

# HAND BOOK

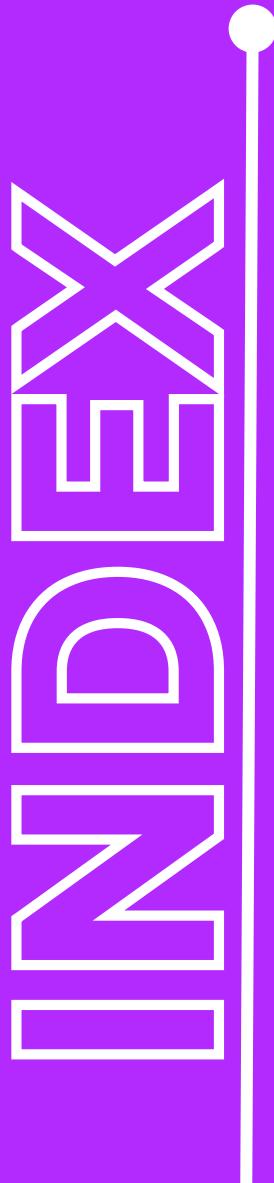


# UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL UNSC



EIGHTH EDITION: FOR DIVERSITY

THE SOUTHEAST MEXICAN  
MODEL UNITED NATIONS



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# GENERAL SECRETARY LETTER

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Dear delegations:

It is an honor for us to welcome you to the eighth edition of the Mexican Southeastern Model of the United Nations. As the General Secretariat, we are proud and excited that you have decided to be part of this experience and join this committee that your chair has given so much love and commitment, who have made an effort in recent months to provide you with the most fruitful and enriching experience.

As part of the organizing committee, we know how overwhelming and intimidating it can be to be a part of these spaces, especially if it's your first time as delegations, but at the end of the day it's the dedication, perspective and intention to bring a change in our society that unites us and allows us to meet people with similar aspirations and ideals.

The Models of the United Nations are an example of solidarity, excellence, exuberance and strength. They are spaces in which real scenarios can be discussed and analyzed where the security of international society is included and addressed.

From this moment it is in your hands as delegations to raise your voice for the topics that your committee includes and to seek solutions to the problems that your Chair considered important to make visible and to address.

We are sure that the Dias that will be in charge of you will accompany you throughout the process and provide you with a safe, comfortable and adequate space to learn and put into practice all your public speaking, negotiation, leadership and management skills. We hope that this experience will allow you to have a broader and clearer picture of what the mission of the United Nations really is and what is our role as youth, children and adolescents in situations that require international negotiation.

# GENERAL SECRETARY LETTER

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We know that you will be able to overcome any obstacle that you might go through, we trust in you and we will be present to attend to all those needs that may arise to make this the best experience.

As delegations you will have the faculty and power to represent a nation, its perspective, its customs, its traditions and above all, its position regarding any of the topics, always respecting its interests, its needs and keeping in mind the Sustainable Development Goals and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

We know that together you will come up with a resolution that will allow you to broaden your perspective and spread your learning to the society in which we live. We wish you the best of success, enjoy, learn, have fun, we are very sure that you will have an incredible experience.

Sincerely,

**Víctor López de Nava**  
General Secretariat

**Nayeli Jiménez**  
General Attached Secretariat



# ACADEMIC SECRETARY LETTER

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Dear Delegations,

On behalf of the organizing committee, we welcome you to your committee, today you become an essential part of the eighth edition of the Southeast Mexican Model United Nations, SMMUN for Diversity.

The Academic Secretariat is convinced of the hard work that your table has done throughout these 8 months of preparation and sacrifice, making this edition one of the best experiences you will ever have.

We are pleased to count on your participation, since this type of spaces were created by and for young people like you and us, who recognize the importance of youth. Raise your voice in favor of the resolution of various international problems through negotiation, which day by day, impede the progress of a sustainable, progressive and pro-human rights society.

It is encouraging to know that every day more people are joining this project, new generations who have decided to be the change, but to achieve these objectives, not only locally or nationally, but also internationally and therefore it is necessary to bring a full dialogue about the problems that we face daily from different perspectives.

In this edition, with the addition of since thirteen years delegations, we want to encourage that no matter what school year you are in, your age or what you are studying, a Model United Nations is for everyone.

A couple of years ago we heard "anyone can be a delegation" and now we understand. Not everyone can become a "Best Delegation" but we have always believed that a "Best Delegation" can come from anyone.

# ACADEMIC SECRETARY LETTER

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If this is your first model, we want to send you all the encouragement and motivation, we have all been first timers at some point, and like you, we get the best out of this amazing experience, whether it be friendships, knowledge, relationships, or even making our voice heard.

If you made it this far, make the sessions a space for dialogue where you can contribute all your ideas, proposals and encourage the delegations to seek solutions.

If you are an experienced delegation, take advantage of these spaces to be the motivation for those first-time delegations, who will see in you an example to follow.

Let's continue making noise, disturbing and raising our voices, for a future where all young people are heard, because we may be diverse, but together, we are the change.

Much success Delegations,

Sincerely, Academic Secretariat.

**Dayré Solís, Lupita Rosado Tello, Arkin Da Silva**



# CHAIR LETTER

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Perhaps the security council trip may begin with our first approach within delegations, a phrase, a message, a motivation. "The most complicated matters require the most competent minds", thus for all members with great courage, receiving y'all with a deserved red carpet to the SMMUN 2023 For Diversity.

Forgetting the formalities, we as chair desire to get along with you throughout all training sessions, meetings, and events during and out the SMMUN model in order to forge companionship, friendship and family.

Somewhere like a treasure, where we can all keep in mind and remember debates and discussions, as orthodox seen, they can always be a space for enjoyment and delight.

As you collect model after model of experience, you start to notice that a big share of what makes this kind of activity worth the effort, is the extraordinary people you get to meet, willing to take on a challenge like this just for the sake of doing something out of the ordinary.

We are not the overpowered immortal beings who can decide your fate, we are the fortunate ones on getting to know about you; we are the fortunate ones on teaching you about this whole MUN environment; we are the fortunate ones on sharing this experience and turning it into such a wonderful and exquisite memory.

Whenever we talk about "How to survive a model of the United Nations" remember that these three Chairs Members of your beloved committee, have been delegates in the past, so certainty there's plenty of empathy among the council.

# CHAIR LETTER

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Delegates, we hope you enjoy this model as much as we enjoyed preparing it for you. We are here for everything you might need, and we are thrilled to meet each and every single one of you. The topics that'll be touched over the session must not be taken lightly as they are of great relevance for diversity and for humanity since past, till present and for the future.

Chair wishes to hear you entering the Security Council as your first MUN and leaving the forum shouting this will always be the first from the numerous future ones.

Sincerely,

**Your dear chair.**



# SMMUN 2023: FOR DIVERSITY

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The Southeast Mexican Model United Nations (SMMUN) is a model of nations made by and for youth students with an interest in international law, international relations, human rights and all things UN related.

Its purpose is to give participants an opportunity to experience real-life working sessions at the United Nations, dealing with issues of international relevance, while allowing participants to develop skills in leadership, negotiation, diplomacy, teamwork, research, among others.



# COMMITTEE DESCRIPTION

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The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) is one of the six main organs that the United Nations Charter established, holding its first session in 1946. Its main goal and focus is to maintain international peace and security, determining any existing threat to the peace, breach of the peace or any act of aggressions against any country-specific situations such as inter- or intra-State conflicts or internal conflicts with a regional or sub-regional dimension.

A representative of each member state must always be present at UN Headquarters, therefore the Security Council (SC) may meet anytime.

## ***Objectives and purpose***

When a concerning threat to peace arises, the Council takes action by recommending the parties involved to try to reach an agreement peacefully by setting forth principals, appointing special envoys, dispatch a mission and requesting the Secretary General to assess a pacific settlement of the dispute; in some cases, it may even undertake investigations and mediation.

In the moment that any of these conflicts harbor belligerency, their main concern is to end this as soon as possible, implementing actions such as directives that can prevent the escalation of the conflicts and even convey military action or peacekeeping forces to reduce the conflict at hand and implement peaceful settlements.

All of the member states of the UN have agreed to accept and carry out whatever decisions the Council may take and it is the only organ that has this ability and power.



# COMMITTEE DESCRIPTION

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## ***Functions and Powers***

Chapter V of the charter of the United Nations, states that the UN and its Member States "confer on the Security Council primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security." And for this purpose, the same letter delimits the powers of the council as the Following:

- To impose sanctions or even authorize the use of force to maintain or restore international peace and security;
- To investigate any dispute or situation that might lead to international friction;
- To recommend methods of adjusting such disputes or the terms of settlement;
- To formulate plans for the establishment of a system to regulate armaments;
- To determine the existence of a threat to the peace or act of aggression and to recommend what action should be taken;
- To call on Members to apply economic sanctions and other nonviolent measures;
- To take military action against an aggressor. (United Nations, 1945);
- To recommend the admission of new Members;
- To exercise the trusteeship functions of the United Nations in "strategic areas";
- To recommend to the General Assembly the appointment of the Secretary-General and, together with the Assembly, to elect the Judges of the International Court of Justice.

# COMMITTEE DESCRIPTION

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## ***Membership***

Four months after the Conference of San Francisco, ONU was formally created together with the United Nations Security Council. This one being constituted by 15 members, of these, the 5 founding Member states, and the main allies in the Second World War (the United States of America, The People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the French Republic, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) are permanent, and have the right of veto; this being the right to deny or revoke the resolution drawn by the council. The remaining 10 member states are selected by a vote carried out by the General Assembly for a period of 2 years. Current non-permanent members are Albania, Brazil, Gabon, Ghana. India, Ireland, Kenya, Mexico, Norway, United Arab Emirates; meanwhile the 5 regional groups of the United Nations: African Group, Asia and the Pacific Group, Eastern European Group, Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC) and Western European and Others Group (WEOG).

**More than 50 United Nations Member States have never been Members of the Security Council.**

A State which is a Member of the United Nations but not of the Security Council may participate, without a vote, in its discussions when the Council considers that country's interests are affected. Both Members and non-members of the United Nations, if they are parties to a dispute being considered by the Council, may be invited to take part, without a vote, in the Council's discussions; the Council sets the conditions for participation by a non-member State.

## ***Extra Fact***

The Security Council was in a general state of paralysis imposed by the polarized world of the Cold War. Because of this, the Security Council's revival after the Cold War exposed best the flexible confines of its powers. In turn, this caused confusion and debate about what academia, and later, States, described as "legislative functions" or "international legislation" adopted by the Security Council. Thomas Jefferson Law Review [Vol. 36:1]

# TOPIC A

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## Eliminating All Forms of Abuse Perpetrated by UN Peacekeeping Forces

UN peacekeeping forces are supposed to provide security and stability to propitiate the transition from conflict to peace and aid all parties committed to the peacebuilding process. Their specific purpose is to assist in the implementation of a cease-fire or peace agreement, ensuring stability and absence of conflict in order to allow for a political process to build lasting peace and reach a final solution between the conflicting parties.

However, Peacekeeping operations may also be involved in peacebuilding activities, and may use force in self defense and defense of the mandate in a context of active danger and lack of public order. conducted by the United Nations are guided by three principles: Consent of the parties, impartiality, and non-use of force except in self-defense and defense of the mandate. Its main tasks are the protection of civilians, human rights, and their promotion, the facilitation of political processes, assistance in the disarmament and reintegration of former combatants, and assistance in restoring the rule of law.

The Security Council is the UN body authorized to dictate the deployment of a peace operation, through a resolution, establishing its mandate, size, and duration, and it is the Secretary General's duty to appoint a Head of Mission. The legal basis for the establishment of a United Nations peacekeeping operation is found in Chapters VI, VII and VIII of the Charter of the United Nations.

The Council, following them, authorizes a peacekeeping operation when deemed necessary and when it fits the ends of the articles of such Chapters.

# TOPIC A

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Since the UN has no army of its own, Member States contribute willingly military and police forces required for the operation, while the Department of Peace Operations and the Department of Operational Support provide the civilian staff.

Considerations regarding the standards of international human rights law and international humanitarian law are supposed to be among the guiding principles in the implementation of peace operations. Namely, Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security, 1612 (2005) on children and armed conflict and 1674 (2006) on the protection of civilians in armed conflict have been landmarks in building peacekeeping processes that always bear in mind the protection of human rights.

As the complexity of contemporary conflicts grows and the measures to properly address them become more and more intricate, UN peacekeeping operations have expanded in their capacity and tasks, having to update themselves in procedures and techniques that allow them to work in favor of the establishment of peace up to the challenges of many contexts and situations. Peacekeeping nowadays involves a diverse net of activities that are mutually dependent and that, when implemented as a whole, ensure a more positive outcome. Conflict prevention, peacemaking, peacekeeping, peace enforcement and peacebuilding form the core of the UN peacekeeping operations.

In accordance with the ends and purposes of peacekeeping at the United Nations, the Security Council has approved and deployed 12 operations throughout the world, more frequently in continents and regions prone to engage in conflict due to complex historic reasons that have engulfed the peoples and states in violence and instability. Out of the 12, 6 are located in African states, 5 in Asian states and one in an East European state.

# TOPIC A

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Despite the purposes of the forces, there have been many reports of sexual misconduct, abuse of power, and outright human rights violations perpetrated by UN peacekeeping forces in mandates established to support local populations in the construction of peace and the maintenance of stability and security. Many cases are known, such as in MINUSTAH (Mission of the United Nations for the Stabilization of Haiti), MONUSCO (Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo), and others.

The UN has standards of conduct and investigation protocols, but no means to enforce accountability on the forces found responsible for perpetuating these crimes. It is of great importance for the international community to find mechanisms to improve investigations, prevent this violence, and reach full accountability for all parties involved. The prevalence of the violence conducted by the personnel of the operations and the lack of accountability following the accusations and reports have damaged the credibility and overall effectiveness of these processes, even in cases of success such as the UNMIL (United Nations Mission in Liberia), known for achieving peace in a country torn apart by warfare and social unrest.

The UN has developed a strategy to tackle all forms of abuse and misconduct within its personnel, based on three main pillars: Prevention of misconduct, enforcement of UN standards of conduct and remedial action, and its implemented through various measures such as campaigns to raise awareness, training, investigations and assistance to victims. However, since the military personnel are provided by Member states, it is ultimately within their jurisdiction to apply sanctions and disciplinary measures, which leaves a hole in the accountability of the operations as a whole.

This topic contributes to the promotion of diversity in the sense that allows for the participants to investigate the situations around peace missions, and how the violence aforementioned always disproportionately affects vulnerable groups, and takes place in diverse contexts with a plethora of cultures and societal norms involved.

# GUIDE QUESTIONS

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● What is the general perspective of your country on UN peacekeeping forces?

- Are they in favor? Why?
- Or against? Why?

● Does your country have any history with UN peacekeeping forces?

- If so, why did your country need assistance from the troops?
- What was the conflict at hand?

● Did your country ever participate/debate in favor of sending UN peacekeeping forces to aid in a conflict?

- If so, why and what was their role?
- If not, why?

● Is your country aware of the abuse perpetrated by these forces?

- If so, have they done anything to help/prevent their actions?
- If not, why haven't they noticed while other countries may be aware?

● How can this abuse to the communities be stopped?

- How can they be helped?
- What actions can be taken?

● Based on the strategy implemented by the UN and their three main pillars, has your country ever provided military personnel?

- If so, have they ever applied sanctions or disciplinary methods?

● What challenges are in the way of international safeguarding the population who suffer from the abuse of the UN peacekeeping forces?

● What kind of actions can be established to reduce the abuse of power made by the troops?

# GLOSSARY

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1. **Peacekeeping:** the act of providing support to zones of conflict in the achievement of peace through the deployment of military and civilian personnel.
2. **Peace Enforcement:** Coercive action undertaken with the authorization of the UNSC to maintain or restore international peace and security in situations where the SC has determined the existence of a threat to the peace, breach of the peace or act of aggression.
3. **Robust Peacekeeping:** The use of force by a United Nations peacekeeping operation at the tactical level, with the authorization of the Security Council, to defend its mandate against spoilers whose activities pose a threat to civilians or risk undermining the peace process.
4. **Peacebuilding:** involves a range of measures targeted to reduce the risk of lapsing or relapsing into conflict by strengthening national capacities at all levels for conflict management, and to lay the foundation for sustainable peace and development.
5. **Rule of law:** The accountability of all institutions of government, private entities and individuals to laws that are publicly promulgated, equally enforced and consistent with the principles of international human rights law.
6. **The Protection of Civilians (POC):** Is a responsibility which includes all parts of a peacekeeping mission, civilian, military and police functions. In many cases, peacekeeping missions are authorized to use all necessary means, up to and including the use of deadly force, to prevent or respond to threats of physical violence against civilians.
7. **SGBV:** Is an umbrella term for any harmful act that is committed against a person's will and is based on socially ascribed (gender) differences between women and men. The nature and extend of specific types of sexual and gender-based violence vary across cultures, countries and regions.
8. **Doctrine:** The evolving body of institutional guidance that provides support and direction to personnel preparing for, planning and implementing UN peacekeeping operations.

# GLOSSARY

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1. **Impartiality:** United Nations peacekeeping operations must implement their mandate without favor or prejudice to any party. Impartiality is crucial to maintaining the consent and cooperation of the main parties, but should not be confused with neutrality or inactivity
2. **Intervention:** Requested or imposed unilateral or multilateral actions by external parties conducted in relation to an ongoing process between parties.
3. **Sexual exploitation:** means any actual or attempted abuse of position of vulnerability, differential power, or trust, for sexual purposes, including but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially, or politically from the sexual exploitation of another.
4. **Sexual abuse:** The actual or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature, whether by force or under unequal or coercive conditions.
5. **Zero tolerance policy:** Zero tolerance policy towards violence and aggression is expected throughout public services. No member of staff should be subjected to violent, threatening and abusive behavior. Care Inspectorate employees have the right to work and carry out their duties in an environment free from violence, threatening or abusive behavior.



# EXPECTATIONS FOR THE DELEGATES

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We, as Chair of the United Nations Security Council for this edition of SMMUN for Diversity 2023, expect you as delegates to throw yourselves in the problematic at hand, the abuse that the populations and regions suffer on a daily basis by UN peacekeeping forces that are supposed to protect them, as well as providing peace and security. We hope that throughout the debate you'll find the best solutions for all Member States while working with great diplomacy and perseverance.



# TOPIC B

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## Blood Diamonds as a Barrier to International Peace

*"Diamonds are forever, it is often said. But lives are not. We must spare people the ordeal of war, mutilations and death for the sake of blood diamonds"*

— Martin Chungong Ayafor, Chairman of the Sierra Leone Panel of Experts

According to the official definition provided by the United Nations they are diamonds that originate from areas controlled by forces or factions opposed to legitimate and internationally recognized governments, and are used to fund military action in contravention of the decisions made by our committee, Security Council. Conflict diamonds, more commonly known as "Blood Diamonds" originate from areas that are controlled by forces or factions opposed to legitimate and internationally recognized governments; these are used to fund the armed forces actions in opposition to those governments.

The Kimberley Process (KP) has been put in place to unite the administrations, civil societies and industries to reduce the flow of said diamonds in countries that are most affected such as Angola, Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Liberia and Sierra Leone. There are 59 participants representing 85 countries with regional economic organizations that are able to trade in the rough diamond market, including major producing, exporting and importing. The diamond industry in hand with the World Diamond Council and civil society groups are key groups to the KP aiding to reduce the illegal trade market.

## TOPIC B

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The best way to distinguish between a blood diamond and a legitimate diamond is the Certificate of Origin, issued by the KP institution known as the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) established in 2003 to lower and prevent conflict diamonds from entering the mainstream market. The certificate has a set of minimum requirements that each participating country must oblige to, indicating it comes from a legitimate, government controlled area where all the correct protocols are met.

Though the KP is a international initiative that has been created by the UN to increase transparency in the diamond industry, creating a certificate verifying the origin of the diamonds and preventing the illegal trade and profit off of blood diamonds; it has not been enough, thousands of conflict diamonds are still being traded which is why it is very important for the international community to take action and find new mechanisms to prevent any further trade and protect their human rights.

These diamonds are commonly controlled by rebel groups generating billions of dollars which are used to finance soldiers, weapons and other devices/mechanisms that can be used during any armed conflict.

One of the most common groups in Sierra Leone was the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) created in 1991, they harvested violent attacks on civilians, causing significant damage, as well as disregarding any human rights to men, women and children especially; forcing them to work hard labor at such young ages and recruiting most to be soldiers. For more than ten years, the RUF was able to produce and mine up to 90 percent of Sierra Leone's diamonds industry, turning them into "blood diamonds" since these were generated to fund and fuel the armed conflict. They promised to return the wealth of the diamond industry back to the people but instead they sent their troops, setting an example of the government's inability to protect them. The RUF not only forced the population to work the mines to extract the diamonds but also terrorized the population by dismembering limbs of men, children and women: as well as sexually harassing females.

# TOPIC B

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It was not until 1999 that the United Nations took action, forcing them to accept the Lome Peace Accord, giving their leader and other rebels a role in the government in exchange for their disarmament. Although this agreement had been put in place it wasn't until January 2002 that the RUF was dismantled and became a revolutionary organization.

Apart from disarming one of the most known rebel groups, the UNSC is on its way to abolish the conflict diamond trade and uphold one of its main functions by bringing peace to West Africa. In response to the ongoing tragic conflicts brewing, the committee has initiated peacekeeping missions throughout the African continent, focusing, for now, on the main countries being affected such as Angola, Sierra Leone and Liberia. Under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, they've included sanctions on the rebel groups, as well as bans for the trade and mining of illegal diamonds.

After western peacekeeping forces were brought in to maintain peace, there was hope that The Kimberley Process could be completely fulfilled and implemented so the diamonds could be legally exported, without disregarding any human rights. However, soon after the disarmament of the RUF, the government was still unstable and with this, all the remaining rebel groups took advantage by creating loopholes in the rough diamond tracking process, generating fear into the population that problems may surface once again.

The goal of utmost importance is to maintain peace and protect human rights everywhere by ensuring that all the diamonds in the market come from a conflict free zone.

# GUIDE QUESTIONS

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● What is the general perspective of your country on Blood Diamonds?

● Does your country have any history with rebel groups?

● Has your country aided another country to stop the blood diamond feud?

● Has your country taken any steps toward the protection of the populations affected by blood diamond mining zones?

○ if so, which ones?

○ if not, why?

● Is your country part of The Kimberley Process?

○ If yes, what is their role?

○ If they are not, why?

● What challenges are in the way of international safeguarding the populations affected by the mining of blood diamonds?

○ How can they be addressed?

● How can the needs of the children, women and men forced to work by the rebel group in various situations be considered equally in a UNSC resolution topic?

● How can the population at risk (especially those of young age) be protected in regions that are still affected?

● How did the UN peacekeepers assist in the blood diamond conflict?

● What social, economic and/or cultural factors can alter (increase or decrease) the mining of conflict diamonds?

● What types of actions can be taken to reduce the mining in conflict zones, therefore reducing the flow of blood diamonds?

○ How can they be considered in a resolution for this topic?

# GLOSSARY

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- 1. Demobilisation of combatants:** The deliberate process of transferring individuals from military or paramilitary forces to other, sustaining and productive roles in society. As an operational aspect of conflict resolution, demobilization aims to reduce the number of people engaging in armed conflict and to provide the requirements for such individuals to reintegrate themselves into their society.
- 2. Failed State:** The inability of a nation-state to provide its citizens basic necessities because of the effects of war or other destabilizing crises. A failed state is a nondescript and imprecise term that can refer not only to a nation-state's inability to provide services and security, but also to its unwillingness to meet such responsibilities. In either instance, state failure can be attributable to numerous factors, including corruption or mismanagement of institutions.
- 3. Guerrilla:** The guerrilla is the combat vanguard of the people, situated in a specified place in a certain region, armed and willing to carry out a series of warlike actions for the one possible strategic end, the seizure of power. The guerrilla is supported by the peasant and worker masses of the region and of the whole territory in which it acts.
- 4. Insurgency:** Paramilitary, guerrilla, or non-violent uprisings directed against a nation-state or apparatus from within in order to achieve political objectives. Insurgencies vary in organization, spontaneity, and threat, but all rely on mass participation in some form.
- 5. Structural violence:** Embedded social and political hierarchies, enacted most often by societies and their institutions that impose conditions which place people at high risk for negative consequences, such as unemployment, malnutrition, mental illness, suicide, crime, disease, and ill health.
- 6. Spoilers:** Individuals or groups that may profit from the spread or continuation of violence, or have an interest to disrupt a resolution of a conflict in a given setting.

# GLOSSARY

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1. **Transparency:** Refers to an environment in which the objectives of policy, its legal, institutional, and economic framework, policy decisions and their rationale, data and information related to monetary and financial policies, and the terms of agencies' accountability, are provided to the public in a comprehensible, accessible, and timely manner.
2. **DDR:** United Nations multidimensional peacekeeping operations are usually mandated to assist in the development and implementation of national DDR programmes.<sup>14</sup> This may entail the provision of technical advice; the securing of disarmament and cantonment sites; and/or the collection and destruction of weapons, ammunition and other materiel surrendered by the former combatants.
3. **Non-state armed groups:** There is no internationally agreed definition of non-state armed groups in international treaties. This term refers to a non-state party to an international or non-international armed conflict. Humanitarian law uses the term "armed forces" to designate and define the combatants fighting within a State party to the conflict.
4. **Transnational organized crime:** self-perpetuating associations of individuals who operate by illegal means across international borders with the purpose of economic gain.
5. **Escalation:** An increase in quantity, intensity, or scope of violent exchanges among parties. Commonly referred to as a 'downward spiral', escalation typically occurs in cycles of attack or counterattack.
6. **Resource wars:** linkages between armed conflict and access to natural resources. Geographically, these wars are frequently represented through world maps of "strategic resources," combining the physical scarcity and non-substitutability of resources with their uneven spatial distribution and relative geopolitical location to pinpoint "hot-spots."
7. **Panning:** To wash (gravel, for example) in a pan to separate out gold, other precious metals, or gemstones.
8. **Conflict diamonds:** rough diamonds used by rebel movements or their allies to finance conflict aimed at undermining legitimate governments.

# EXPECTATIONS FOR THE DELEGATES

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We, as Chair of the United Nations Security Council for this edition of SMMUN for Diversity 2023, expect you as delegates to recognize the importance of the origin of all the diamonds in the market. It may be a beautiful piece of jewelry, but at what cost? This topic should drive the delegates to pursue a more thorough plan of action to determine the root of all the diamonds and therefore eliminate any form of human rights violations perpetrated by any rebel group. Creativity, negotiation, teamwork, diplomacy, and perseverance will be the focus skills to work on transversally as sessions move forward.



## RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

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- The Kimberley process (KP). (s/f). Kimberleyprocess.com, <https://bit.ly/3WkY3yJ>
- Security Council Diamond Sanctions and the Kimberley Process, October 2006 Monthly Forecast: Security council report. (s/f). Securitycouncilreport.org. <https://bit.ly/3hoQFnI>
- Report of Panel Experts (S/f). Securitycouncilreport.org. <https://bit.ly/3HyGN4Z>

# NON-VIOLENT LANGUAGE

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When working in a formal setting, language is something you have to keep a close eye on, as the words you say have a lot of weight. In order to keep the model as formal and inclusive as possible, delegates are required to follow certain rules and regulations which are present in all of the different committees. One of said rules is to follow the use of non-violent language.

Non-violent language has the goal of substituting words that carry a lot of baggage with them or would be considered offensive towards certain groups of people for other alternatives which don't have such strong connotations and therefore maintaining the peaceful environment that the model should keep at all times. Sometimes, scrutinizing the way we refer to other delegates might prove challenging, especially when referring to them in a language different from your own. In the interest of making this transition much more straightforward, a chart with some examples of non-violent language can be found below.

| Violent terms                         | Non-violent alternative   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| War                                   | Armed conflict  |
| Deaths                                | Casualties  |
| Rich countries, first world countries | Developed countries   |
| Poor countries, third world countries | Developing countries  |
| Army                                  | Armed forces  |
| Minority                              | Historically oppressed groups or people, Marginalized groups, or people |
| Legal/Illegal migration               | Regular/irregular migration   |
| Disabled                              | Person/people with disabilities   |

## **ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT POINTS**

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One of the main points of MUN debate is respect which includes the use of non-violent language, as well as the vocabulary word exchanges above and correct terms according to the topics at hand. (Examples: refugees, migrants, people in situations of human mobility).

To make your language more inclusive, think of the specific message you are trying to convey and apply the following practices:

- 1. Using non-discriminatory language.** Take care of your narrative and what the form of your sentences may imply, making sure the underlying message of what you are communicating is not normalizing or perpetuating damaging ideas towards a person or groups of people.
- 2. Only making gender visible when it is relevant for communication.** Ask yourself if what you are communicating is only pertaining to one gender, if not, be gender neutral.
- 3. Not making gender visible when it is not relevant for communication.** When gender is not relevant to what you are communicating, use gender-neutral words (Example: spokespeople instead of spokesmen) and either plural pronouns (they/them/theirs), the pronoun one, the pronoun who or no gendered words (you may omit them by changing the structure of your sentence).
- 4. We understand that you may not be accustomed but keep in mind that most of the terms are gender neutral in English, making the previous steps easier to apply.**

If you have any further questions regarding the use of non-violent language feel free to ask any member of the Chair or visit the following link: <https://www.un.org/en/gender-inclusive-language/guidelines.shtml>