

The Disarmament and International Security Committee

Agenda: Addressing the Instability in the Democratic Republic of Congo during “Africa’s World War”

Following the Assassination of Laurent Kabil and Foreign Military Interventions

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“In a dark place we find ourselves, and a little more knowledge lights our way”

Turmoil, instability, and chaos. This marks the current state of an entire continent. A continent erupting in flames, being pulled apart by forces far larger than its borders. The Democratic Republic of Congo currently stands at the epicenter of one of the most prominent and complex geopolitical conflicts, often termed as “Africa’s World War”. Rivalry between African states, foreign intervention, non-state actors, widespread instability, political fragmentation, humanitarian devastation, and the rise of regional militant groups have led to extreme conflict. The assassination of President Laurent Kabil on 16th January, 2001 destabilised an already crumbling nation, leading to internal turmoil, and raising questions about sovereignty, and most importantly, the future of peace in Africa, and the world. The failure to implement frameworks caused the rise of proxy-wars, scarring the continent with unbridled conflicts, leading to chaos within the international community and the dismantling of the ideal fundamental idea of peace.

The General Assembly convenes on the 18th of January, 2001, to discuss the multifaceted crisis in the Democratic Republic of Congo in the aftermath of the assassination of Laurent Kabil, within the broader context of the protracted regional conflict. This agenda situates delegates at a critical juncture marked by drastic political uncertainty and profound economic destabilisation. The committee should set its sights on the erosion of state authority, the involvement of non-state actors and the role of illicit arms trade in sustaining conflict in Central Africa. A special emphasis must be set on the regional ramifications of the conflict, including (but not limited to) cross border militarisation and threat posed to African peace, security and sovereignty. The ethnic conflicts between the Hutus and Tutsis further fueled domestic discontent with the Kabil government. This eventually involved armed forces from Rwanda and Uganda (anti-Kabil) and Zimbabwe, Angola, Namibia, and Chad (pro-Kabil).

The assassination of President Kabil did not merely remove a head of state - it plunged the region into a state of intense political, social and regional instability not limited to just Africa, but a threat to democracies all over the world. Corruption, fragmentation of authority and the failure to enforce viable frameworks has deepened the power vacuum in African states, and has put the world out of balance, leading to widespread peril.

DISEC will evaluate existing international mechanisms related to disarmament, peacekeeping, along with conflict prevention, seeking light from the Congolese conflict. Through substantive deliberation, you, the delegates must seek to advance coordinated international collaboration to promote stability in the region, not just for Africa, but for humanity as a whole. Along with the persisting influence of rebel groups, foreign militant presence and economic exploitation, shattering the continent of Africa, the real question is this: what balance must be struck between intervention, accountability, and sovereignty to prevent the recurrence of such a large-scale conflict? With the world watching in concern for the future of the continent, the fate of humanity lies in your hands.

