDICTION OF THE COURT

The International Court of Justice is duly vested with jurisdiction to adjudicate the dispute between the Republic of Azoria and the Kingdom of Calvera on the following grounds:

1. **Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (1948), Article IX**

Both Azoria and Calvera are States Parties to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, having ratified the treaty without reservations relevant to the present dispute. Article IX stipulates that disputes between Contracting Parties relating to the interpretation, application, or fulfillment of the Convention, including those concerning State responsibility for genocide, shall be submitted to the International Court of Justice at the request of any party to the dispute. Azoria's Application and Calvera's counterclaims, both alleging violations of the Convention, fall squarely within this jurisdictional basis.

2. **Optional Clause Declarations (Article 36(2), Statute of the Court)**

Azoria and Calvera have each deposited declarations under Article 36(2) of the Statute of the International Court of Justice, accepting the Court's compulsory jurisdiction, without special agreement, in all legal disputes concerning questions of international law, including the interpretation of treaties and the existence of facts constituting breaches of international obligations. These declarations, filed without

reservations pertinent to the present case, establish the Court's jurisdiction over the claims and counterclaims related to the United Nations Charter, customary international law, and other treaty obligations.

3. **Treaty of Valmont (1998), Article 14**

The bilateral Treaty of Valmont, concluded between Azoria and Calvera on 15 August 1998, governs mutual obligations regarding security and resource management in the Duralin Valley. Article 14 provides that any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of the treaty, which cannot be resolved through the joint commission established under Article 5, may be referred to the International Court of Justice by either party. Both Azoria and Calvera allege breaches of the treaty, thereby invoking the Court's jurisdiction under this provision.

4. **United Nations Charter and Security Council Resolution 10477 (2024)**

As Member States of the United Nations, Azoria and Calvera are subject to the obligations of the UN Charter. On 15 April 2024, the UN Security Council adopted Resolution 10477 (Annexure 2), expressing grave concern over the conflict in the Duralin Valley and urging both parties to submit their dispute to the International Court of Justice for peaceful resolution. While not independently conferring jurisdiction, this resolution reinforces the Court's competence to hear the case under Article 36(1) of the Statute, in conjunction with the aforementioned treaty-based and optional clause jurisdictions.

5. **Procedural Consolidation**

Pursuant to Article 80 of the Rules of Court, Calvera's counterclaims, filed on 25 January 2025, are directly connected to the subject matter of Azoria's Application, filed on 12 January 2025. Following consultations with the President of the Court on 20 September 2025, both parties agreed to have their claims and counterclaims adjudicated in a single proceeding, as reflected in the Court's order of 20 August 2025. This agreement, combined with the jurisdictional bases outlined above, confirms the Court's authority to hear the entirety of the dispute.

The Court therefore has jurisdiction to adjudicate Azoria's Application and Calvera's counterclaims, as presented in the Statement of Agreed Facts finalized on 30 September 2025, in accordance with Articles 40 and 48 of the Statute and Articles 31, 44, and 49 of the Rules of Court.

Applicant's Claims (The Republic of Azoria)

The Republic of Azoria respectfully requests the Court to adjudge and declare that:

- 1. Violation of the Genocide Convention (1948):** Calvera's actions in the Duralin Valley, including the deliberate targeting of Azorian civilians through mass detentions, blockades, and airstrikes, which resulted in the deaths of at least 2,000 civilians and the displacement of 40,000 others, constitute genocide under Article II of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. These acts were carried out with the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, the Azorian ethnic minority within Calvera's borders.
- 2. Violation of the Principle of Proportionality and Prohibition of the Use of Force:** Calvera's airstrikes and ground operations in the Duralin Valley, commencing on 14 February 2023, and subsequent operations in 2024, were disproportionate, excessive, and in violation of Article 2(4) of the United Nations Charter, constituting an unlawful use of force against Azoria's territorial integrity.
- 3. Breaches of the Geneva Conventions (1949):** Calvera's treatment of detained Azorian civilians and captured soldiers, including subjecting them to inhumane conditions, denial of medical care, and reported executions in detention centers, violates Common Article 3 and other provisions of the Geneva Conventions, as well as customary international humanitarian law.
- 4. Breach of the Treaty of Valmont (1998):** Calvera's unilateral military operations in the Duralin Valley, including the establishment of military outposts and the detention of Azorian nationals, violate Articles 2 and 5 of the Treaty of Valmont, which prohibit unilateral military actions and mandate cooperative dispute resolution.
- 5. Legality of Azoria's Actions:** Azoria's Operation Resolute Dawn, launched on 14 February 2023, was a lawful exercise of self-defense under Article 51 of the UN Charter in response to cross-border attacks by the Azorian Liberation Front (ALF), which Azoria alleges were supported by Calvera.

Respondent's Counterclaims (Kingdom of Calvera)

The Kingdom of Calvera respectfully requests the Court to adjudge and declare that:

1. **Violation of the Genocide Convention (1948):** Azoria's actions in the Duralin Valley, including the systematic targeting of Calveran-majority villages through paramilitary raids and shelling, which resulted in the deaths of several hundred civilians and the destruction of entire communities, constitute genocide under Article II of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. These acts were carried out with the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, the Calveran ethnic group within Azoria's borders.
2. **Violation of the Principle of Proportionality and Prohibition of the Use of Force:** Azoria's Operation Resolute Dawn, launched on 14 February 2023, and subsequent military actions in the Duralin Valley, were disproportionate, excessive, and in violation of Article 2(4) of the United Nations Charter, constituting an unlawful act of aggression against Calvera's territorial integrity.
3. **Breaches of the Geneva Conventions (1949):** Azoria's failure to prevent or punish paramilitary units responsible for massacres of Calveran civilians in the Duralin Valley violates Common Article 3 and other provisions of the Geneva Conventions, as well as customary international humanitarian law.
4. **Breach of the Treaty of Valmont (1998):** Azoria's unilateral deployment of armed forces in the Duralin Valley, including airstrikes and ground operations, violates Articles 2 and 5 of the Treaty of Valmont, which prohibit unilateral military actions and require cooperative dispute resolution.
5. **Legality of Calvera's Actions:** Calvera's military operations in the Duralin Valley, including airstrikes and detentions commencing on 14 February 2023, were lawful measures of self-defense under Article 51 of the UN Charter in response to cross-border attacks by the Azorian Liberation Front (ALF), which Calvera alleges were sponsored or tolerated by Azoria. Furthermore, Calvera's detention of Azorian nationals was a lawful security measure compliant with international law.

LEGAL QUESTIONS BEFORE THE COURT

The International Court of Justice is requested to adjudicate and resolve the following legal questions arising from the dispute between the Republic of Azoria and the Kingdom of Calvera:

1. **Allegations of Genocide under the 1948 Genocide Convention**

- a. Did Calvera's actions in the Duralin Valley, including mass detentions, blockades, and airstrikes resulting in the deaths of at least 2,000 Azorian civilians and the displacement of 40,000 others, constitute genocide by demonstrating specific intent to destroy, in whole or in part, the Azorian ethnic minority within Calvera's borders?
- b. Did Azoria's paramilitary raids on Calveran-majority villages in the Duralin Valley, resulting in the deaths of several hundred civilians, constitute genocide by demonstrating specific intent to destroy, in whole or in part, the Calveran ethnic group within Azoria's borders?
- c. If these acts do not meet the threshold of genocide, do they instead constitute war crimes, crimes against humanity, or other violations of international law?

2. Use of Force and Self-Defense under the UN Charter

- a. Was Azoria's Operation Resolute Dawn, launched on 14 February 2023, a lawful exercise of self-defense under Article 51 of the UN Charter in response to alleged cross-border attacks by the Azorian Liberation Front (ALF), or did it violate Article 2(4) by constituting an unlawful use of force?
- b. Were Calvera's retaliatory airstrikes and ground operations in the Duralin Valley, commencing on 14 February 2023, a lawful exercise of self-defense under Article 51, or did they violate Article 2(4) as an unlawful use of force?

3. Proportionality in Armed Conflict under International Humanitarian Law

- a. Did Azoria's military operations, including airstrikes that caused civilian casualties (estimated between 200–800), adhere to the principle of proportionality under customary international humanitarian law and the Geneva Conventions?
- b. Did Calvera's military operations, including airstrikes and blockades that caused civilian deaths (estimated between 300–700), adhere to the principle of proportionality under customary international humanitarian law and the Geneva Conventions?

4. State Responsibility for Violations of the Treaty of Valmont (1998)

- a. Did Azoria breach Articles 2 and 5 of the Treaty of Valmont by unilaterally deploying armed forces and conducting airstrikes in the Duralin Valley without bilateral consultation?

- b. Did Calvera breach Articles 2 and 5 of the Treaty of Valmont by establishing military outposts and detaining Azorian nationals in the Duralin Valley without bilateral consultation?

5. Compliance with the Geneva Conventions (1949)

- a. Did Calvera's treatment of detained Azorian civilians and soldiers, including reported inhumane conditions, starvation, and denial of medical care, violate Common Article 3 and other provisions of the Geneva Conventions?
- b. Did Azoria fail to prevent or punish paramilitary units responsible for massacres of Calveran civilians, thereby breaching its obligations under Common Article 3 and other provisions of the Geneva Conventions?

Relevant International Law

The following international legal instruments and principles form the basis for the adjudication of the dispute between the Republic of Azoria and the Kingdom of Calvera:

1. Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (1948):

- **Article I:** Confirms that genocide, whether committed in time of peace or war, is a crime under international law, which States undertake to prevent and punish.
- **Article II:** Defines genocide as acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial, or religious group, including killing members of the group, causing serious bodily or mental harm, or deliberately inflicting conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction.
- **Article IX:** Grants the ICJ jurisdiction over disputes relating to the interpretation, application, or fulfillment of the Convention.
- **Relevance:** Both Azoria and Calvera allege that the other committed genocide in the Duralin Valley. The Court must determine whether either party's actions meet the threshold of specific intent (*dolus specialis*) required for genocide, as opposed to war crimes or crimes against humanity.

2. United Nations Charter (1945):

- **Article 2(4):** Prohibits the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State.

- **Article 51:** Recognizes the inherent right of self-defense if an armed attack occurs against a Member State, subject to the principles of necessity and proportionality.
- **Relevance:** Azoria claims its Operation Resolute Dawn was lawful self-defense, while Calvera argues it was unlawful aggression. Conversely, Calvera defends its retaliatory operations as self-defense, while Azoria alleges they violated Article 2(4).

3. **Geneva Conventions (1949) and Additional Protocols:**

- **Common Article 3:** Prohibits violence to life and person, including murder, mutilation, cruel treatment, and torture, against persons not taking active part in hostilities, and requires humane treatment of detainees.
- **Articles 49–57 (Fourth Geneva Convention):** Protect civilians in times of war, including prohibitions on collective punishment, forced displacement, and inhumane treatment.
- **Additional Protocol I (1977):** Codifies the principle of proportionality, requiring that attacks not cause excessive civilian harm relative to the military advantage anticipated.
- **Relevance:** Both parties accuse each other of violating protections for civilians and detainees, including through airstrikes, blockades, and paramilitary raids in the Duralin Valley.

IV. **Treaty of Valmont (1998)**

A bilateral agreement between Azoria and Calvera regulating security and resource-sharing in the Duralin Valley.

Article 2: Prohibits unilateral military deployments in the Duralin Valley without mutual consultation.

Article 5: Mandates peaceful dispute resolution through a joint commission.

Article 14: Permits referral of disputes to the ICJ.

Relevance: Both States allege the other breached the Treaty by conducting unilateral military operations and failing to pursue cooperative dispute resolution.

V. Customary International Law:

1. **Principle of Proportionality:** Requires that any use of force in self-defense or armed conflict be proportionate to the threat faced and avoid excessive civilian harm.
2. **State Responsibility:** States are responsible for internationally wrongful acts, including those committed by non-state actors (e.g., paramilitary groups or insurgents) if the State fails to exercise due diligence to prevent or punish such acts.

Relevance: The Court must assess whether Azoria or Calvera failed to control non-state actors (e.g., the Azorian Liberation Front or Azorian paramilitaries) and whether their military operations adhered to proportionality.

VI. Relevant ICJ Precedents:

1. **Case Concerning Application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Bosnia and Herzegovina v. Serbia and Montenegro, 2007):** Established that genocide requires proof of specific intent to destroy a protected group, and that States may be responsible for failing to prevent or punish genocide.
2. **Military and Paramilitary Activities in and against Nicaragua (Nicaragua v. United States, 1986):** Clarified the scope of self-defense under Article 51 and the prohibition of the use of force under Article 2(4).
3. **Case Concerning Application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Croatia v. Serbia, 2015):** Affirmed the high threshold for proving genocidal intent, distinguishing genocide from other atrocities like ethnic cleansing.

Relevance: These cases provide legal benchmarks for assessing genocide, use of force, and state responsibility in the present dispute.

Annexure I

Treaty of Valmont (1998)

Republic of Azoria – Kingdom of Calvera

Adopted on 15 August 1998, entered into force on 15 August 1998

The Republic of Azoria and the Kingdom of Calvera (hereinafter “the Parties”),
Recalling the dissolution of the Meiran Commonwealth and the need to ensure peace,
stability, and equitable resource management in the Duralin Valley,
Affirming their commitment to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations,
international law, and mutual cooperation,
Have agreed as follows,

Article 1

Recognition of Sovereignty and Boundaries

1. Each Party recognizes the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and independence of the other as a successor State to the Meiran Commonwealth.
2. The boundary between the Parties in the Duralin Valley shall be provisionally maintained as demarcated in *Annexure A* to this Treaty, pending final delimitation by mutual agreement.
3. Neither Party shall alter or claim additional territory beyond the boundaries recognized under this Treaty without mutual consent.

Article 2

Prohibition of Unilateral Military Actions

1. The Parties shall refrain from deploying armed forces or conducting military operations in the Duralin Valley without prior mutual consent through the Joint Commission established under Article 4.
2. Any security measures in the Valley, including counterinsurgency operations, shall be coordinated bilaterally to avoid escalation and ensure compliance with international humanitarian law.

Article 3

Non-Use of Force

The Parties shall refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity, sovereignty, or political independence of the other, particularly with regard to the Duralin Valley.

Article 4

Joint Commission on the Duralin Valley

1. A Joint Commission (“the Commission”) shall be established within 90 days of entry into force of this Treaty.
2. The Commission shall consist of equal representatives of both Parties and shall:
 - Oversee implementation of the Treaty.
 - Approve joint projects for economic development, mining, and agriculture.
 - Monitor troop withdrawals and demilitarization.
 - Facilitate dialogue and resolve disputes.
3. The Commission may invite international observers, including from the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis.

Article 5

Resource Management and Revenue Sharing

1. Mineral, agricultural, and water resources of the Duralin Valley shall be jointly exploited.
2. Revenues shall be distributed in equal shares (50:50) unless otherwise agreed.
3. Either Party shall notify the other before granting concessions to foreign corporations or third States.
4. No Party may unilaterally exploit underground or cross-border resources without prior consultation.

Article 6

Environmental Protection

The Parties shall ensure that activities in the Duralin Valley conform to international environmental law, including obligations under the *1992 Rio Declaration and the Convention on Biological Diversity*.

Article 7

Minority and Indigenous Rights

1. The Parties shall guarantee equal rights to ethnic minorities, including linguistic, cultural, and political representation.
2. Acts of persecution, forced displacement, or denial of rights shall constitute material breaches of this Treaty.

Article 8

Freedom of Movement and Trade

1. Civilians of both Parties shall enjoy freedom of movement across the Valley, subject to security procedures.
2. Customs duties shall not apply to goods in transit within the Valley.

Article 9

Humanitarian Obligations

Humanitarian organizations shall enjoy unrestricted access to populations in need. Neither Party shall obstruct the delivery of food, medicine, or essential supplies.

Article 10

Non-Blockade Clause

Neither Party shall impose a blockade or siege in or around the Valley. Such acts shall be considered violations of this Treaty and international law.

Article 11

Settlement of Disputes by the Commission

Disputes concerning interpretation or application of this Treaty shall be referred first to the Commission, which shall endeavor to resolve them within six months.

Article 12

Arbitration

If the Commission fails to resolve a dispute, either Party may request arbitration under rules agreed upon at the time.

Article 13

Referral to the International Court of Justice

If arbitration fails, either Party may refer the matter to the International Court of Justice, whose decision shall be final and binding.

Article 14

Good Faith Negotiations

The Parties undertake to negotiate in good faith and refrain from hostile acts while disputes are pending.

Article 15

Suspension of Treaty Obligations

1. In case of a material breach of this Treaty, the aggrieved Party may suspend implementation of its obligations after notifying the Commission.
2. Such suspension shall not absolve either Party from humanitarian obligations under international law.

Article 16

International Guarantees

The Parties may jointly request the United Nations or a regional organization to act as guarantor of this Treaty.

Article 17

Amendments

This Treaty may be amended by mutual written consent of the Parties.

Article 18

Duration and Termination

1. This Treaty shall remain in force indefinitely.
2. Either Party may withdraw upon 12 months' written notice.
3. Obligations relating to resource revenues, humanitarian access, and minority rights shall remain binding despite termination.

Article 19

Authentic Texts

This Treaty is drawn up in two originals, in the English language, both texts being equally authentic.

Done at Valmont, 15 August 1998.

For the Republic of Azoria,

(Signed) Dr. Liana Torren

Minister of Foreign Affairs

For the Kingdom of Calvera,

(Signed) Lord Viktor Halen

Royal Envoy

Annexure II

United Nations Security Council Resolution 10477 (2021)

Adopted by the Security Council at its 8794th meeting, on 12 March 2021

The Security Council,

Expressing grave concern at the ongoing hostilities in the Duralin Valley between the Republic of Azoria and the Kingdom of Calvera, marked by armed clashes, widespread civilian displacement estimated at 40,000 persons, and restricted humanitarian access,

Reaffirming the sovereignty and territorial integrity of both States and the binding obligations under the Treaty of Valmont (1998),

Stressing the imperative of a peaceful settlement in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the Statute of the International Court of Justice,

Noting with alarm reports of significant civilian casualties, estimated at 2,000 deaths, and allegations of violations of international humanitarian and human rights law, including acts affecting ethnic minorities,

Recognizing its primary responsibility under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Acting under Chapter VI of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. **Demands** the immediate cessation of hostilities by all parties in and around the Duralin Valley, underscoring that any continuation of armed activity constitutes a material breach of Article 2 of the Treaty of Valmont (1998) and a threat to international peace and security within the meaning of Article 39 of the Charter of the United Nations;
2. **Calls upon** the Republic of Azoria and the Kingdom of Calvera to fully implement their obligations under the Treaty of Valmont (1998), including:
 - a. Article 2, prohibiting unilateral military actions in the Duralin Valley,
 - b. Article 5, ensuring joint management and equitable sharing of the Valley's mineral, agricultural, and water resources,
 - c. Article 10, prohibiting blockades or sieges in or around the Valley,and to refrain from acts that undermine the Treaty's object and purpose;
3. **Establishes** for an initial period of twelve months a United Nations Peace Observation Mission in the Duralin Valley (UNPOM-DV), acting under Chapter VI of the Charter of the United Nations, mandated to:

- a. Monitor and verify compliance with the cessation of hostilities and obligations under the Treaty of Valmont,
 - b. Facilitate dialogue between the Parties and liaise with the Joint Commission established under Article 4 of the Treaty,
 - c. Report to the Secretary-General on any violations of international humanitarian or human rights law, including those affecting ethnic minorities, occurring within the Valley;
4. **Authorizes** the Secretary-General to appoint, without delay, a Special Representative for the Duralin Valley to exercise overall authority for UNPOM-DV, engage in good offices between the Parties, and coordinate with humanitarian agencies to ensure sustained access to affected populations;
5. **Urges** both Parties to ensure unhindered and sustained humanitarian access to all affected populations in the Duralin Valley, guaranteeing the freedom of movement of humanitarian personnel in conformity with international humanitarian law, and to refrain from obstructing the delivery of food, medicine, and other essential supplies, noting that such obstruction violates Article 9 of the Treaty of Valmont;
6. **Condemns** in the strongest terms any acts of persecution, forced displacement, or denial of rights to ethnic minorities within the Duralin Valley, as prohibited under Article 7 of the Treaty of Valmont, and stresses that individuals responsible for such acts may be held accountable under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and customary international law;
7. **Requests** the Secretary-General to submit to the Security Council, within ninety days of the adoption of this resolution and every sixty days thereafter, a detailed report on the implementation of this resolution, including verified accounts of compliance or non-compliance by the Parties with their obligations under the Treaty of Valmont;
8. **Calls upon** the Republic of Azoria and the Kingdom of Calvera to pursue, without prejudice to their respective legal positions, all outstanding issues relating to the interpretation or application of the Treaty of Valmont through the Joint Commission under Article 11, and, failing resolution, through arbitration under Article 12, or, as a last resort, referral to the International Court of Justice under Article 13;
9. **Decides** to remain actively seized of the matter.

Annexure 3

Leaked Calveran Military Memorandum



KINGDOM OF CALVERA MINISTRY OF DEFENSE

CLASSIFIED / INTERNAL USE ONLY / MEMORANDUM NO. CMD-2024/03-10

DATE: 10 March 2024

FROM: General Thalia Ren, Commander, Duralin Valley Operations Command

TO: Field Commanders, Calveran Armed Forces, Duralin Sector

SUBJECT: Operational Directives for Security Operations within the Duralin Valley

I. STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Pursuant to the directives issued by Prime Minister Elara Vorn, and in direct response to persistent and verifiable threats from the Azorian Liberation Front (ALF), all operational units are hereby directed to prioritize the systematic neutralization of insurgent elements. These elements are identified as operating within, and utilizing, civilian areas of the Duralin Valley. The overarching strategic imperatives are to re-establish and maintain full governmental control over all contested territories within the Valley and to secure critical national resources, specifically identified as cobalt and rare earth mineral deposits.

II. TACTICAL GUIDELINES

A. Engage ALF positions with judicious application of force, striving for precision to mitigate incidental damage to civilian persons and property where operationally feasible. Concurrently, all engagements must ensure the decisive and conclusive suppression of all forms of organized resistance.

B. Effect the detention of all individuals reasonably suspected of providing material aid, logistical support, or demonstrating active sympathy towards ALF operatives. Appropriate detention facilities are to be established and maintained for the purpose of systematic interrogation, intelligence gathering, and comprehensive processing of such suspects, strictly adhering to established protocols.

C. Institute and maintain strategic checkpoints and implement blockades to effectively restrict the movement of potential insurgent personnel, including those confirmed or suspected of cross-border ingress from Azorian territory. The regulation of essential supplies shall be enforced as deemed necessary to prevent any form of material support from reaching hostile forces or their auxiliaries.

III. RULES OF ENGAGEMENT (ROE)

Forces are authorized to employ all necessary and proportionate measures to neutralize identified resistance and to effectively diminish the capacity and will of any elements providing support to insurgent activities originating from or linked to Azoria. This authorization explicitly includes targeted offensive operations against verified ALF strongholds, even when such locations are situated within or in close proximity to populated areas. While full compliance with all applicable principles of international humanitarian law is unequivocally expected, the successful attainment of stated operational objectives remains paramount for the safeguarding of Calveran national interests and security.

IV. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

All operational incidents involving civilian casualties, whether direct or incidental, and all detentions, regardless of duration, must be meticulously documented and reported through designated secure communication channels without undue delay. Intelligence pertaining to documented or suspected involvement of Azorian paramilitary entities, particularly concerning cross-border incursions, is to be accorded the highest priority for immediate escalation and reporting to higher command.

V. CONFIDENTIALITY

This memorandum is designated as **CLASSIFIED**. Any unauthorized disclosure, dissemination, or reproduction of its contents, in whole or in part, will constitute a severe breach of security protocols and shall result in immediate and rigorous disciplinary action, up to and including court-martial proceedings.

(Signed)

General Thalia Ren Commander, Duralin Valley Operations Command