

DELEGATES' HANDBOOK
United Nations Security Council (UNSC)
SMMUN 2022 for Youth

CHAIR

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Moderator

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LETTERS TO THE DELEGATES

Conference Officer - Fernanda Cano

Greetings delegates, it is an honor to be sharing this experience with you.

The Conference Officer of this committee is very pleased to welcome the delegations to the Security Council and looks forward to supporting them in the challenges they will face during their participation.

When taking part in a United Nations model there might be a lot of expectations as well as worries that a delegate can have. From acquiring knowledge of the role of the nation to be represented in the topic and how it operates in this area, to the search to generate a resolution that can respond to what has been discussed, enduring those hardships with determination, taking action, creating bonds with other delegates and using this kind of activities as a tool for you delegates to understand the importance of diplomacy and negotiation as tool to achieve peace, those are the main experiences the Conference Officer wants the delegates to take from this committee.

Trusting in the capacities and passion the members of this committee have, it feels relieving to know the topics selected will be approached in the best way possible and as whole the committee will give the Security Council a new side.

And finally, for all those delegates who join a model for the first time, fear nothing and believe in your resilience to make this world more peaceful.

Looking forward for the sessions,
María Fernanda Cano, Conference Officer.

Moderator- Ale Moguel

Esteemed delegates,

First and foremost, I would like to thank you greatly for choosing to participate in an event such as SMMUN 2022, and for selecting the United Nations Security Council as a committee to participate in. I can't even begin to express how thrilled I am to share this whole experience with you.

Youth is a key for social transformation, and the fact that you are interested in discussing problems that are present in the international community only cements that fact. We are all here because of the need to make a change in society, an interest in making our voices heard.

Participating in a Model United Nations is certainly an unparagoned moment, nonetheless, it can be overwhelming at times. You will have to do research, study, and adopt the position of the country you will be representing to the best of your ability, but we know that you have the capacity necessary to complete the job. We are here to accompany you in your journey;

never be afraid to reach out, whether it be to solve a question you have on the protocol or any other doubt you may have.

Delegates, the floor will be opened soon,

Ale Moguel Villaseñor, Moderator

President - Cristina Denis Burgos

Dearest delegates,

Welcome to the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). From the moment you open this manual, you become a part of something greater than yourselves as individuals or delegates. You become a team of assets to the construction of safer spaces. You may think that your work towards this begins with the first sessions of debate -or maybe even during the writing of a Resolution- when international security is at the forefront of discussions, and the protection of individuals worldwide concerns everyone in the room. However, the truth is that your work begins long before that. It begins today.

Safer spaces are not only a necessity at the international level. We need to build them small-scale too. We cannot talk about security if we are unaware of what it looks like in our contexts. Start in your personal lives and the communities of which you are members, I will do so too. Build up your empathy and open your eyes to your surroundings. Examine your beliefs, words, and actions. Listen and learn from others. Then you will be able to project this forward to the Council.

The second the floor opens, lead from your heart, care, get genuinely involved and interested in finding viable solutions that stem from cooperation and can benefit many. Question the structures the present upholds and break them down if needed, dig deep, and include everyone. Do not let anything stop you from the pursuit of change. With everything going on in the world right now, the powerful minds and voices of united youth are the best source of hope we have got. You are the best source of hope we have got.

Believe in yourselves and your capability as a collective. It is understandable to be fearful if this experience is new to you or you do not find the English language very comfortable, but rest assured that you won't be alone in this journey. I will be cheering you on, helping you, and guiding you alongside Fernanda and Ale. Just do your best; that is all it takes.

Warm regards,



Br. Cristina Denis Burgos, President.

P.S: Feel free to contact me if you have any doubts or worries about the Council or its operations. I will be available to the best of my abilities and very open to communication in case you need it. Best of success.

ABOUT THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL (UNSC)

Agenda

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) holds international peace and security at its core, focusing on its restoration, preservation, as well as the prevention of its disturbance through the discussion of related topics.

Aside from the aforementioned areas of work, the matters it attends to can be further divided into three pillars: “The Security Council and wider UN Structure” -which prompts dialogue around the appointment of the Secretary-General, for example-, “Peacemaking, peacekeeping and peacebuilding” -which promotes conflict mediation among other forms of conflict management-, and “Thematic issues” -which seeks to address other situations of interest, such as arms control and the involvement of youth-, making the organ versatile enough to assess and tackle the broad range of problematics that its focal point -international peace and security- entails.

Objectives and purpose

In 1945, with the establishment of the United Nations as a whole, six main bodies were ratified under the United Nations Charter. These organs of the United Nations all have the goal of developing amicable connections between countries, solving conflicts that are strongly related to human rights, and maintaining international peace and security all over the world. The aforementioned point being one of the main focuses given to the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).

In order to ensure that peace and security are sustained, the UNSC must suggest that, whenever a threat to international peace is of great apprehensiveness, parties make their best to reach an agreement in a peaceful manner.

Functions and powers

Under the United Nations Charter, the UNSC has ten functions and powers as listed below.

- To maintain international peace and security in accordance with the principles and purposes of the United Nations;
- To investigate any dispute or situation which 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 measures not involving the use of force to prevent or stop aggression;
- To take military action against an aggressor;
- 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.

Meeting records

The UNSC has its head office at the United Nations Conference Building in New York City, where the council generally meets in its designated chamber. However, there have been cases in which the Security Council has held meetings in other cities, such as Addis Ababa in 1972, as well as Panama City and Geneva in 1990. The Security Council has year-round meetings since whenever peace is threatened, the member states shall convene. For the same reason, every member of the UNSC must have a representative available in the headquarters at all times.

There are a total of fifteen members that constitute the UNSC, five of those classified as permanent members, which are: China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States, which have the power to block the adoption of a resolution through veto. The other ten members are classified as non-permanent, and these are selected by the General Assembly for two-year terms.

TOPICS

TOPIC A: *Acknowledging climate change as a barrier to the promotion of international peace for youth's future*

Relevance for youth and the Chair

Climate change is a problem that not only drives the world towards an unfavorable outcome by itself but also exacerbates the issues that surround it, adding to conflicts that eventually result in the disruption of global peace. Its effects are being experienced by vast groups of people already, as resources become scarce and homes become uninhabitable, yet countries refuse to take their “preoccupation” outside of discussions due to matters of political and economic nature. There is some sort of international greed that is yet to be managed for agreements to take place for people’s benefit, especially those who will have to deal with the consequences for larger portions of their lives: youth. The topic at hand has grown in importance for this age group in specific, fueling powerful forms of activism that aim to transform worries into actions.

These discussions are crucial both inside and outside of sessions. They can be relevant to delegates in their immediate contexts and add to their global perspectives as well.

The problem

Climate change has been discussed extensively, however, the fight towards a safer future regarding this issue has not yet reached an agreement on its importance, let alone a definite course of action.

Just last year, a groundbreaking effort was made by the international community, when a UNSC resolution (which urged all Member States to recognize that climate change has an impact on security all around the world) was drafted. This Resolution aimed towards integrating security risks that are highly related to climate as the main factor in conflict prevention strategies, something truly unprecedented. The resolution seemed to be on the right track until, at the very end, it was vetoed.

As the UN’s Secretary-General -Antonio Guterres- stated in the Security Council, climate change is a “crisis multiplier” which has become a threat to international peace and security. The growing concerns generated by the topic in question in nations range from the increase

in the number of people living in poverty -highlighting the example of Afghanistan and West Africa-; to the displacement of communities in environmental hotspots, like the small islands in both the Atlantic and the Pacific Ocean; to the health effects caused by exposure to extreme environmental conditions.

Main areas of impact: Relating climate change to other types of conflict, the uneven distribution of resources across the world (as this often leads to displacement), and international cooperation to draft a resolution in which the controversy of climate change is addressed properly and all the delegates are completely satisfied with.

The topic

The controversy of climate change is not unheard of, as the presence of this topic in the United Nations can be traced back to the vast number of debates, briefings, and Arria-formula meetings that have been organized by member states from decades past. For instance, it is often discussed how different groups, such as youth, women, and people living in developing countries experience climate change and the roles that they present in responding to the risks that climate change possesses. But regardless of the many discussions, the topic of climate change has arisen, there appears to be a lack of collective international action. Taking much bigger action regarding the topic of climate change has been difficult due to the economic and political challenges acknowledging the issue would present to different countries. Nevertheless, it is important to keep in mind that climate change is not only present as an environmental issue but should be treated as a geopolitical one as well.

Climate change affects everyone, but specifically those who are young and have a whole future ahead of them, countries must tackle this problem in a way that can eventually ensure that it will be treated with the urgency it so desperately needs, in order to protect and provide security for those who have not yet been able to make the most of lifetime on this planet. This is why discussing climate change from a United Nations Security Council perspective is so important for the international community as a whole. Reaching a unanimous resolution in this matter would most likely grow into developing ways to ensure that member states keep the problem of climate change in mind constantly and develop plans of action to tackle this issue.

The urgency of the matter is clear on the global scene, especially in terms of the changes in the world's geopolitical and economic context, the sea-level rise, dangerous seaways, food and water sufficiency security, migration, and the use of water as a weapon, are concerns that the nations have regarding the topic besides the conflict perpetuator role it takes.

Climate-related disasters are of great importance when discussing the influence that climate change has in heightening conflict risks across different countries. These climate hazards such as droughts or floods (that are increased with climate change) subsequently increase other security-related problems. In rural places, farmers whose crops have been significantly destroyed due to extreme weather conditions often have no choice but to send their children to work to maintain their families.

*Relevant solutions regarding this topic include a wide range of proposals, from acknowledging the relationship that exists between climate change and international security, to discussing ways to actively fight against the effects of climate change, and therefore preventing and preserving peace.

It is necessary to identify the aspects of the situation that require immediate action and direct support -in a comprehensive manner- starting with the approach to the resolution of the existing conflict and continuing with the prevention, considering that both can be carried out simultaneously, focusing efforts on the first one.

Guide questions

- ★ How does your country view and interact with climate change and its consequences?
- ★ Has your country experienced conflicts that have been exacerbated by climate-change-related reasons?
- ★ How does climate change exacerbate the vulnerability of communities in your country?
- ★ What kind of concerns hinder the international acknowledgment of climate change as a threat multiplier for international security? How can they be addressed?
- ★ Are there particular interests involved when discussions of climate change take place? Which ones are they (internationally and for your country in particular)? How can they be considered in a Resolution for this topic?
- ★ How can action be taken to reduce the impact that climate change has on international security if there is no consensus on the relationship between the two?
- ★ Could countering the exacerbation of vulnerabilities that results from climate change globally be part of a viable solution?
- ★ How is sustainable development related to the topic at hand?
- ★ How can refugees -especially those of a young age- be protected from the upcoming effects of climate change? Which of their specific needs must be addressed when providing this protection?

- ★ What social, economic, and cultural factors can alter (increase or decrease) young people's vulnerability towards the effects of climate change?

Recommended resources

(PDF; 21 June 2021) "The UN Security Council and climate change"

Security council report: Independent. Impartial. Informative

<https://bit.ly/3szRNxJ>

(Press Release; 9 December 2021) "Climate Change: a 'multiplier effect', Aggravating Instability, Conflict, Terrorism, Secretary General Warns Security Council"

United Nations: Meeting's coverage and press releases

<https://bit.ly/3lyPmKG>

(PDF; 2017) "The Warming War: How Climate Change is Creating Threats to International Peace and Security"

By Dr. Kirsten Davies and Thomas Ridell; Macquarie Law school, Macquarie University, Australia

<https://bit.ly/3C8xeEZ>

(Assessment report; 2022) "Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability"

By the Working Group II to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

<https://bit.ly/3hAGfgC>

(PDF; 2021) "Sustainable Development Report 2021: The decade of action for the sustainable development goals"

By Jeffrey D. Sachs, Christian Kroll, Guillaume Lafortune, Grayson Fuller, and Finn Woelm

<https://s3.amazonaws.com/sustainabledevelopment.report/2021/2021-sustainable-development-report.pdf>

(Press Release; 2021) "Climate Change 'Biggest Threat Modern Humans Have Ever Faced', World-Renowned Naturalist Tells Security Council, Calls for Greater Global Cooperation"

By United Nations: Meeting's coverage and press releases.

<https://bit.ly/3ICXj1n>

(Podcast episode; 2020) "Climate Change: The Impact on Conflict and Civil Unrest across each Continent"

By Intelligence Fusion in Threat Intelligence Podcast.

<https://spoti.fi/3HHk56X>

(Podcast episode; 2020) "Climate Change and Armed Conflict"

By Diplomacy, Law and Policy Forum in The Forum Podcast.

<https://spoti.fi/3HJcJ30>

Glossary

Climate change: long-term shifts in temperatures and weather patterns that have mainly been driven by human activities.

Global warming: a gradual increase in the overall temperature of the Earth's atmosphere generally attributed to the effects of human activities.

Environmental impact: the direct effect of human activities or natural events on the components of the environment.

Climate vulnerability: the degree to which a community or system is susceptible to, or unable to cope with, adverse effects of climate change.

Social vulnerability: combination of factors that determine the degree to which a community's quality of life is put at risk by events in society. It is related to the characteristics inherent in social interactions, institutions, and systems of cultural values around said community.

Displacement: the movement of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters.

Climate migration: the movement of a person or groups of people who, predominantly for reasons of sudden or progressive change in the environment due to climate change, are obliged to leave their habitual place of residence, or choose to do so, either temporarily or permanently, within a State or across an international border.

Environmental migrant (or climate environmental refugee): any person who -predominantly for reasons of sudden or progressive changes in the environment that adversely affect their lives or living conditions- are forced to leave their places of habitual residence, or choose to do so, either temporarily or permanently, and who move within or outside their country of origin or habitual residence.

Refugee: any person who -due to a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion- is outside the country of their nationality and unable or -owing to such fear- is unwilling to return to it.

Adaptation: the process of adjustment to actual or expected climate and its effects.

Climate justice: term used for framing global warming as an ethical and political issue, rather than one that is purely environmental or physical in nature. This is done by relating the effects of climate change to concepts of environmental and social justice and by examining issues such as equality, human rights, and the historical responsibilities for climate.

Intersectionality: the way in which people's social identities -and therefore the types of discrimination they face- can overlap.

Sustainable development: development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Water weaponization: The use of water as physical arms, typically through deprivation and inundation, oriented toward strategic and tactical ends.

***Solving the problem**

Responsibility for climate-related security risks falls to different institutions within the United Nations system. No single entity is responsible for coordinating activities on joint risk assessment or risk management assistance. Through the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Climate Agreement, the world has made significant progress in building global institutions for addressing climate change. Yet, it has made less progress in building frameworks for addressing the concurrent risks of social and political instability, insecurity and conflict that arise from the interaction of climate change with social, economic, demographic, and political factors. In April 2007, the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) first discussed the interlinkages between energy, climate, and security, and since then, 10 open debates, 8 Arria Formula meetings, and 3 briefings have taken place regarding climate-related security risks. Moreover, the UNSC has issued 27 resolutions on specific regions that emphasize the adverse effects of climate change, requesting adequate risk assessments and risk management strategies, though when an all-encompassing global resolution on the issue under the title "Integrating Climate-Related Security Risk into Conflict-Prevention Strategies" was put to vote in December 2021, it was rejected due to the negative vote of a permanent member of the Council.

Taking this into account, we, as Chair of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) for SMMUN 2022, would like the delegates on this Council to start with an analysis of the reasons why the last resolution was rejected and proceeding to find ways to address the

applicable political and economic concerns and negotiate around them with the goal of getting global -and not just regional- strategies and research to be put in place. Furthermore, cooperation between States and United Nations entities will be crucial when solving the problem, delegates must be open to interacting with the General Assembly and other organs, as well as partnering with public and private enterprises if necessary.

Expectations for the delegates

We, as Chair of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) for SMMUN 2022, expect delegates to immerse themselves in how exactly climate change affects the world as a whole and take a stance on what they think this means for international security, being mindful of the wide array of interests and concerns that have a role in consolidating these stances and perspectives globally. We hope to see delegates working with great diplomacy and perseverance to ensure they reach a solution that is acceptable and viable for all Member States.

Prospective learning results

As sessions move along, delegates are expected to learn about the different positions that countries have regarding climate change and whether or not they are making active efforts to reduce the aforementioned controversy. Hopefully, they will also acquire knowledge about the UNSC in general and the relation that the country they represent has with others while attempting to keep an objective and international perspective at all times.

Immersing themselves in the world of diplomatic relations and opposing national perspectives should help the delegates be more inquisitive and therefore curious as to how global problematics really work, maybe even making them able to recognize their effects and interactions with their immediate context.

It is favorable for the delegates to leave the Model feeling accomplished and reach the goals that they set for themselves through the development of analysis, negotiation, and leadership skills, which could further their advances in personal projects and in the way they unfold in both academic and professional settings.

TOPIC B: *The role of youth in the protection of the trans community against hate crimes*

Relevance for youth and the Chair

Over the last couple of years, due to the growing representation of the struggles minorities face in all types of media, support for vulnerable groups has grown tremendously. This has put in evidence some of the violence that people who identify under the trans umbrella suffer, from hate speech and deadnaming to more direct attacks like aggression, racism, xenophobia, homophobia, and sexism.

Unfortunately, the lack of an internationally approved definition of “hate crimes” keeps deferring their addressing and therefore an effort to reduce them.

As times change, new generations have had the courage to express that they identify as gender-nonconforming, making their participation in the fight of mitigating violence aimed towards the trans community even more significant. Youth activism is more present than ever, and that is nothing that should be turned a blind eye to. Youth is an essential piece in ensuring the development of countries and should be aided in their fights towards reaching a better, more peaceful world.

The Problem

Regardless of the continuing growth and support for the LGBTQ+ community, violent structures against it remain to be mitigated. In recent years, violence against the transgender community has increased greatly and its effects involve situations that threaten international security. A significant part of the community is made up of people belonging to other vulnerable groups, which worsens the situation and exposes them to risky contexts that threaten their integrity. The issue is then exacerbated because of the fact that hate crimes as a term are yet to be addressed by the international community as a whole. The lack of a unanimous definition hinders the advances that have already been made towards mitigating this issue and the efforts that are being worked on now.

By November of 2021, there were 375 registered cases of homicide against transgender people, most of the cases were placed in Central and South America (70%). Most of the victims were trans women and transfeminine people, numbers also state that victims were also part of other historically marginalized groups such as the Black community, immigrants, among others.

Besides this, there is an increment in school, work, and dating violence against trans youth in some countries like the United States and Jamaica.

Main areas of impact: Biased acts of aggression against trans people, the vulnerability of communities in different contexts (its roles, and the related violent structures), the delimitation and reduction of hate crimes, and youth activism as a factor in the reduction of said biased acts of aggression.

The Topic

The controversy of hate crimes has gradually grown as a globally recognized social issue. Regardless of the positive response regarding this topic, there appears to be a lack of unanimous comprehension of what a hate crime entails, how it should be treated in a legislative approach and who that definition defends. Different countries have various conceptions of what hate crimes are, which are subject to the ideas they have, nonetheless, numerous regions have come together by using their unique aspects and working on a definition conjoining the points that they have in common, and thus creating a much more complete definition.

According to TGEU's (Transgender Europe) global monitoring on the murder of transgender people, 2021 has the highest number of reported deaths, with 375 murders, and nine out of ten of the people who were murdered globally were trans women.

Sadly, a lot of the aggression that transgender people suffer also comes from people in positions of power, like the police. Trans women are sometimes placed in prisons destined for male prisoners, which leaves them exposed to risks of rape and violence. Problems that have incremented thanks to the recent pandemic.

The health crisis that has come with COVID-19 over the recent years has affected a great number of communities, and the LGBTQ+ community is no different. The COVID crisis has hit the trans community with great strength, especially those who are homeless, sex workers, deaf or hard-of-hearing, disabled, migrants, asylum seekers, and the elderly.

From a global perspective, there is a lot of support from national and international organizations to address this situation, as well as research centers dedicated to the subject. An example of a project that focuses on this vulnerable group is The Trans Murder Monitoring (TMM) project which "systematically monitors, collects and analyses reports of homicides of trans and/or gender-diverse people worldwide". Another example of the efforts made to protect this group is the United Nations Treaty Bodies: References to sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and sex characteristics, in which multiple committees from the organization approach the topic and provide information regarding it.

*Steps in the right direction on this topic could be taken by presenting the existing conceptions of what hate crimes are on the same forum and discussing them, seeking overlapping points in an attempt to reach an agreement. If this agreement was reached, its

result could be used to explore paths of action from the Council's standpoint, taking prevention and protection into account, as well as how to empower and help youth in their battle for equality and human rights for all.

Guide questions

- ★ What's the general perspective of your country on biased acts of aggression and how does it address them?
- ★ What challenges does the term "hate crime" face in its international adoption process? How can these challenges be overcome by the international community?
- ★ Should "hate crimes" be referred to internationally with a different term? Which alternative term would your country approve of?
- ★ Has your country taken any steps towards the protection of trans people? If yes, which ones? If not, why?
- ★ What challenges are in the way of the international safeguarding of the trans community? How can they be addressed?
- ★ Has media visibility increased or decreased trans people's vulnerability towards violence and hate crimes? How? What other elements have had similar roles?
- ★ What elements or structures play important roles in upholding violence towards trans people or increasing their vulnerability within their context (in your country and internationally)?
- ★ How can the different types of violence (structural, cultural, and direct) the trans community faces be addressed conjunctually when aiming towards the reduction of hate crimes?
- ★ How can the needs of trans people from different contexts and situations be considered equally in a UNSC Resolution on this topic?
- ★ Other than through activism, how can young people aid the reduction of risks for the trans community? Can youth work alongside UNSC for this purpose?

Recommended resources

(Website) "Learn More"

By UN Free and equal

<https://bit.ly/3vxKtxP>

(Podcast episode; 2021) “A Coordinated Attack on Trans Youth”

By Translash in The Anti-Trans Hate Machine Podcast

<https://spoti.fi/35qoNsP>

(Report) “Fatal violence Against the Transgender and Gender-non-Conforming Community in 2021”

By The Human Rights Campaign Foundation (HRC)

<https://www.hrc.org/resources/fatal-violence-against-the-transgender-and-gender-non-conforming-community-in-2021>

(Thesis; 2016) “Discrimination and Hate Crimes Against the Trans Community”

By Sarah Pettigrew; Western Oregon University

https://digitalcommons.wou.edu/honors_theses/117/?utm_source=digitalcommons.wou.edu%2Fhonors_theses%2F117&utm_medium=PDF&utm_campaign=PDFCoverPages

(International review [PDF]; 2018) “Still a blind spot: The protection of LGBT persons during armed conflict and other situations of violence”

By Alon Margalit; Red Cross

<https://www.corteidh.or.cr/tablas/r39345.pdf>

(Report [PDF]; 2015) “PROTECTING PERSONS WITH DIVERSE SEXUAL ORIENTATIONS AND GENDER IDENTITIES”

By United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

<https://www.refworld.org/pdfid/566140454.pdf>

(Website) “RESOURCES”

By International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, and Intersex Association (ILGA)

<https://ilga.org/resources>

Glossary

Hate crime*: biased act of aggression.

**This definition is a generalization of what the term “hate crime” entails. However, individual countries have developed more comprehensive views on it as adapted to their context. The differences between national definitions of “hate crime” must be addressed during the first*

session to create an international definition that takes all contextual adaptations into account.

Trans community: people whose gender identity is different from the sex they got assigned at birth. Some trans people identify as trans men or trans women, while others may describe themselves as non-binary, genderqueer, gender non-conforming, agender, bigender or other identities that reflect their personal experience.

Violent structures (or systems of oppression): combinations of prejudice and institutional power that uphold regular and severe discrimination against some groups while benefiting other groups. Examples include racism, sexism, and ableism.

Transphobia (or cissexism): system of oppression upholding the aversion, discrimination, disdain, or hostility towards the trans community.

Direct violence: behaviors that serve to threaten life itself and/or to diminish one's capacity to meet basic human needs.

Structural violence: systematic ways in which some groups are hindered from equal access to opportunities, goods, and services that enable the fulfillment of basic human needs.

Cultural violence: prevailing or prominent social norms or beliefs that make direct and structural violence seem "natural" or "right" or at least acceptable.

Vulnerability: combination of factors that determine the degree to which a community's quality of life is put at risk by events in society. It is related to the characteristics inherent in social interactions, institutions, and systems of cultural values around said community.

Intersectionality: the way in which people's social identities -and therefore the types of discrimination they face- can overlap.

Activism: the practice of taking direct action to challenge a structure, idea or belief -usually inequality- and promote social changes.

***Solving the problem**

As mentioned previously, the violence against this specific community has increased in recent years and the actions taken in order to mitigate it have been limited. Hate crimes are an issue faced almost daily by this group and which threatens the members' security. As the chair of the Security Council, it's in our best interest to create a space of discussion on the topic.

The ideal way forward is to try to reach a unanimous decision as to what hate crimes are internationally. After that, the basis of the resolution should be built on these three main

approaches: biased acts of violence, community vulnerability, and the violent movements and structures.

Internationally, there have been some actions taken as a general, both on violence against the LGBTQ+ community, and the biased acts of aggression against vulnerable groups. Those responses from the international community do help in mitigating our main topic, however it is from this chair's belief that it should be taken in a much more specific level in order to address it correctly and without leaving anyone behind.

Some of the international efforts on the issue are the United Nations Campaign Against Homophobia and Transphobia done by the UN Free & Equal Campaign; the Resolution on Combating rising hate against LGBTI people in Europe done by the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination of the Council of Europe: and The Trans Murder Monitoring (TMM) project -which was previously mentioned-, that as its name establishes, helps in monitoring, collecting and analyzing committed homicides against the community worldwide.

Expectations for the delegates

We, as Chair of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) for SMMUN 2022, expect delegates to question the present limitations for defining hate crimes internationally and be open to pushing the boundaries of what said term can mean or how it can be presented both generally and concerning the trans community. This topic should drive them to be relentless in the pursuit of consensus and -more importantly- a plan of action even if conditions for both goals seem adverse at first. Creativity, negotiation, teamwork, diplomacy, and perseverance will be the focus skills to work on transversally as sessions move forward.

As to the topics to be talked about, we, as a chair, established the first session exclusively for discussing the definition of “hate crimes” and for delegates to strive to come up with an adequate definition themselves. The rest of the debate should go in a much freer manner so that delegates can discuss whatever they see fit. Some of the topics that we consider pertinent are:

Steps each country has taken for the protection of trans people, impact of media visibility, youth activism, intersectionality regarding the aforementioned group of gender diverse people and other ways youth themselves can help towards the reduction of hate crimes directed towards the trans community.

Prospective learning results

Along the whole process of the model United Nations (from meetings to the award ceremony) delegates will acquire knowledge on various topics, the procedures of the actual debate, and the functions and powers different UN organs have, as well as how to diplomatically engage with other delegations. Delegates will learn about the trials and hardships that people who identify within the gender diverse spectrum go through. They will gain a special insight in how this group of people are treated in different countries and what those countries have done to protect trans people.

In their personal life, we expect that the knowledge that they collect will help them in their future projects and make them become much more aware of the situation trans people go through every single day.

Professionally, participating in a model United Nations provides an individual with a lot of expertise in handling formal affairs as well as negotiations. Not to mention the great help that it provides regarding how they handle the English language, non-violent language, and inclusive language as well.

Academically, we hope that this topic creates awareness in people, so that they gain a new focus when speaking about the trans community. Making them see this problem through the perspective of different problems might help delegates in handling differences in opinions when working in groups

NON-VIOLENT LANGUAGE

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
<i>War</i>	Armed conflict

<i>Deaths</i>	Casualties
<i>Rich countries, first world countries</i>	Developed countries*
<i>Poor countries, third world countries</i>	Developing countries*
<i>Army</i>	Armed forces
<i>Minority**</i>	Historically oppressed groups or people, Marginalized groups, or people
<i>Legal/Illegal migration</i>	Regular/irregular migration
<i>Black</i>	Person of African American descent, African, African American
<i>Disabled</i>	People with disabilities
<i>Minors</i>	People under the age of 18

*With the sole purpose of facilitating debate in the committee, though these are terms with a heavy cultural baggage that must be thoroughly analyzed before using elsewhere.

**This can be non-violent it is only used when that is exactly what is being meant: a group that is smaller in proportion (*Examples: "The Rohingya people in Myanmar are a Muslim ethnic minority living in a predominantly Buddhist country", "Women remain a minority in academia, as only 12% of tenured professors globally are female. This needs to change"*). If that is not what is meant, the non-violent alternatives in the chart are a better fit.

Note: For purposes of this committee, the use of the word "water weaponization" will be considered as a non-violent word during discussions regarding Topic A.

Note: Words for age groups

Child - under 10 years old

Adolescent - 10-15 years old

Teenager - 13-19 years old

Youth/Young person - 15-24 years old

Other important points

One of the main points of MUN debate is respect, and in the current global panorama, that involves using 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).

**You may find more information on each point in the following link:*

<https://www.un.org/en/gender-inclusive-language/guidelines.shtml>

LIST OF PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

Permanent 5 (P5)

People's Republic of China (*China*)

French Republic (*France*)

Russian Federation (*Russia*)

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (*United Kingdom*)

United States of America (*United States*)

Elected 10 (E10)

Republic of Albania (*Albania*)

Federative Republic of Brazil (*Brazil*)

Gabonese Republic (*Gabon*)

Republic of Ghana (*Ghana*)

Republic of India (*India*)

Republic of Ireland (*Ireland*)

Republic of Kenya (*Kenya*)

United Mexican States (*Mexico*)

Kingdom of Norway (*Norway*)

United Arab Emirates (*Emirates*)

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