

THE HISTORIC COMMITTEE ON CUBAN AFFAIRS

STUDY GUIDE



Saurya Pratap Singh
Chairperson

Shugat Shil Lama
Vice-Chairperson

Greetings, Delegates

Welcome to Mitini Model UN conference, where the thrilling world of the Cuban Missile Crisis simulation awaits you. I, the committee's chair, am delighted to extend an invitation to you to fully immerse yourself in one of the most significant periods in contemporary history.

Take a moment to travel back in time to October 15, 1962, when tensions during the Cold War were at an all-time high and people were holding their breath. With the possibility of nuclear war always present, the finding of Soviet missile sites in Cuba has tested international diplomacy to the breaking point. This is your opportunity to take on the role of global leaders and engage in high-stakes negotiations, planning, and teamwork where every choice you make could change the path of history.

You will be tasked with navigating the complex web of international relations, balancing alliances and rivalries, and creating solutions to prevent a catastrophic global conflict as delegates in "Addressing the Cuban Missile Crisis: Managing Cold War Tensions, 1962." This committee provides an exceptional chance to polish your diplomatic skills, put your crisis management acumen to the test, and feel the rush of high-stakes negotiations.

I urge you to take on this challenge, to take advantage of the chance to change the world and to participate in a simulation that looks to be incredibly fulfilling and intellectually stimulating. Let's examine the intricacies of the Cuban Missile Crisis together so that we can graduate as accomplished diplomats prepared to take on the problems of the modern era. As we start this exciting journey together, I can't wait to see your enthusiasm, inventiveness, and commitment.

Sincerely,
Saurya Pratap Singh
Chair, 'Historic Committee'

Greetings, Delegates

Welcome to Mitini Model UN conference, where the thrilling world of the Cuban Missile Crisis simulation awaits you. I, the committee's chair, am delighted to extend an invitation to you to fully immerse yourself in one of the most significant periods in contemporary history.

Take a moment to travel back in time to October 15, 1962, when tensions during the Cold War were at an all-time high and people were holding their breath. With the possibility of nuclear war always present, the finding of Soviet missile sites in Cuba has tested international diplomacy to the breaking point. This is your opportunity to take on the role of global leaders and engage in high-stakes negotiations, planning, and teamwork where every choice you make could change the path of history.

You will be tasked with navigating the complex web of international relations, balancing alliances and rivalries, and creating solutions to prevent a catastrophic global conflict as delegates in "Addressing the Cuban Missile Crisis: Managing Cold War Tensions, 1962." This committee provides an exceptional chance to polish your diplomatic skills, put your crisis management acumen to the test, and feel the rush of high-stakes negotiations.

I urge you to take on this challenge, to take advantage of the chance to change the world and to participate in a simulation that looks to be incredibly fulfilling and intellectually stimulating. Let's examine the intricacies of the Cuban Missile Crisis together so that we can graduate as accomplished diplomats prepared to take on the problems of the modern era. As we start this exciting journey together, I can't wait to see your enthusiasm, inventiveness, and commitment.

Sincerely,
Saurya Pratap Singh
Chair, 'Historic Committee'

Introduction to the Committee

Comprised of historians, scholars, and experts, this Committee undertakes various activities including documenting historical narratives, curating archives, organizing educational programs, and providing advice on policy about historical preservation.

The Historic Committee plays an important role in preserving cultural heritage and informing the public about significant historical events. The committee's mission is to deepen the public's understanding of the relevance of history today.

Introduction to the agenda

The Thirteen-Day conflict in October of the year between the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. is known as The Cuban Missile Crisis. It was necessitated by the deployment of American nuclear missiles in Turkey and Italy, provoking the Soviet Union to do a similar thing in Cuba. It is widely acknowledged that it was the event that brought the Cold War closest to turning into a global nuclear conflict.

The reason for the crisis was that the Soviets had been found to have some missile launching sites in Cuba and could reach the eastern part of the US in under five minutes. The President, John F. Kennedy, declared a blockade on the location so that there would be no more missiles coming from Russia. Still, he used the word quarantine instead of blocking to avoid war declaration parens.

Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev agreed to remove the missiles from Cuba in exchange for the U.S. not invading Cuba and the Jupiter missiles in Turkey were removed secretly as well after a long time of negotiation. The Cuban missile crisis was the moment when there could have been World War Three through the hotline communications line from the White House to the Kremlin that was established and the commencement of US-Soviet arms control negotiations.

Tensions between the USA and the Soviet Union became worse during the Cuban missile crisis. This led to a review of policies concerning the nuclear arms race as well as signing agreements that stopped testing nuclear weapons by both nations. It was in his management of this particular occurrence that President Kennedy was seen as a hero both at home and abroad because he was able to steer through an extremely dangerous foreign policy incident thereby enhancing his image.

History

End of World War II (1945):

The end of World War II made the United States and the Soviet Union superpowers, resulting in a new era of international relations. And that marked the beginning of the Cold War, which was a time of great competition and military tension over forty-eight years.

During World War II, the United States and the Soviet Union used to be security partners but their friendship fell apart in its final days. It was as the Soviet Union's expansionist tendencies and fear of American communists had started to occupy more nations, intensifying the separation between the two power blocs, The United States and the Soviet Union had been allies. A bipolar world characterized by the two superpowers on opposite sides of the ideological divide was formed by the Soviet Union's control over Eastern Europe and the help received by Western European countries from the United States.

A great many proxy wars, espionage, and propaganda campaigns marked the Cold War. The direct military conflict didn't involve the United States and the Soviet Union during this period; however, they backed opposite sides during some other worldwide conflicts. Here are some major incidents associated with the Cold War: the Berlin Blockade, which began in '48 (hence the term "Blockade") – not to mention the Korean War from 1950–53 along with the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962 that put us close to World War III.

Formation of NATO (1949):

NATO was founded in 1949 to defend the Western nations from Soviet aggression. It arose in the post-WWII years when America and some other Western countries were worrying that the Soviet Union might be aggressive in East Europe.

The North Atlantic Treaty was signed on April 4, 1949, by 12 founding members, among which were the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, France- and several other European countries. The treaty formed a pact for collective defense whereby any attack against one member would count as an attack against all members.

In the year 1962, during the Cuban Missile Crisis, NATO played a critical role in reacting to the deployment by the Soviet Union of nuclear missiles in Cuba. This was a situation that nearly led to getting into nuclear warfare between the U.S. and the USSR since they were at loggerheads over those missiles' location. NATO members, particularly the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom, were deeply involved in the crisis, providing military and diplomatic support to the United States.

History

End of World War II (1945):

The end of World War II made the United States and the Soviet Union superpowers, resulting in a new era of international relations. And that marked the beginning of the Cold War, which was a time of great competition and military tension over forty-eight years.

During World War II, the United States and the Soviet Union used to be security partners but their friendship fell apart in its final days. It was as the Soviet Union's expansionist tendencies and fear of American communists had started to occupy more nations, intensifying the separation between the two power blocs, The United States and the Soviet Union had been allies. A bipolar world characterized by the two superpowers on opposite sides of the ideological divide was formed by the Soviet Union's control over Eastern Europe and the help received by Western European countries from the United States.

A great many proxy wars, espionage, and propaganda campaigns marked the Cold War. The direct military conflict didn't involve the United States and the Soviet Union during this period; however, they backed opposite sides during some other worldwide conflicts. Here are some major incidents associated with the Cold War: the Berlin Blockade, which began in '48 (hence the term "Blockade") – not to mention the Korean War from 1950–53 along with the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962 that put us close to World War III.

Formation of NATO (1949):

NATO was founded in 1949 to defend the Western nations from Soviet aggression. It arose in the post-WWII years when America and some other Western countries were worrying that the Soviet Union might be aggressive in East Europe.

The North Atlantic Treaty was signed on April 4, 1949, by 12 founding members, among which were the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, France- and several other European countries. The treaty formed a pact for collective defense whereby any attack against one member would count as an attack against all members.

In the year 1962, during the Cuban Missile Crisis, NATO played a critical role in reacting to the deployment by the Soviet Union of nuclear missiles in Cuba. This was a situation that nearly led to getting into nuclear warfare between the U.S. and the USSR since they were at loggerheads over those missiles' location. NATO members, particularly the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom, were deeply involved in the crisis, providing military and diplomatic support to the United States.

Korean War (1950-1953)

The Korean War was a key participant in the Cold War, the participants being South Korea with the support of the United States and other Western countries, and North Korea with the support of the Soviet Union and China. It played a key role in raising Cold War tensions and significantly affected international relations, especially during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Korean War began on June 25th, 1950 with North Korean forces coming from the Soviet Union and China invading South Korea; the United States intervened under the United Nations' cover together with other Western powers which helped support South Korea; thus, it made this war to become one of the key defining moments within the course of the Cold War because it was for the first time that America fought with USSR in set war although through other troops.

The Cold War itself was already deepened considerably by the fact that the Korean War set the Soviet Union and China against America and its allies. Moreover, it even further polarized the already wide ideological gap between these two superpowers, and for America and most of its allies, the war was synonymous with attempting to obliterate communism whereas in the view of Russia and China, it meant defending their socialist friends

Warsaw Pact (1955)

In 1955, seven Eastern European countries (Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, East Germany, and Albania) signed the Warsaw Pact agreement with the Soviet Union, aimed at collective defense. The establishment of NATO and West Germany's integration into it provoked the formation of this treaty, which was aimed at ensuring that the power of the Western Bloc was counterbalanced.

On May 14, 1955, the Warsaw Pact was initiated in response to the admittance of West Germany to NATO. Its purpose was such that the East bloc countries and their Soviet ally could hold power equilibrium in Europe and avoid any rearmament of West Germany. The principal stressing point in its agreement lies in mutual aid and cooperation in defense issues that are needed by all members.

The Warsaw Pact, which the Soviet Union dominated, was a military alliance. This treaty created a unified military command and enabled the maintenance of Soviet military units on the territories of the other state parties. The pact further provided for garrisoning Soviet troops in satellite territory, causing nationalist enmity in Poland and Hungary during their uprisings in 1956.

Cuban Revolution (1953-1959)

Fidel Castro, a guerrilla leader, led the 26th of July Movement in Cuba whereby they overthrew a U.S.-backed dictator Batista who was in charge. By so doing, this brought about the Cuban revolution; an historical incident that was very critical in the world today, during the Cold War era. Furthermore, the revolution had serious impacts on global politics notably during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

On July 26, 1953, Fidel Castro started a revolution. Castro started this revolution by leading a group of 160 rebels who attacked the Moncada barracks in Santiago de Cuba. He was arrested and imprisoned but escaped to Mexico where he raised a small guerilla army of Cuban exiles.

In November 1956, Castro with a group of people arrived in Cuba in an attempt at toppling Batista's government from Mexico. Batista's troops fought severely against them. Initial combat claimed the lives of only 20 individuals where among them Castro and Che Guevara. However, they managed to escape with their lives. This small group of survivors went back into Sierra Maestra mountain forests and remained there until such time that they could no longer be located by the enemy forces after starting off as guerillas with Castro soon being joined by new members and supported by many people.

The guerrilla war continued to build and in January 1959, Castro's forces captured important cities inclusive of Havana, Batista left Cuba while Castro took the reins on 1 January 1959. The new administration with Castro as the head was dedicated to socialism and before long found itself close to the Soviet Union.

Bay of Pigs Invasion (1961)

The Brigade 2506, a CIA-trained group of Cuban exiles performed the Bay of Pigs invasion as part of a plan to bring down the government of Fidel Castro in Cuba. This incident is important in the history of the Cold War because it changed US-Cuban relations at the time on April 17, 1961.

The CIA planned the incursion in March 1960, with President Dwight D. Eisenhower's blessings. The operation aimed to topple Fidel and get a Yank-friendly regime established in Cuba. An exile group, financed and indoctrinated by the CIA, comprising roughly 1,400 men was equipped and air-borne by the same agency.

The exiles landed at the Bay of Pigs on April 17th, 1961 but things went wrong for them immediately after that. Fidel Castro was leading a large group of Cuban revolutionary armed forces he had prepared better than they expected. This meant that the exiles could not set up any safe base camps making it easier for this military to track them down throughout Cuba during war times. Consequently, they had no other option but to retreat into their home country since it was impossible to continue fighting them on all fronts at once. The bay where they came from was surrounded by enemies on all sides so that not even a bird could pass through without being noticed by them. The attack was repelled in less than seventy-two hours while the majority of the revolutionaries were either caught or slain by then.

America was hugely embarrassed by its unsuccessful invasion of Cuba in the Bay of Pigs and as a result, a review of its Cuba policy was done. In addition, Cuba's leader, Fidel Castro decided to be near Russia because he wanted help in propping up his government against any other attack from America. Furthermore, the failure of the Bay of Pigs operation increased strains between America and Russia paving the way for the Cuban missile crisis in 1962.

Operation Mongoose (1961-1963)

In November 1961, President John F. Kennedy authorized a secret mission dubbed Operation Mongoose aimed at ousting Fidel Castro from power in Cuba using sabotage, propaganda, and even assassination. The operation was overseen on the military end by U.S. Air Force General Edward Lansdale and at the CIA by William King Harvey.

The main objectives of Operation Mongoose during its first phase (until July 1962) were:

1. Acquiring intelligence on Cuba
2. Undertaking political, economic, and covert actions short of inspiring a revolt or requiring U.S. armed intervention
3. Remaining consistent with U.S. overt policy and being able to disengage with minimum loss of assets and prestige
4. Continuing military planning and preliminary actions for potential U.S. intervention

There was still no progress in July 1962. CIA had not been successful in recruiting of right Cubans to penetrate Castro's regime. Lansdale, claiming that "we are running out of time" asked for enhancement to have "within a short time symbols showing resistance from within and showing international interest" among Cubans.

The Kennedy administration got worried about the heightening Soviet military in Cuba in late August 1962. Operation Mongoose slowed down because of the apprehension over possible Soviet revenge against the U.S. and Berlin for covert actions in Cuba. When the Cuban Missile Crisis reached its climax in October, the president called off the operation.

The Operation Mongoose conversation and the Cuban Missile Crisis were connected in that the United States' hidden activities in Cuba such as sabotage and attempts to kill led to nuclear missiles from the Soviet Union being placed there as a way of warding off attack. Operation Mongoose was unable to remove Fidel Castro from power thus leading to an increased military presence in Cuba by the Soviets Cuba became the focal point in the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Deployment of Soviet Missiles to Cuba (Summer 1962)

In the summer of 1962, Soviet premier Nikita Khrushchev moved Soviet missiles to Cuba as a strategic response to Turkish missiles from the USA and to prevent any possible future invasion. This move was made given the increased American military presence in Turkey as well as what was seen as an impending danger to Soviet interests.

The Soviet Union was far behind the United States in the arms race. Soviet missiles had a range of a few thousand kilometers, allowing them to reach European targets only. These were intended for use against Western Europe in case of war rather than as an instrument of global nuclear warfare.' 'Furthermore, Khrushchev considered sending some rockets to Cuba to protect it from being attacked by Americans.

During a secret agreement in Cuba in April 1962, Khrushchev and Fidel Castro decided that strategic nuclear missiles would secretly be placed in Cuba. This planned deployment included short-range tactical weapons that could cover an attack on the island like a "nuclear umbrella." It was in July when Soviet military engineers appeared in Cuba pretending to operate machines or teach agriculture. A total of 43,000 foreign troops were brought in, including missile construction specialists and troops detailed for the mission.

Elaborate denial and deception like their operation was "maskirovka". The planning and preparation for transporting and deploying the missiles were all done in utmost secrecy such that only a few individuals knew exactly what was taking place. The troops meant for this specific mission were equally given false direction by telling them they were going to a cold area & served winter gear at the same time.

Shortly after the agreement was signed, the Building of launch facilities began. U.S. intelligence services, by August 1962, had got information concerning the appearances of Soviet-made MiG-21 fighters and Il-28 light bombers. Around 8 S-75 Dvina surface-to-air missile sites were spotted by U-2 spy planes. The deployment also had medium- and long-range launch facilities, which U-2 spy planes photographed in October.

Discovery of Missiles (October 1962)

The discovery of Soviet missile sites in Cuba by U.S. reconnaissance flights in October 1962 marked the beginning of the Cuban Missile Crisis, 13 days of intense tension between the United States and the Soviet Union.

In August 1962, data collected by American intelligence agencies showed that the Soviet-built MiG-21 fighters and Il-28 light bombers were sighted in Cuba. It was only on September 30 that they agreed to allow U-2 spy planes to conduct surveillance flights over Cuba once again, but they could not take off due to adverse weather conditions until October 14.

A U-2 flight flown by Major Richard Heyser photographed 928 images on a course marked out by DIA analysts on October 14. These images show the building of an SS-4 missile facility at San Cristóbal, Pinar del Río Province, in western Cuba. The National Photographic Interpretation Center (NPIC) of the CIA reviewed the U-2 photographs and picked out objects that appeared to be intermediate-range ballistic missiles. This identification was made, in part, on the strength of reporting provided by Oleg Penkovsky, a double agent in the GRU working for the CIA and MI6.

It wasn't until 8:30 pm Eastern that Bundy decided to wait until the following day before informing the president," Bundy was told by the CIA on October 15th while notifying the State Department; It was midnight when McNamara received a briefing from the CIA". The following morning, Kennedy was met by Bundy who gave him U-2 pictures and presented before him some CIA analysis concerning these pictures. The Executive Committee of the National Security Council (EXCOMM) after the fact on October 22 National Security Action Memorandum 196 was formally named by Kennedy at 6:30 pm EDT who convened a meeting of the nine members of the National Security Council and five other key advisers.

President Kennedy received information on October 16 about the discovery. Such information was relayed to the Attorney General, Robert Kennedy, who then reached out to Anatoly Dobrynin, the Soviet Ambassador. On hearing this news Robert Kennedy said, "I'm concerned that something wrong might be happening;" while Nikita Khrushchev instructed Dobrynin to inform him that there would be no ground-to-ground missiles or any other offensive weapons deployed in Cuba".]

The Soviet Union's disposition towards disrupting the relationship between the two countries was non-existent, as Khrushchev reiterated to Kennedy, despite the photographic proof adduced before President Kennedy.

The Cuban Missile Crisis was a tense period that lasted 13 days after missiles were discovered which led to it. It ended only after an agreement was forged between America and Russia on dismantling Russia's missiles and Turkey removing America's own on her promise not to invade Cuba

Sample Position Paper



Committee: United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women

Agenda: Violence Against Women

Country: United States of America

One of the most common human rights violations is violence against women. The inequality of power between men and women is the main reason. It endangers the health of women and their offspring and limits women's life prospects and participation in society. Violence against women and girls is prevalent in all corners of the world, both in the economically affluent and less affluent social classes. The United Nations defines violence against women as “any act of gender-based violence that causes physical, sexual or psychological harm or distress to women, whether occurring in public or private life. including threats, coercion, or arbitrary deprivation of liberty”.

30% of women worldwide have experienced physical or sexual abuse from an intimate partner at some point in their lives. Up to 38% of all female homicides worldwide are carried out by intimate partners. The majority, (55% to 95%) of women survivors of intimate partner violence or sexual violence do not disclose or seek any type of help or services. In 2020, 9,326 of the total 9,872 survivors of rape, sexual assault, and sexual coercion were female. The lifetime prevalence of childhood sexual abuse is 18% for girls. Adolescent girls, young women, women belonging to ethnic and other minorities, transwomen, and women with disabilities face a higher risk of different forms of violence.

The international community has worked in numerous resolutions and declarations to protect women's rights and prevent violence against women. Under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, adopted by the United Nations in 1979, signatory governments are obliged to ensure substantial and legal equality for women in all areas of life and to eliminate discrimination against them. With Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security, the UN Security Council concluded that both the protection of women and girls and their participation in the peace debate can contribute to world peace. The resolution obliges United Nations Member States to protect women and girls from sexual violence during and after armed conflict since October 2000 and to ensure their equal participation in peace processes and reconstruction. Crimes against humanity, including

genocide, serious war crimes, and rape during hostilities, are prosecuted by the International Court of Justice (ICC).

The United States has made great efforts to combat and end violence against women. The country has attempted to address this pervasive problem through laws, policies and programs. The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), first enacted in 1994, is an important legal instrument to fund efforts to prevent, intervene and prosecute gender-based violence, while providing resources and support to victims. It was a framework. The U.S. government has worked with advocacy groups and organizations to raise public awareness, educate, and promote gender equality. In addition, efforts have been made to improve the response of law enforcement and justice systems and to ensure that survivors receive justice and the support services they need. Additionally, initiatives such as the National Domestic Violence Hotline have been established to provide immediate help and advice to those in need. Despite ongoing challenges, the United States remains committed to ending violence against women and continues to take comprehensive steps toward that goal.

Combating violence against women requires a multi-pronged approach that includes prevention, support, and policy interventions. To effectively deal with this problem, society can introduce various solutions. Cooperation between government agencies, civil society groups, and the private sector is essential for a coordinated response. Together, these efforts can make societies great strides in ending violence against women and creating a safer environment for all.

Bibliography :

- <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/violence-against-women>
- <https://www.who.int/news/item/26-05-2020-fifa-european-commission-and-world-health-organization-launch-safehome-campaign-to-support-those-at-risk-from-domestic-violence>
- <https://medicamondiale.org/en/violence-against-women/causes-and-consequences>
- <https://www.state.gov/reports/united-states-strategy-to-prevent-and-respond-to-gender-based-violence-globally-2022/>
- <https://evaw-global-database.unwomen.org/en>
- <https://evaw-global-database.unwomen.org/en/countries/americas/united-states-of-america>