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**UNESCO: Israel**

Reid Coyle

Ursula Franklin Academy

Topic 1: Governance and its Effects on Education

When discussing any relevant world issue it is hard to avoid arriving at the subtopic of education. Training our youth to succeed where we have not is in essence building our future, not only that but it can contribute immensely to many current issues as well. Because of this, Israel has an unbending commitment to education. Unfortunately the harsh reality for many children worldwide is that this education that they are owed is simple not accessible, or worse, non-existent due to a lack of the governance that is required to set up effective education systems. Many factors must be taken into account when looking for the cause of this lack of governance, however two of the most prominent issues are corruption and political instability.

Illicit bribery acts inherently pose a great threat to good governance and economical development all over the world, and lack of economic development is a cause of poverty which in turn often contributes to families not being able to send there children to school. Israel is a country of progress, and there is simply no room for corruption in progress, which is why it is a criminal offence to offer a bribe to a public official in Israel. Israel has also taken many measures to not only ensure that our own corruption is kept at a near non-existent amount, but also to help other nations fight there more immediate corruption problems. An example of such actions would be Israel’s ratification of the OECD Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions, which is only one of the many actions Israel is taking to fight for a corruption free world.

However there is still a long way to go in the fight fort a non-corrupt world. It would be incredibly difficult to attempt an attack on the large networks that operate off of corruption, especially since this committee can take no forceful actions. That is why Israel recommends fighting from our own side, the side of government. Israel implores all nations that have not yet done so to outlaw bribery of government employees. Additionally, if nations were able to increase the wages of there public officials and civil servants then it would allow them to live comfortable lives without the temptation to take bribes.

Topic 2: Preservation of World Heritage Sites

Heritage is our legacy from the past, what we live with today, and what we pass on to future generations. World Heritage sites belong to all the peoples of the world, irrespective of the territory on which they are located, and in this way they are a very unifying force. This is why every action must be taken to protect out world heritage sites. Being a country so rich in history, Israel takes the present threats to our world heritage sites very seriously. One of if not the most dangerous threat is climate change, which is just another reason Israel is dedicated to lowering its carbon emissions as well as that of the entire world.

Israel is home to 9 different world heritage sites, all of which are cared for by the government with great pride. Israel has made many successful effort to the protection of the world heritage sites located within our boarders including the passing of the National Parks and Nature Reserves Law, the Antiquities Law, and many other policies to protect said sites. Israel has taken no less effort in protecting all world heritage sites on this planet, being a member of the World Heritage Convention that has ensured the preservation of these crucial pieces of our history. Israel has also been credited to the joining of many African nations. However Israel that there is still a great more to be done.

As with every problem, there is always a solution. For Israel, the clear solution is to advocate for the lowering of global carbon emissions with the help of member nations of the UNFCCC. However many sites are facing threats much more immediate then the changing climate, specifically that of conflict. Israel would like to see a new clause of the WHC put forward that bans all state sponsored military groups of member nations from occupying world heritage sites for any combat use. And in the case of civil conflicts such as that in Syria, Israel would like to offer support to any nation hoping to guard the world heritage sites from internal threats, and hope similar support can be found from other nations.

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