



# SSPMUN 4.0

## *Background Guide*

### **Secretary General**

Sumit Akhuli

### **Director General**

Aryadip Mandal

### **Under-Secretary General**

Swapnil Mondal

### **Chairperson**

Aryadip Mandal

### **Rapporteur**

Ambhin Sahana

# UNSC

# **Table of Contents**

<b>Contents</b>	<b>Pg. no.</b>
<b>Letter from the Executive Board</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Introduction to the Agenda</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>A Brief History</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Current Situation</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Position Paper Policy</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Documentation</b>	<b>12</b>

## **Letter from the Executive Board**

It gives us an extraordinary sense of pride and honor to welcome you all to the fourth edition of the Sainik School Purulia Model United Nations, 2023. This committee is a simulation of the United Nations Security Council which acts as one of the six main organs of the United Nations. The security council is the United Nations principle crisis management body. It is empowered to impose binding obligations on the 193 member states and that is why the work done by UNSC is highly important for ensuring international peace and security. The Security Council's resolution is binding for the member states unlike the other UN organs where the UN can only advise the members. The conference aimed to build on the successes of previous years and pave the way for future initiatives to tackle the global challenge of security. It is also enforced by the UN peacekeeping forces and can deploy them to carry out their resolution.

This guide has been prepared to brief you on the agenda and give you a starting point for your research. However, we encourage all delegates to conduct further research beyond the scope of this guide for a more in-depth understanding of the topics. The agenda for this committee is **‘Recognizing the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people’**.

The Executive Board looks forward to a research-based, debate-oriented and fruitful committee. We expect all delegates to be versed with the basic conflicts and stakeholders in the situation along with knowledge of the intricacies of foreign relations. An acute understanding of foreign policy is of paramount importance. We expect the delegates to be well versed with international laws and the UN Charter, which would help in a better flow of the committee.

Documentation and lobbying would play a major role in the committee. Delegates are not just expected to present information but also indulge in analysis and focus on argumentation. A solution-oriented approach is always appreciated, and delegates must think critically in order to solve real-time issues. At the same time, we do not want first-time MUNers to get intimidated and will try our best to make this a riveting experience for

each one of you.

We would now like to leave you with our best wishes, and we hope that we all learn something new amidst the fierce competition during the conference.

Warm Regards,  
**The Executive  
Board UNSC**

<b>Aryadip Mandal</b>		<b>Ambhin</b>
<b>(Chairperson)</b>		<b>Sahana</b>
		<b>(Rapporteur)</b>

## **Introduction to the Agenda**

In May of this year, we witnessed the most significant escalation in hostilities since 2014, resulting in the killing of 261 Palestinians including 67 children. Determined that 130 of those killed were civilians. This escalation was directly linked to protests and violent responses by Israeli security forces – first in East Jerusalem, then spreading to the entire Occupied Palestinian Territory and to Israel.

high level of civilian fatalities and injuries resulting from strikes in densely populated areas – as well as the widespread destruction of civilian infrastructure – noting that such attacks raised serious concerns of compliance with international humanitarian law. At that time the Human Rights Council decided to establish an ongoing, independent, international commission of inquiry, with a mandate to investigate "all alleged violations and abuses of international human rights law leading up and since 13 April 2021". It was also mandated to investigate "all underlying root causes of recurrent tensions, instability and protraction of conflict, including systematic discrimination and repression based on national, ethnic, racial or religious identity".

In addition to recurring cycles of hostilities, the people of Gaza also continue to suffer from a 15-year land, sea and air blockade, leading to a continuous and deeply damaging deterioration of the human rights and humanitarian situation. Vital infrastructure is crumbling. The decaying sewer system constitutes a threat to health, Severe movement restrictions and obstructions to people's access to essential goods and services, including specialised health-care, generate immense suffering. I have repeatedly emphasised that Palestinians have the right to live safely and freely in their homes, with adequate access to essential services and opportunities, amid respect for their right to life and physical integrity. Instead, in the lived reality of the occupation and blockade, they are systematically deprived of the fundamental rights and freedoms due to every human being.

Reconstruction and recovery efforts are ongoing in Gaza, and the fragile cessation of hostilities continues to hold. However, although some goods have been gradually

allowed to enter Gaza through the Israel-controlled Kerem Shalom crossing, as well as the Egypt-controlled Rafah crossing, humanitarian conditions remain deeply concerning. Further steps are needed by all parties to ensure a sustainable solution that ultimately leads to the return of legitimate Palestinian governmental institutions to the Gaza Strip.

### **A Brief History**

The **Israeli–Palestinian conflict** is an ongoing military and political conflict in the Levant. Beginning in the mid-20th century, it is one of the world's longest continuing conflicts. Various attempts have been made to resolve the conflict as part of the Israeli-Palestine peace talks, alongside other efforts to resolve the broader Arab-Israeli conflict. Public declarations of the desire to see a Jewish homeland established in Palestine, including the First Zionist Congress of 1897 and the Balfour Declaration of 1917, created early tensions in the region after waves of Jewish immigration. Following World War I, the mandate for Palestine included a binding obligation for the "establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people". Tensions grew into open sectarian conflict between Jews and Arabs. The 1947 United Nations Partition Plan for Palestine was never implemented and provoked the 1947–1949 Palestine War. The current Israeli-Palestinian status quo began following Israeli military occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, known as the West Bank and Gaza, in the 1967 Six Day War.

Progress was made towards a two-state solution with the Oslo Accords of 1993–1995. Final status issues include the status of Jerusalem, Israeli settlements, borders, security and water rights as well as Palestinian freedom of movement and the Palestinian right of living. The violence of the conflict in the region—rich in sites of historic, cultural, and religious interest worldwide—has been the subject of numerous international conferences dealing with historic rights, security issues, and

human rights, and has been a factor limiting access to, and tourism in, areas that are highly contested. The majority of peace efforts have been centred around the two-state solution, which involves the establishment of an independent Palestine state alongside Israel. Public support for a two-state solution, which formerly enjoyed support latest

Within Israeli and Palestinian society, the conflict generates a wide variety of views and opinions. Since its inception, the conflict's casualties have not been restricted to combatants, with a large number of civilian fatalities on both sides. A minority of Jewish Israelis (32 percent) support a two-state solution with the Palestinians. Israeli Jews are divided along ideological lines, and many favor maintaining the status quo. Approximately 60 percent of Palestinians (77% in the Gaza Strip and 46% in the West Bank), support armed attacks against Israelis within Israel as a means of ending the occupation, while 70% believe that a two-state solution is no longer practical or possible as a result of the expansion of Israeli settlements. More than two-thirds of Israeli Jews say that if the West Bank were annexed by Israel, Palestinians resident there should not be permitted to vote. Mutual distrust and significant disagreements are deep over basic issues, as is the reciprocal scepticism about the other side's commitment to upholding obligations in an eventual bilateral agreement. Since 2006, the Palestinian side has been fractured by conflict between Fatah, the traditionally dominant party, and its later electoral challenger, Hamas, a militant Islamist group that gained control of the Gaza strip. Attempts to remedy this have been repeated and continuing. Since 2019, the Israeli side has also been experiencing political upheaval, with four inconclusive legislative elections having been held over a span of two years the latest round of peace negotiations began in July 2013 but were suspended in 2014. Since 2006, Hamas and Israel have fought five wars, the most recent in 2023.

## **Current Situation**

The death toll in Gaza has crossed 5000. In addition to the overall death toll, the number of UN staff members working with the Palestine refugee agency UNRWA, has reached 35, according to the latest situation report released late on Monday. A further 18 staffers have been injured.

At least 40 UNRWA installations have been damaged since the violence began on 7 October. UNRWA said nearly 600,000 internally displaced are sheltering in 150 UNRWA facilities overall with nearly 420,000 seeking refuge in 93 of the agency's shelters in Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas, further to the south - that's an increase of around 14,000 civilians in the past 24 hours.

In its latest humanitarian update on the crisis UN humanitarian aid coordination office, OCHA, said that more than 1,000 have been reported missing and “are presumed to be trapped or dead under the rubble”.

The largest medical facility in Gaza, Shifa hospital, is now treating around 5,000 patients, many times beyond its normal figure of around 700.

The UN Spokesperson said on Monday that the average number of people staying in Gaza shelters is 4,400, around 2.5 times their designated capacity.

Around 70 civilians are sharing space in each UNRWA classroom

### **Trickle of aid**

A new aid convoy entered Gaza from Egypt on Monday through the Rafah border crossing comprises 20 trucks according to the Egyptian Red Crescent, said UN Spokesperson Stéphane Dujarric, briefing reporters in New York.

He said that was equivalent to **just four per cent of the pre-crisis level** of daily needs, for commodities for Gaza's population of more than two million.

This was the third such delivery after the crossing opened on Saturday for the first time since the start of the conflict, following intense diplomatic efforts.

A total of 34 trucks with aid provided by the UN and the Egyptian Red Crescent entered the enclave over the weekend. The UN has stressed that to respond to soaring



humanitarian needs, at least 100 aid trucks per day are required. Desperate need for fuel

The development comes as (UNRWA) warned on Sunday that it was set to **run out of fuel within three days**, putting the humanitarian response in Gaza at risk.

UNRWA head Philippe Lazzarini said that without fuel, “there will be no water, no functioning hospitals and bakeries” and that “no fuel will further strangle the children, women and people of Gaza”.

### **Education void**

Meanwhile, OCHA said that more than 625,000 children in Gaza have been deprived of education for at least 12 days, and 206 schools have been damaged. At least 29 of them are UNRWA-run establishments.

UNRWA reported on Sunday that 29 of its staff members have been killed in Gaza since 7 October – half of them teachers.

In the occupied West Bank, the escalation has also resulted in restrictions on the access to education. OCHA said that all the schools inside the territory were closed from 7 to 9 October, affecting some 782,000 students. As of last week, over 230 schools which cater to some 50,000 students had not reopened.

## **Position Paper Policy**

### **What is a Position Paper?**

A position paper is a brief overview of a country's stance on the topics being discussed by a particular committee. Though there is no specific format that the position paper must follow, it should include a description of the position your country holds on the issues on the agenda, relevant actions that your country has taken, and potential solutions that your country would support.

### **Purpose:**

Keep in mind the recent decisions taken by your own country and major events that have taken place after the war and your foreign policy regarding the same. The Position papers should include the following details:

- The delegate's preliminary understanding of the topic and what it entails
- Allocation of the delegate and your stance on this agenda
- Your proposed plan of action and effective solutions

- Any information regarding your portfolio that you think that the Executive Boardmembers should know
- Furthermore, your expectations as to how this committee should progress and what are your expectations from the debate.

Each position paper should not exceed two pages, and should all be combined into a single PDF format per delegate (other formats will not be accepted.)

### **Formatting**

Position papers should include the name of the delegate, his/her country, and the committee, along with the agenda —

- Be in a standard font (e.g. Times New Roman) with 12-point font size and 1- inch document margins.

### **Due Dates and Submission Procedure**

Position papers for this committee must be submitted 7 days prior to the commencement of committee session.

## **Documentation**

### **Chits**

Chits are a way of indirect communication amongst the delegates as well as the Executive Board and the delegates. These are primarily of four types:

**Substantive chits** - These are chits that are sent by delegates directly to the Executive Board. They contain substantive information that the delegate feels is relevant to the agenda and the Executive Board should be made aware of. Substantive chits can also include speeches that the delegate is unable to speak in committee.

**Points of Information** - Point of Information chits are used when a delegate wishes to ask another delegate a question but is unable to do so verbally. Such chits may be sent after a speech or at any point in the committee. POIs can be sent directly to a delegate or can be sent via the Executive Board if the delegate wants their question to be noted by the Chair.

**Replies to Points of Information** - When a delegate receives a Point of Information, they are expected to respond to the same verbally, if not, then, via a chit which may be sent directly to the delegate or via the Executive Board. Whilst it is not necessary to respond to all POIs, delegates are recommended to respond to them in order to clarify their foreign policy and proposed solutions.

**Chits used for Lobbying** - In committee, delegates may utilize chits as a mode of lobbying with other delegates. Through these, they may undertake various tasks such as forming blocs, clarification of speeches, and communicating informally with other delegates presenting the committee. These chits are sent directly to the recipient and not marked by the Executive Board.

**Substantive Chits: Kindly note that you are free to include as many points as you wish to, however, ensure that the chit is concise, and all**

**the important words/points are underlined.**

## **Working Paper**

A working paper, in its most elementary sense, refers to a list of solutions prepared by a group of delegates working together (hereinafter referred to as a bloc). A working paper essentially serves as a precursor to a Draft Resolution and allows delegates to frame their solutions in a formal manner.

Delegates are requested to note the following points with reference to working papers;

A working paper has no prescribed format. However, delegates are highly recommended to write it in the same format as a Draft Resolution, which is explained later in this guide.

In order for a working paper to be accepted by the Executive Board, it needs to have at least 1/3rd of the committee's total strength as signatories.

Discussion of working papers is preferred through an unmoderated caucus, with a defined number of speakers and the total speaking time.

The Executive Board will not be accepting working papers that are plagiarized, pre-written, or submitted by an individual delegate.

## **Draft Resolution Guidelines**

The three days of debate are ultimately directed towards reaching a consensus and forming a solution, known as the Draft Resolution (DR), that delineates how the Member States must tackle the various issues of the agenda. A good Draft Resolution requires a well-rounded approach to the agenda and must be supported with a realistic framework for implementation.

The perambulatory clauses of a Draft Resolution state the purpose of addressing the agenda at hand and highlight past international action on the issue. Each clause begins with a present participle, called a perambulatory phrase which is italicized, and the clause always ends with a comma. These clauses can include references to the UN charter,

citations of past UN resolutions or treaties on the agenda etc.

## **Key Terminology**

**Clause:** one section of a resolution, containing one argument or one action

**Phrase:** Phrases are the first word(s) of a clause. They introduce the clause and define the nature of its recommendations.

**Perambulatory Clause:** The perambulatory clauses (also called preambles) of a resolution state the reasons for addressing the topic. Preambles can reference the UN charter and past international actions. Each clause begins with a perambulatory phrase and ends with a comma.

**Amendment:** An amendment is a change that a delegate would like to introduce to the resolution once it has already been submitted to the chair.

## **Sponsorship and signatories**

Sponsors are delegates who have participated consistently in the writing of the Draft Resolution, and who will be presenting the document to the committee and answering questions asked by other members of the committee. A delegate may be a sponsor to only one Draft Resolution.

Signatories are delegates who want to see the Draft Resolution discussed in committee, regardless of whether or not they agree with it. There is no limit to the number of Draft Resolutions that a delegate may be a signatory to. A Draft Resolution must meet a Specified minimum of Sponsors and Signatories in order to be submitted to the Executive Board.

## **Amendments**

Amendments serve as a way for delegates to make changes to a Draft Resolution which has been discussed in committee. The following points must be kept in mind for amendments:

Amendments must be sent in the prescribed format, otherwise, they will not be accepted by the Executive Board.

Sponsors cannot send amendments to their own DR.

**Note:** The purpose of this background guide is to brief you about the agenda and it should only act as a starting point in your research. The background guide cannot be used as evidence for any claims in the



**committee.**