

United Nations General Assembly



3rd Indian Institute of Information Technology Kottayam Model United Nations

Rising Humanitarian issues
Topic Abstract

Dear Delegates and Advisors,

Greetings from IIITK MUN! Our staff has been working hard to make this year's conference the most rewarding and educational experience yet, and we are so excited to welcome you all to Kottayam, Kerala in March! This document is the topic abstract for the **United Nations General Assembly.** It contains three key elements to help you prepare well in advance for the committee: topic descriptions, questions to consider, and additional research avenues. This abstract will provide you with a better understanding of the committee's content and procedures, and it can act as a starting point for further research. We hope to be of assistance to you in your preparation for IIITK MUN 2025 . If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please feel free to contact the Secretary-General, Director-General, or your Un-der-Secretaries-General. You may also contact your dais directly at trendles@iiitkottayam.ac.in . We look forward to welcoming you to the IIITK MUN family!

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Sadhana thirumangi Director-General

What is a General Assembly?

General Assemblies at IIITK MUN are the largest committees, designed to mirror the structure and function of real United Nations bodies, where every country is represented to provide an immersive experience in large-scale international diplomacy. Following the MUN UNA-USA Rules of Procedure, these sessions incorporate crisis elements that introduce dynamic challenges and enhance debate quality. After a series of opening speeches from the speaker's list, delegates alternate between moderated and unmoderated caucuses to thoroughly discuss their topics. They then collaborate on working papers, which evolve into resolutions once presented before the entire committee. Delegates are evaluated on their in-room contributions—such as speaking and negotiating—as well as their out-of-room efforts, including writing and bloc-forming. For any questions, delegates are encouraged to reach out to the dais or the Under-Secretaries-General of General Assemblies.

Committee Description

The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), established in 1945 after World War II, became a pivotal element in shaping the new global order. It was created in response to the urgent need for a platform where all sovereign nations, regardless of their size or influence, could have an equal say in tackling global issues. This was a critical lesson learned from the shortcomings of the League of Nations. The UNGA was designed to encourage open dialogue, promote multilateral collaboration, and ensure the international community's collective voice was heard on matters of peace, security, economic development, and human rights. Today, it continues to serve as a forum for discussing key global challenges, setting international standards, and fostering consensus among its diverse members. The UNGA remains a symbol of unity and shared responsibility, fundamental to the mission of the United Nations.

Topic: Rising Humanitarian Crises

Background on Topic

Humanitarian crises today are not isolated incidents but interconnected challenges arising from a complex web of global issues.

Over recent decades, many nations have increasingly invoked the right to self-defense as justification for military actions. However, growing concerns have emerged regarding whether, in some cases, these actions have crossed legal and ethical boundaries, at times even being scrutinized as potential war crimes. This ongoing debate brings up significant questions about how states can exercise their right to defend themselves while adhering to international humanitarian law.

As conflicts intensify, large numbers of civilians are forced to flee their homes, resulting in massive refugee crises. Refugees often face appalling conditions, including overcrowded camps, limited healthcare, and a lack of basic services. These dire circumstances have been consistently documented by international organizations and remain a major challenge for both regional governments and global humanitarian agencies.

At the same time, the treatment of prisoners in conflict zones has become a pressing human rights issue. Numerous independent investigations have highlighted instances of detainees being subjected to inhumane treatment and torture, complicating the narrative of legitimate self-defense and fueling calls for stronger accountability mechanisms.

Moreover, the limitations of existing international frameworks are becoming increasingly apparent. The United Nations Security Council (UNSC), for instance, has been widely criticized for its inability to effectively address modern-day crises. Many experts argue that the UNSC's structure requires reform or expansion to better reflect contemporary geopolitical realities and enhance its capacity to respond to humanitarian emergencies.

The phenomenon of brain drain also exacerbates these challenges. Prolonged instability forces many skilled professionals, from healthcare workers to engineers, to seek safety in more stable environments. This exodus of talent undermines recovery efforts, leaving fragile states with fewer resources to rebuild and improve the living conditions of their populations.

Finally, long-standing regional disputes, such as those in Kashmir, Crimea, Catalonia, and Taiwan, further complicate the humanitarian landscape. These regions have seen persistent demands for self-determination or independence, driven by historical, cultural, and political factors. These movements add layers of complexity to already volatile situations and often intertwine with broader humanitarian issues, creating ripple effects across borders.

For delegates at IIITK MUN, understanding the intricate connections between these issues is crucial. The challenge lies in crafting policies that not only address the immediate needs of affected populations but also consider long-term reforms in international law, governance, and development. This comprehensive approach is key to developing solutions that uphold human dignity and foster global stability.

Questions to consider

1. NANDANA SHOULD DO THIS



Additonal Resources



