

**Forum:** Security Council

**Issue:** Income distribution in African Great Lakes

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**Position:** President Chair

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## Introduction

The freshwater lakes and river basins found in the central and eastern regions of Africa are the basis of the term "Great Lakes Region." Thus, the countries of east and central Africa—Rwanda, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia, Republic of Congo, Central African Republic (CAR), South Sudan, Kenya, and Sudan—are the area of focus. The Great Lakes Region is a complex web of economic and political relationships that have a big impact on governance, security, and peace. It is also a region where post-colonial obstacles to nation- and state-building have resulted in interconnected conflicts and shared core issues.

Some of the most fatal disputes on the African continent have taken place in the Great Lakes Region (GLR), which has been prone to conflict for several decades. These conflicts have their origins in long-standing disputes over citizenship and ethnicity, which are linked to complaints over resource access, especially with regard to land but also with regard to mineral and other natural resources. These complaints show up as challenges to the authority and legitimacy of local and national governments. The 1959 Rwandan revolution served as one illustration of this, as it was believed to be the beginning of many of the conflicts that continue to this day. In addition to killing over a million people, it drove a significant number of Tutsi refugees into Burundi, Tanzania, Uganda, and the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Eastern Democratic Republic conflicts intensified throughout the 1960s, primarily centered on land and municipal power.

Complex colonial legacies, nationality and identity, ethnic tensions and discrimination, a lack of rule of law, human rights violations, political marginalization, and a variety of development issues, such as poor governance (including

corruption), poverty, and youth disenfranchisement, are all contributing factors to the conflict dynamics in the GLR. Foreign meddling aggravates each of these problems.

In this report, we are going to dive into the historical background of the Great Lakes Region and its important players, the implications of the past conflicts, how previous attempts made an impact, and what new solutions we can come up with.

## **Definition of Key Terms**

### **Genocide**

In the present Convention of the United Nations, genocide means any of the following acts committed with the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial, or religious group, as such:

1. Killing members of the group;
2. Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;
3. Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;
4. Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group;
5. Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.

### **Colonialism**

Domination of a people or area by a foreign state or nation. The practice of extending and maintaining a nation's economic control over another people or area.

### **Equity/Equitable**

Equity is the ratio of shares of a certain resource. Equitable is the term referring to the fair and unbiased distribution of said resources.

### **Grievance**

Grievances refer to deep-seated feelings of injustice, resentment, or dissatisfaction among certain ethnic, political, or social groups. These are often rooted in historical injustices, discrimination, or marginalization experienced by

particular communities. Grievances can serve as catalysts for conflict, as aggrieved groups may seek to address perceived injustices through political or violent means. Resolving grievances often involves addressing underlying issues of inequality, discrimination, and historical injustices through inclusive governance, reconciliation processes, and socio-economic development initiatives.

### Resource conflicts

Conflict arising from competition over natural resources such as land, water, minerals, and timber. This competition can exacerbate existing ethnic tensions and political instability.

### Transitional justice

The process of addressing past human rights abuses, including genocide, through mechanisms such as truth commissions, trials, reparations, and reconciliation initiatives.

### Regional integration

Collaborative efforts among neighboring countries to promote economic, political, and social cooperation, foster peace and stability, and address shared challenges. Examples include the East African Community (EAC) and the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR).

## Major Countries and Organizations Involved

### DR Congo

The Democratic Republic of Congo plays a crucial role in the Great Lakes Region due to its size, strategic location, and abundant natural resources. Since most of the conflicts are driven by the need to access resources, territorial needs, and border tensions, DRC is at the center of GLR disputes. Keeping this in mind, it is inevitable that DRC's history is stained with conflict and instability which also affects their neighboring nations.

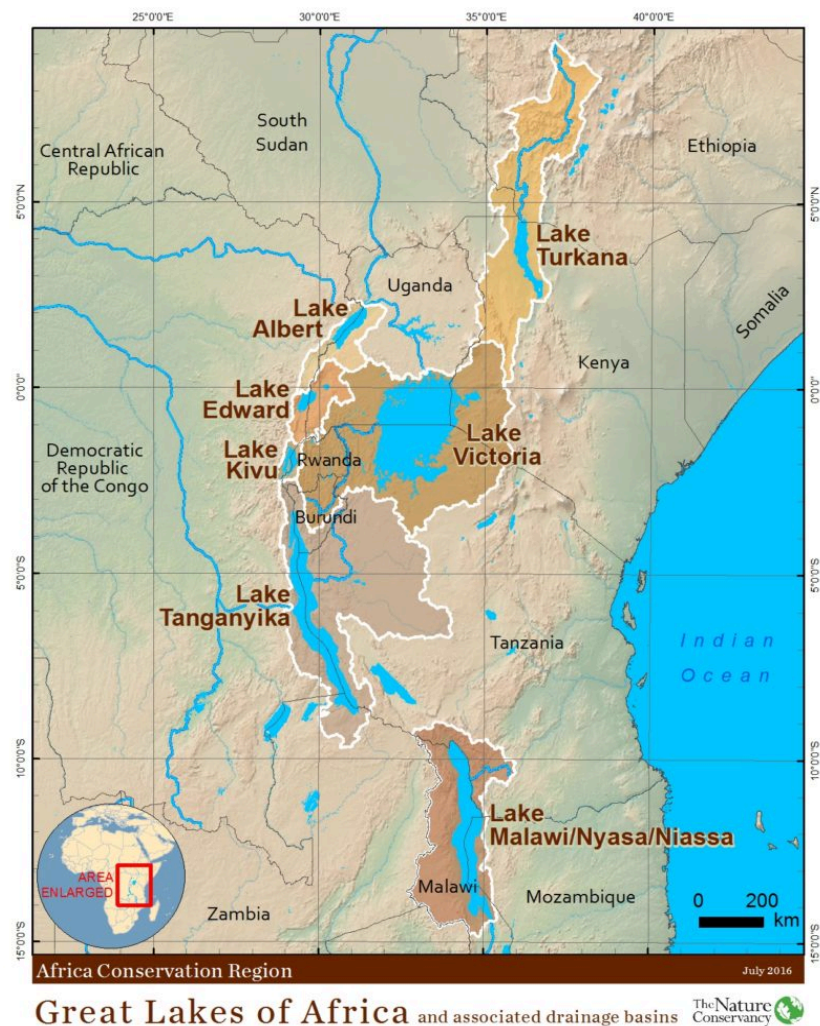
The DRC is one of the most resource-rich countries globally, with vast deposits of minerals including copper, cobalt, gold, diamonds, coltan, and others. The exploitation and export of these minerals constitute a significant portion of the DRC's economy, contributing to government revenue, foreign exchange earnings, and employment. However, the benefits of this wealth have often been unevenly distributed, with much of the population remaining impoverished. The term "conflict minerals" has arisen, referring to minerals mined in conditions of armed conflict and human rights abuses, often used to finance rebel groups or fuel violence. In the DRC, armed groups, including rebel militias and elements of the national army, have exploited mineral resources to fund their activities, leading to ongoing conflict and insecurity in mineral-rich regions such as North and South Kivu, Ituri, and Kasai.

The extraction of said resources is not evenly distributed either. The government is ineffective in regulating mining activities. The weak state institutions, corruption, and porous borders have facilitated the proliferation of illegal mining activities in the DRC. Armed groups and criminal networks engage in smuggling minerals across borders, evading taxes and regulations, and exploiting local populations through forced labor and extortion.

The control and exploitation of DRC's mineral wealth have also drawn in neighboring countries and regional actors, contributing to cross-border conflicts and tensions. Countries such as Rwanda, Uganda, and Burundi have been accused of backing rebel groups in the DRC to secure access to resources or destabilize political rivals. This suggests that the "unfair" distribution and gain of resources are not only cause for internal conflict but also drive external conflicts as well as outside interference in internal affairs. These inter-border conflicts have resulted in millions of deaths and the displacement of millions more, destabilizing the entire Great Lakes region.

The DRC's instability affects neighboring countries economically, politically, and socially. Cross-border trade, refugee flows, and security concerns are all influenced by the situation in the DRC, making its stability crucial for regional development and cooperation. The issue of conflict minerals in the DRC has also

gained international attention, leading to efforts to regulate and trace the supply chain of minerals to ensure they are not fueling conflict or human rights abuses. Initiatives such as the Dodd-Frank Act in the United States and the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme aim to promote transparency and accountability in the mineral trade.



## Uganda

Uganda's central location in the African Great Lakes region gives it a strategic advantage in terms of trade, transportation, and regional influence. Its borders with multiple countries provide opportunities for economic integration and diplomatic

engagement. Uganda's capital, Kampala, serves as a regional hub for commerce, politics, and cultural exchange, further enhancing its significance in the region. Uganda shares historical, cultural, and linguistic ties with neighboring countries in the Great Lakes region. These connections date back centuries and have shaped migration patterns, trade networks, and social dynamics in the region. Uganda's colonial history, as a British protectorate, also influenced its relationships with neighboring territories under colonial rule.

Uganda's involvement in armed conflicts in neighboring countries, particularly during the First and Second Congo Wars, was characterized by its support for rebel groups opposed to incumbent governments. In the First Congo War, Uganda supported the Alliance of Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Congo (AFDL), led by Laurent-Désiré Kabila, in its fight against the regime of President Mobutu Sese Seko. Similarly, during the Second Congo War, Uganda backed various rebel factions, including the Rally for Congolese Democracy (RCD) and the Movement for the Liberation of Congo (MLC), in their efforts to overthrow Kabila's government and gain control over eastern Congo's resources. Uganda's support for rebel groups in the Great Lakes region was sometimes influenced by ethnic considerations. For example, during the Rwandan Civil War, Uganda provided assistance to the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF), a rebel group composed primarily of Tutsi refugees, in its fight against the Hutu-dominated government. Similarly, in the DRC, Uganda supported rebel factions aligned with ethnic Tutsi communities, reflecting complex ethnic dynamics and historical grievances in the region.

Despite its history of involvement in conflicts, Uganda has also played a constructive role in mediating peace processes in the region. Through diplomatic efforts and regional initiatives, Uganda has facilitated dialogue and reconciliation in countries such as South Sudan, Somalia, and Burundi. Its diplomatic engagement has helped to de-escalate tensions and promote peaceful resolution of disputes.

Uganda's economy is closely intertwined with those of its neighbors in the Great Lakes region. Cross-border trade, investment, and infrastructure development are key drivers of economic integration and growth. Uganda's participation in

regional economic blocs such as the East African Community (EAC) and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) strengthens its economic ties with neighboring countries and fosters collaboration on trade and development initiatives. Uganda collaborates with regional and international partners to address security challenges in the Great Lakes region. Through participation in peacekeeping missions, counterterrorism efforts, and capacity-building programs, Uganda contributes to regional security and stability. Its military engagement in peace operations under the auspices of the United Nations and the African Union demonstrates its commitment to collective security and peacebuilding in the region.

Uganda's commitment to hosting refugees and providing humanitarian assistance to those fleeing conflicts in neighboring countries reflects its role as a regional leader in humanitarian affairs. With one of the largest refugee populations in Africa, Uganda has demonstrated compassion and solidarity with its neighbors in times of crisis. Its support for refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) contributes to regional stability and resilience in the face of adversity.

## Rwanda

Rwanda's geographical position in the Great Lakes region is strategically significant, situated in the heart of East Africa. Bordered by Uganda to the north, Tanzania to the east, Burundi to the south, and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) to the west, Rwanda serves as a crossroads between East and Central Africa. Its central location provides access to key trade routes and transportation corridors, facilitating economic integration and connectivity within the region. Additionally, Rwanda's proximity to the DRC has implications for security dynamics, as it shares a border with the volatile eastern provinces of the DRC, where armed groups and regional conflicts have historically posed challenges to stability. Despite its landlocked status, Rwanda's strategic location positions it as a gateway to the wider Great Lakes region, contributing to its importance as a regional hub for trade, diplomacy, and development initiatives.

Following the 1994 Rwandan Genocide, Rwanda underwent a remarkable transformation under the leadership of the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF), led by President Paul Kagame. The government prioritized reconciliation, stability, and economic development, leading to impressive gains in security, infrastructure, and social services. This transformation positioned Rwanda as a model for post-conflict recovery and development in the region. Despite its small size, Rwanda wields considerable influence in the Great Lakes region. It has played a significant role in regional politics and security, contributing troops to peacekeeping missions and engaging in diplomatic efforts to resolve conflicts in neighboring countries, particularly in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Rwanda's assertive foreign policy and proactive approach to regional issues have earned it recognition as a key player in the GLR.

Rwanda's history of conflict and genocide has shaped its approach to security, both domestically and regionally. The government prioritizes stability and security as essential prerequisites for development and has been proactive in addressing security threats, including armed groups operating in eastern Congo. Rwanda's security concerns, particularly related to the presence of genocidal militias in the DRC, have influenced its military interventions and diplomatic engagements in the region.

Rwanda has pursued an ambitious economic development agenda, focusing on sectors such as technology, tourism, and agriculture. The country has attracted significant foreign investment and donor support, becoming one of the fastest-growing economies in Africa. Rwanda's economic progress has positioned it as a regional hub for investment and innovation, contributing to the overall development and integration of the GLR. They are also actively engaged in regional integration initiatives, such as the East African Community (EAC) and the African Union (AU). It has promoted cross-border trade, infrastructure development, and collaboration on regional challenges such as climate change and security. Rwanda's commitment to regional cooperation underscores its vision of a united and prosperous Great Lakes region.



Rwanda has been proactive in addressing humanitarian challenges in the GLR, including refugee crises and natural disasters. The government has provided assistance to refugees fleeing conflicts in neighboring countries and has supported regional initiatives aimed at promoting peace, stability, and development. Rwanda's humanitarian efforts reflect its commitment to solidarity and cooperation within the GLR.

## Burundi

Burundi's geographical position in the African Great Lakes region is characterized by its central location and its proximity to neighboring countries. Situated in East Africa, Burundi is bordered by Rwanda to the north, Tanzania to the east and south, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) to the west. Its strategic location positions it within the broader East African region, with access to key trade routes and transportation networks.

Burundi has historically been intertwined with its neighbors in the GLR, particularly Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Political instability, ethnic tensions, and conflicts within Burundi have had spill-over effects on neighboring countries, contributing to regional insecurity and instability. Like Rwanda, Burundi grapples with ethnic tensions, particularly between the Hutu and Tutsi communities. The ethnic composition of its population and the legacy of past conflicts shape its relations with neighboring countries, as well as its internal politics and security dynamics.

Burundi has been a host to refugees fleeing conflicts in neighboring countries, particularly the Rwandan Genocide and the civil wars in the DRC. The influx of refugees has strained Burundi's resources and infrastructure, while also impacting regional stability and security. Burundi engages in regional diplomacy through organizations such as the East African Community (EAC) and the African Union (AU). Its participation in regional initiatives and forums provides opportunities for cooperation, conflict resolution, and economic integration within the GLR.

Burundi has faced internal security challenges, including armed rebellion, political violence, and human rights abuses. These challenges have implications for regional stability, as they could potentially spill over into neighboring countries and exacerbate existing conflicts in the GLR. Burundi's economy is closely linked to those of its neighbors in the GLR through trade, investment, and regional integration initiatives. Cross-border trade, infrastructure development, and economic cooperation contribute to the overall development and stability of the region.

## Background Information

### Rwandan Genocide

The Rwandan Genocide between the ethnic groups Hutus and Tutsis has a deep background dating back to the colonial periods. By its rough edges, the progression of this massacre will be explained. In the late 19th century and early 20th century, Rwanda was colonized by Germany and later on by Belgium. Colonizers have used categories on Rwandan people, grouping them as Hutu, Tutsi, and Twa based on their socio-economic positions and physical appearances. This hierarchical system was more in favour of the Tutsi minority which the Hutus were not appreciative of. Colonial policies exacerbated ethnic divisions within Rwanda by favouring a certain so-called ethnicity that they themselves have created. Tutsis were being given higher governmental positions and better education. This act of nepotism drove tensions between the Hutus and Tutsis. The Hutu majority marginalized under colonial rule and began to resent Tutsi privilege and perceived favouritism.

Rwanda finally gained independence from Belgium in 1962. However, even with the colonizers gone, the ethnic tensions did not settle. Post-independence governments, mostly led by Hutu elites, exploited the ethnic division for political gain, further deepening resentment and dislike between the two communities. The ethnic tensions soon turned into a civil war, resulting in the Rwandan Civil War



between the years 1990 and 1994. The Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF), a rebel group composed primarily of Tutsi refugees, launched an invasion from Uganda in 1990, seeking to overthrow the Hutu-dominated government and secure the rights of Tutsis in Rwanda. The civil war exacerbated ethnic tensions and led to widespread violence against Tutsis within Rwanda. On April 6, 1994, the plane carrying Rwandan President Juvénal Habyarimana, a Hutu, was shot down, sparking the genocide. Although the perpetrators remain unknown, extremists within the Hutu government and military used the assassination as a pretext to launch a systematic campaign of violence against Tutsis and moderate Hutus.

Over the course of 100 days, extremist Hutu militias, aided by elements of the military and civilian population, perpetrated mass killings, rape, and other atrocities against Tutsis and moderate Hutus. The genocide resulted in the deaths of approximately 800,000 people and the displacement of millions more. The genocide led to a massive influx of refugees into neighboring countries, particularly the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Burundi, Tanzania, and Uganda. This strained resources and exacerbated existing tensions, contributing to regional instability. Also, Rwandan Hutu extremists, responsible for the genocide, fled into eastern Congo and continued attacks against Rwanda, leading to the First and Second Congo Wars, which involved multiple African countries and rebel groups.

The constantly changing balance of the economic, social, and political situations in the GLR was driven by the Rwandan genocide in the 1990s. The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) increased unevenly, resources started to strain, infrastructures were heavily damaged, and not to mention international relations were challenged..

#### [First and second Congo Wars \(1996-1997 / 1998-2003\)](#)

The First Congo War was characterized by the involvement of various rebel groups, including the Alliance of Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Congo (AFDL) led by Laurent-Désiré Kabila, the Rally for Congolese Democracy (RCD), and

others. These groups, supported by Rwanda and Uganda, fought against the government forces of President Mobutu Sese Seko.

The conflict was marked by intense fighting, particularly in eastern Congo, where rebel groups gained control of territory and strategic towns. The war also witnessed widespread human rights abuses, including massacres, displacement of civilians, and sexual violence. International involvement in the conflict further complicated the situation, with neighbouring countries and regional powers supporting different factions for their own strategic interests. The presence of multiple armed groups and external actors contributed to the complexity and duration of the conflict.

The end of the First Congo War marked a significant turning point in Congolese history, with Laurent-Désiré Kabila assuming power and renaming the country the Democratic Republic of Congo. However, the war's legacy continued to shape the country's political landscape and set the stage for subsequent conflicts, including the Second Congo War and ongoing violence in eastern Congo.

The Second Congo War was characterized by its complexity and scale, involving a multitude of armed groups, ethnic militias, and foreign powers vying for influence and control over the vast territory and abundant resources of the Democratic Republic of Congo. The conflict was marked by widespread violence, including massacres, sexual violence, and the recruitment of child soldiers. Civilians bore the brunt of the suffering, with millions displaced from their homes and subjected to extreme hardship and deprivation.

Neighbouring countries and regional powers supported various factions for their own strategic interests. The war became a proxy battleground for competing political agendas and resource interests, fueling the cycle of violence and instability. Efforts to end the conflict were complicated by the sheer number of actors involved and the entrenched interests at play. It took years of negotiation and diplomatic efforts to broker a peace agreement and establish a transitional government. Even after the official end of the war, sporadic violence and insecurity persisted in some areas, highlighting the challenges of post-conflict reconstruction and reconciliation.

The Second Congo War left a devastating legacy, with profound social, economic, and political consequences for the Democratic Republic of Congo and the broader Great Lakes region. Its impact continues to be felt today, underscoring the importance of addressing the root causes of conflict and promoting sustainable peace and development.

### Burundian Civil War

The Burundian Civil War was a protracted conflict that occurred primarily between 1993 and 2005, although its roots extend further back into Burundi's history. The civil war was fueled by longstanding ethnic tensions between Burundi's Hutu majority and Tutsi minority, which were exacerbated by the country's colonial legacy and post-independence politics. Burundi experienced cycles of violence and political instability, including a Hutu uprising in 1972 and subsequent military rule dominated by Tutsi elites. The civil war began in 1993 when Hutu political parties boycotted elections, leading to a coup attempt against the Tutsi-led government. The assassination of Burundi's first democratically elected Hutu president, Melchior Ndadaye, triggered widespread violence between Hutu and Tutsi communities, plunging the country into civil war. The civil war was characterized by ethnic violence and reprisal attacks between Hutu rebels and the Tutsi-dominated army. Both sides committed human rights abuses, including massacres, targeted killings, and atrocities against civilians. The conflict took a heavy toll on Burundi's population, leading to widespread displacement, loss of life, and humanitarian crises.

The civil war attracted international attention and involvement, with regional actors, such as neighboring Rwanda, and international organizations, including the United Nations and the African Union, seeking to mediate the conflict and promote peace negotiations. However, efforts to resolve the conflict were often hindered by deep-rooted ethnic divisions, mistrust, and spoilers on both sides. After years of violence and failed peace initiatives, a breakthrough occurred in 2000 when the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement was signed. The agreement, brokered with the assistance of regional and international mediators, outlined a framework for

power-sharing, transitional governance, and reconciliation between Burundi's ethnic groups.

After the signing of the Arusha Agreement, Burundi embarked on a process of political transition, including the establishment of a transitional government, the integration of rebel forces into the national army, and preparations for democratic elections. The civil war officially ended in 2005 with the inauguration of Pierre Nkurunziza as president, marking a significant milestone in Burundi's path towards peace and reconciliation.

### South Sudanese Conflict

South Sudan gained independence from Sudan in 2011 after decades of civil war. However, internal tensions quickly emerged within the newly formed country, leading to a power struggle between President Salva Kiir, an ethnic Dinka, and his former vice president, Riek Machar, an ethnic Nuer. The conflict escalated into violence in December 2013, when political disputes within the ruling party, the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM), erupted into armed conflict. The conflict in South Sudan has been fueled by ethnic divisions, particularly between the Dinka and Nuer communities, which form the country's two largest ethnic groups. The targeting of civilians based on their ethnicity, including massacres and reprisal attacks, has exacerbated tensions and deepened mistrust between communities.

The conflict has resulted in a severe humanitarian crisis, with millions of people displaced from their homes and in need of humanitarian assistance. Widespread violence, displacement, and food insecurity have led to widespread suffering and malnutrition, particularly among vulnerable populations such as children and women. The conflict in South Sudan has regional implications, with neighboring countries such as Uganda, Sudan, and Ethiopia playing significant roles in mediation efforts, peacekeeping operations, and support for different factions. Regional actors have sought to influence the outcome of the conflict for their own strategic interests, leading to complex dynamics and competing agendas.

Multiple attempts to resolve the conflict through peace negotiations have been made, including the signing of the Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (ARCSS) in 2015 and the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCSS) in 2018. However, implementation of these agreements has been fraught with challenges, including violations of ceasefires, delays in the formation of a transitional government, and continued fighting on the ground. Both government forces and rebel groups have been accused of committing human rights abuses, including killings, sexual violence, and recruitment of child soldiers. The widespread impunity for these crimes has hindered efforts to achieve accountability and justice for the victims.

### Timeline of Events

<b>1884-1885</b>	<b>Berlin Conference</b> (European powers divide Africa for colonial rule)
<b>1916-1918</b>	<b>World War 1</b> (The GLR becomes a battleground for colonizers)
<b>1960</b>	<b>Rwanda and Burundi Independence</b> (Gained from Belgium, leading to political instability and ethnic division)
<b>1962</b>	<b>Congo Independence</b> (Gained from Belgium, starts major conflict and political instability)
<b>1994</b>	<b>Rwandan Genocide</b>
<b>1996-1997</b>	<b>First Congo War</b>
<b>1998-2003</b>	<b>Second Congo War</b>
<b>2003-present</b>	<b>Congolese Conflict</b> (Despite the official end of the SCW, violence and disturbance continues)

<b>2013-present</b>	<b>South Sudanese Conflict</b> (After gaining independence from Sudan, the young nation struggles with power division and ethnic tension)
<b>2018-present</b>	<b>Ebola Outbreak</b> (The GLR strives from the humanitarian challenges, strained resources, and fragile health system due to multiple outbreaks)

## Relevant UN Resolutions and Other Documents

- <https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2024/country-chapters/south-sudan>
- <https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/migration/af-rica/UNDP-RBA-report-Great-lakes-EN.pdf>
- <https://repository.uneca.org/bitstream/handle/10855/22687/b11546694.pdf>
- <https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/un-documents/great-lakes-region/>

## Previous Attempts to Solve the Issue

- In 2008, the United Nations Security Council debated and agreed upon a resolution that demanded Rwandan armed groups to disarm. Aside from that, UNSC also implemented embargos in order to limit the purchase and delivery of arms in and out of Dr Cong to further embark upon the disarmament to the region. With this, the UNSC aimed to increase civilized communications between Rwanda and Dr Congo which proved not to be so efficient.  
(<http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/DRC%20S%20RES%201804.pdf>)



- In 2017, the UNSC established an organization called Peace, Security, and Cooperation Framework (PSC) to ensure peace and stability in the region. This also welcomed the nations in the GLR to agree upon terms to ensure peace as well. On another note, aside from the attempt to diminish armed groups once again, the SC mentions the Tutsi genocide and calls for the disarmament of Hutu groups. And the SC also attempts to insure the governmental sovereignty of DRC and to stop any interference in internal affairs.  
([https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s\\_res\\_2389.pdf](https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s_res_2389.pdf))
- Many attempts of peace building have been implemented. Transitional justice calls, regional integration attempts, ICJ cases, and many resolutions have been submitted. However the situation and conflicts in the region continue to this day. As the disputes drag on, the humanitarian crises grows as well.

## Possible Solutions

Delegates should first of all try to address the humanitarian crisis in the region. The aftermath of the conflicts are affecting civilians heavily. An attempt to safely deliver aid, provide shelter, build hospitals, education centers etc. should be written in organized form. However, while doing that, delegates should also consider the migration and internal displacement situations. Many immigrants and Internally Displaced Peoples (IDPs) are suffering even without actively being within a warzone. The displacement situation should also be mentioned.

The United Nations combined with the World Bank formed a financial framework worth around \$1 billion to help create more job opportunities, revive local economies, and improve livelihood. The World Bank also offered additional financial support for the needs of the people of the Great Lakes Region. A very profoundly structured framework can help with damage control in the entire region as well as start tackling the humanitarian crisis. Later on, the region can be funded to further prosper with improved infrastructure, proper resource distribution systems,

regulated mining, and more. A further development or the full implementation of this particular funding framework should be addressed. Please refer to further research regarding this funding program.

On a final note, delegates may also write upon the Peace, Security, and Cooperation Framework. Aside from the suggestions mentioned in this report, delegates should further inquire regarding possible solutions. The limits are endless with these situations since there are many levels and stakeholders to consider. Not only civilians but also governments, their infrastructures, economies, businesses, resources are all negatively affected by the on-going conflicts in the Great Lakes Region.

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