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UNSC

KINGMUN 2019

DIRECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to King County Model United Nations 2019 and the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). My name is Megan Wong, and I will be serving as your Director. I am currently a junior at Juanita High School, and have been involved in MUN for three years. Joining me are my Assistant Director, Siobhan Kenny, a senior at The Center School, as well as my Chair, Shreya Nambi, a sophomore at Interlake High School. Both are incredibly hardworking and dedicated to improving the Washington MUN circuit!

The United Nations Security Council has the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. As the only UN body with military authority, the UNSC takes the lead in diplomatically resolving any conflict between countries. Since all member states of the UN must accept and carry out the UNSC's decisions, every Security Council resolution lays the foundation for international relations and each member of the UNSC has a vital role in debate.

The two topics we have selected to debate are Maritime Piracy in the Gulf of Guinea and Armed Militias in the Central African Republic. Both continue to endanger the lives of millions, including a large percentage of civilians in their countries of origin. Additionally, these topics will have lasting impacts worldwide, laying a foundation for how future conflicts are addressed. Although Maritime Piracy and the conflict in the Central African Republic are scarcely discussed in the media or in United Nations committees, the resolutions that you generate over the course of two days will be significant steps towards global security.

Maritime Piracy in the Gulf of Guinea is often overlooked as a minor regional issue, and often does not receive much international attention. However, millions of dollars of cargo are stolen each year, with much more money lost in kidnappings or robberies. The cost to import goods has caused many nations to either stray away from shipping resources to these coastal countries, or increase prices. Although the attacks seem disparate, it is crucial for the UNSC to stop these attacks on civilians immediately, before they become normalized and acceptable worldwide.

The second topic is centered around the Central African Republic, who has historically been in constant turmoil since independence in 1960. Currently, Christian armed militias are

taking up arms in an attempt to overthrow the first Muslim government in the history of the nation, killing thousands of civilians and displacing a fifth of the population. It is critical that the UNSC acts without delay in stopping the armed militias and restore law and order before mass genocides occur.

This background guide is a product of countless hours of research intended to provide contextual information on both topics. While there are many details included in each section as well as guiding questions to prompt you, further research must be completed to fully understand your own country's stance on both the Maritime Piracy in the Gulf of Guinea and the conflict in the Central African Republic. The UNSC is not a committee for the faint-hearted, so research before the conference is crucial to successful and engaging debate. Please take some time to understand your country's position and potential solutions they would advocate for.

Please do not hesitate to email us with any questions you may have. As a dais, we are extremely excited to meet each and every one of you, and can't wait for the invigorating debate and creative solutions you will create in the UNSC at KINGMUN 2019!

Yours truly,
Megan Wong
Director | United Nations Security Council

Committee Overview

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) is one of the six main organs of the United Nations (UN), and like the UN as a whole, it was created after WWII to address the failing of the League of Nations. The UNSC is responsible for maintaining international peace and security and has the power to establish peacekeeping operations and international sanctions, authorize military action, and is the only UN body which can accept new members into the United Nations and issue resolutions which member states of the UN are obligated to implement.

The UNSC has fifteen members in total, composed of five permanent members- Russia, the United Kingdom, France, China, and the United States, and ten non-permanent members which are elected and serve two year terms. The current non-permanent members are: Belgium, Côte d'Ivoire, the Dominican Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Germany, Indonesia, Kuwait, Peru, Poland, and South Africa. These members have one vote, but the permanent members have the power to veto any UNSC resolution.

Position papers are required for award eligibility. They should contain one page per topic, single-spaced, and in 12-point font. Position Papers are due by April 21st at 11:59 p.m. Please submit them to unsc@kingmun.org with your name, country, and "position paper" in the subject line.

Topic A: Piracy In the Gulf of Guinea

Overview of the Topic

The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) defines piracy as “any illegal acts of violence of detention, or any act of depredation, committed for private ends by the crew or the passengers of a private ship or a private aircraft, and directed- on the high seas, against another ship or aircraft, or against persons or property on board such ship or aircraft” in Article 101. Maritime pirates in the Gulf of Guinea are generally a part of heavily armed criminal enterprises, who use violent methods to steal oil cargo. During a hijacking, pirates will commit acts of violence such as kidnapping, torture, and shooting of crew. In 2011, 64 incidents were reported to the UN International Maritime Organization. This is not an accurate number as many attacks go unreported.

Piracy interferes with legitimate trading interests of the surrounding countries of Benin, Togo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. The cost of piracy due to security, stolen goods, and insurance is an estimated \$2 billion. A high percent of these pirates are from Nigeria. Attacks in Nigerian waters account for 87% of attacks per year. One major concern of Nigeria is the Niger Delta insurgency, lead by a group called the “Niger Delta Avengers”. In 2016, their campaign against oil and gas tankers reduced the Nigerian oil output to a record low of 1.1 million barrels per day, where the average had normally been 1.75 million barrels per day.

Piracy in the Gulf of Guinea not only threatens the safety of crew members but also affects the shipping process for oil. With the increase in piracy in the Gulf of Guinea the price of shipping costs have increased as vessels are pressured to insure both their crew and vessels as well as pay for higher costs of security. Vessels also often avoid piracy hotspots which increases the overall shipping time and shipping costs. Piracy threatens the safety of crewmembers upon vessels, the efficiency of maritime trade especially in the oil industry, and economic development of the region.

History

The majority of the piracy affecting West Africa stems from the disarray that surrounds the regional oil industry. Piracy has increased due to the booming black market for fuel in West Africa. The majority of the piracy in the Gulf of Guinea is from and towards Nigeria, who contributes more than half of the regional GDP. Nigeria's oil industry is the most important industry in the region, making it a hotspot for piracy. In the 1990's tension arose between foreign oil corporations and an array of minority ethnic groups- mainly the

Ogoni and the Ijaw- in the Niger Delta who felt they were being exploited. Competition for oil wealth has stimulated violence between ethnic groups, causing the militarization of a major portion of the region.

As unrest grew, the Niger Delta People's Volunteer Force (NDPVF) and the Niger Delta Vigilantes (NDV)- the two largest military groups in the region- were born and conflict arose between the two. In June of 2004 the government forces collaborated with NDV. The government of Nigeria failed to protect innocent civilians from violence and death. In August of 2008, the Nigerian government commenced a massive military crackdown on militias. In May of 2009, a military operation undertaken by a Joint Task Force (JTF) began against militants in the region. The militant groups participated in oil theft as a form of protest and reappropriation of wealth.

As the Niger Delta conflict came to an end in 2011, petroleum theft spread past the Nigerian territory as political motives decreased. Previously- excluding Nigeria- the Gulf of Guinea only experienced the occasional theft, and mostly offshore as sailors were easy targets and unlikely to report piracy due to the tight schedule ships must adhere to. In 2011, 22 piracy attacks took place off the coast of Benin, which had no previous experience with piracy, and in 2012, Togo experienced 18 similar attacks. In 2012, the International Maritime Bureau (IMB) reported a record high 58 attacks. Piracy rates have only been continuing in this trend and growing within the Gulf of Guinea.

Piracy attacks put vessels' crew members at risk as pirates usually use violence and sometimes even murder. The increasing rates of piracy affect the regions' economy and economic development as it is the main source for foreign earnings for the region. Piracy also affects foreign trade, harming the import of oil from both countries partnered with the region, as well as foreign-run oil companies within the region.

Past Action

In June of 2013, a summit on Maritime Safety and Security in the Gulf of Guinea was held by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), and the Gulf of Guinea Commission (GGC). The United Nations Office for West Africa (UNOWA) has partnered with the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa (UNOCA) to support ECCAS, GGC and their actions to combat piracy in the Gulf of Guinea, showing the United Nations is aware of the issue. The Yaoundé Code of Conduct came out of this Summit with an agreement among all nations to detain ships suspected of piracy, to ensure pirates face justice, and to provide appropriate compensation to victims.

Although the adoption of the 2013 Yaoundé Code of Conduct from the summit on Maritime Safety and Security in the Gulf of Guinea seemed to unify efforts towards solving the widespread issue, not much has been done since to implement the strategy. Additionally, much of the Conduct focused on increasing gulf security, but researchers find

the solutions only temporary, and claim that the root cause of piracy should be addressed, rather than the results of it.

The 2050 Africa's Integrated Maritime Strategy (2050 AIM Strategy), adopted in January 2014, is a more comprehensive plan to increase maritime security, with the vision "to foster more wealth creation from Africa's oceans, seas and inland waterways by developing a thriving maritime economy and realizing the full potential of sea-based activities in an environmentally sustainable manner".

At the foundation of AIM will be a Combined Exclusive Maritime Zone of Africa (CEMZA) and a transnational cooperation and coordination on maritime safety and security. CEMZA is expected to "grant Africa enormous cross-cutting geo-strategic, economic, political, social and security benefits, as it will engender collective efforts and reduce the risks of all transnational threats, environmental mismanagement, smuggling and arms trafficking" (AIM Strategy). The Zone allows all signatories of the Strategy jurisdiction over the area described for the purposes of apprehending pirates and upholding justice.

CEMZA will combine components of the Navy and Coast Guards of the African Union (AU) Member States and international partners to scrutinize issues of situational awareness. Among its objectives are to increase joint regional surveillance operations at sea, achieve a "shared situational awareness capability", address such common agendas as law enforcement, Search and Rescue, Humanitarian Crises, and Disaster Relief, and to improve the concept of Integrated Coastal Area Management (ICAM) in Africa. Along with the AIM Strategy, an investigation into the root causes of piracy should be created as well, as piracy will continue should the causes remain unaddressed.

Current Situation

Despite ardent efforts to reduce maritime piracy in the Gulf of Guinea in the past decade, numbers continue to rise. According to the International Maritime Bureau's (IMB)'s Piracy Reporting Centre (PRC), there were 201 reported incidents of maritime piracy and armed robbery in 2018 worldwide, up from 180 in 2017. Attacks in the Gulf of Guinea comprise of the majority of that number, as reported incidents doubled from the previous year. The number of sailors removed from vessels and held for ransom was the same as witnessed during the first half of 2017. In total, the dangerous waters accounted for all six hijackings worldwide, 13 of the 18 ships fired upon, 130 of the 141 hostages taken globally, and 78 of 83 seafarers kidnapped for ransom.

However, predicted numbers of piracy are much higher, since around 48% of attacks remain unreported, as stated by the IMB. One reason is due to private companies, as the companies would rather cover up attacks to protect their reputation for safety than face the costly repercussions of potential investigations or a tarnished safety record. Conversely, the lack in transparency regarding attacks creates additional challenges when planning patrols and when responding to piracy.

Although researchers attribute the piracy to the wide economic gaps due to the abundance of oil in the region, it is unclear whether there are other, more impactful reasons for the abundance in piracy. Often, widespread issues of crime such as piracy stem from several reasons, increasing the challenge intergovernmental institutions face in attempting to eradicate it. While economic inequality is likely the largest driver of the issue, corruption, lack of transparency in judicial systems, and poor reporting systems all complicate the issue.

Given the lack of resources in the region to combat the issue, strategies and resolutions described above rely heavily on international support. Among those supporting intergovernmental action is the European Union, who implemented a Gulf of Guinea Inter-Regional Network (GoGIN), in December 2016, a € 9.3 million project aimed to improve safety by supporting the establishment of a regional information sharing network. CRIMJUST (2016-2020), a project implemented by UNODC, works “to enhance the capacities and integrity of criminal justice institutions for regional and inter-regional cooperation to tackle drug trafficking and transnational organised crime in West Africa”. These efforts are all currently underway, and their impact remains to be seen.

The continued support of international partners is crucial in the fight against maritime attacks, and with the increasing amount of piracy and armed robberies in the Gulf, the implementation of transnational cooperation is necessary to end piracy.

Bloc Positions

Members of ECOWAS

Economic Community of West African States, and other African Countries

Nations in this bloc include Cote d'Ivoire and South Africa, and are the most affected by piracy in the Gulf of New Guinea, being the closest to the location, and in Cote d'Ivoire's case, the home of the pirates themselves. Many of these nations heavily rely on their maritime exports of mining commodities, such as petroleum, which accounts for up to 90% of export earnings. Unfortunately, such exports are the primary targets of acts of piracy in the region, and as a result, piracy in the Gulf of New Guinea serves as a significant obstacle to the economic development of ECOWAS nations and other African Nations who export on the waters. The main focus of this bloc should be to emphasize trade facilitation and to promote safe trade in the area in order to mitigate the danger of overseas exports. However, seen as these nations lack the resources necessary to enforce potential policies, they may look for assistance in more powerful members of the UNSC.

Close trade partners with Western Africa

Nations in this bloc are the most involved economically with ECOWAS nations, either because they are trade partners or because they have massive economic investments in the area. China, for example, is Nigeria's largest contractor and partner in infrastructure projects with total volume estimated at \$77 billion, the US being second at \$1.3 billion. Major

ECOWAS exports go to China and the US, but also the UK and other European countries, and ECOWAS nations also receive imports from these countries, putting the goods of the nations in this bloc at risk if action is not taken. The main focus of nations in this bloc should be to protect their economic interests in the region involving their exports, imports, and investments, and because many of these nations have the resources needed to promote change, should take a major role in forming agreements with the African nations and suggesting and financing potential solutions.

Uninvolved Economically

Nations in this bloc include those not previously mentioned, and are not economically involved in trade in the Gulf of New Guinea. However, considering the amount of help needed by ECOWAS nations to suppress piracy in the region and their inability to do financially, the primary focus of nations in this bloc should be to propose solutions to help the countries in need while sacrificing the smallest amount of resources possible because they do not face economic consequences as a result of the continuation of piracy.

Case Studies

Piracy in the Strait of Malacca has served as a huge danger to ship owners and mariners passing through the 550 mile long waters, with pirates using organized violence to seize everything from engine parts to cargo. Nearly 50,000 ships pass through the strait annually, which accounts for 40% of world trade, and the strait serves as an important route of transport for oil in the Middle East to be shipped to markets in Eastern Asia. In 2004, piracy in the strait accounted for just under 40% of piracy worldwide, and as a result, the nations of Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore, the countries surrounding the strait, collaborated to increase efforts to reduce piracy in the region. While there was debate over the intervention of foreign forces, the nations eventually agreed upon receiving help from India, lacking the resources necessary to attack the issue themselves. The combined forces of the four countries in the form of the Malacca Straits Patrol, the Indian Navy and Coast Guard, and the constructed UAV patrol base in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands eventually curbed acts of piracy down to two reported attempts in 2008, virtually eliminating piracy in the region.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

1. Is your country impacted by piracy in the Gulf of Guinea (economically, socially, etc.)?
2. Should more UN forces be deployed to increase security or should countries directly affected solve the issue themselves?
3. What measures can be implemented by your nation to stop piracy in the Gulf of Guinea?
4. Should private companies be required to report attacks? How can this be enforced?
5. How has your nation previously responded to piracy, either within your own nation or abroad? Has your country been impacted by piracy historically?
6. How can your country address the root causes of piracy in the Gulf of Guinea? How should the regional nations at the Gulf solve them?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

1. <https://au.int/en/documents-38>

The AIM Strategy is one of the most comprehensive plans to increase maritime security worldwide. Potential solutions to be implemented are included in this document, which can be found in the link above.

2. https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/monthly-forecast/2011-10/lookup_c_gIKWLeMTIsG_b_7751803.php

This webpage is a report that was passed by the UNSC in 2011 which includes a description of the piracy situation then, what they were doing to mitigate it, and their ideas for future intervention. It can be used to discover potential solutions to the issue which have not yet been tried and to turn down ideas which have failed in the past.

3. <https://iccwbo.org/media-wall/news-speeches/pirate-attacks-worsen-waters-off-gulf-guinea/>

This webpage is a recent report by the International Chamber of Commerce which highlights the great risk piracy in the region poses to economic development in the area and includes reports on how ships were attacked. It can be used to further understand the methods of piracy used by the pirates in order to develop solutions to mitigate piracy.

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9. <https://au.int/en/documents-38>
10. <https://worldmaritimeneeds.com/archives/258245/petro-piracy-returns-to-gulf-of-guinea/>

Topic B: Armed Militias in the Central African Republic

Introduction

Conflict in the Central African Republic (CAR) has raged on since the country gained independence in the mid-1900s, usually regarding a corrupt government the inability of past presidents to properly lead the nation politically, economically, and socially. However, in the past decade, the political and social unrest has turned to one based on religious lines, after Sélékan forces gained control of the government after overthrowing previous president Bozizé. This marked the first time in CAR history where a Muslim government ruled the majority-Christian population. Soon afterwards, the ex-Muslim militia groups rampaged across the nation, killing civilians and sacking thousands of homes. Subsequently, Christian anti-Balaka forces formed and returned the brutality, leaving a trail of destruction in western-Muslim communities. Millions have been displaced, and UN peacekeepers have not been able to control the violent militia groups and armed forces. As civilian atrocities increase each month, it is crucial that the UNSC acts immediately to restore order to the fractured nation, before militias become uncontrollable.

History

The Central African Republic (CAR), often overlooked, is home to one of the poorest populations in the world. Located in the middle of the African Continent, the CAR is rich with natural resources, including diamonds, gold, timber, and oil, all valuable internationally. However, the country ranked 188 out of 188 on the Human Development Index in 2016, due in part to the corrupt government and constant ethnic and political tension. Since the nation gained independence from France in 1960, it has suffered a series of coup d'états and has repeatedly been the center of conflict and human rights violations that have failed to be properly addressed.

Following independence, the first President, David Danko, was abruptly removed from power by Col. Jean-Bédél Bokassa, his army chief of staff, in 1965. Bokassa proceeded to rule authoritatively, later renaming the region the 'Central African Empire' and proclaiming himself emperor. The CAR finally moved towards a parliamentary democracy in August 1993, where President Ange-Félix Patassé was elected, though his rule was short-lived due to his fail to uphold promises to pay soldiers, his erratic policies, and the blatant corruption.

Modern conflict in the CAR began in 2003, when former army chief of staff François Bozizé deposed Patassé when he was out of the country. Bozizé immediately suspended the constitution, and formed a new cabinet that included members of various opposition

parties. Subsequently, he set up a National Transition Council to develop a new constitution, approved in 2004. By 2005, he stepped down to justly run for president. Between 2004-2007, the Central African Republic Bush War ravaged entire villages, as multiple rebel groups took up arms against Bozizé. Militias, including the Union des Forces Démocratiques pour la Rassemblement (UFDR), a combination of dissident groups led by rebel leader Michel Djotodia, launched a major offensive in the north, seizing key towns but also committing atrocities including summary executions, abductions and forcible recruitment of child soldiers. Despite the signing of peace accords in 2007 and 2012, fighting continued throughout the country.

CAR is predominately split into the north, the Sahel, with its pastoralist communities and majority Muslim merchants, and the south, Central Africa with its communities of the savanna, mostly Christian. After the peace accord in 2012, Séléka - a coalition of armed groups - emerged as a more unified rebel front. Séléka overthrew Bozizé in 2013, marking the first time a Muslim-majority group controlled the government. Although the first clashes that ensued were primarily between supporters of Bozizé (such as the former armed forces), Seleka fighters began to deliberately kill scores of civilians and destroy thousands of homes in Bagui and other provinces. President Djotodia, former leader of the rebel group, disbanded Seleka militias in September 2013, but many continued to fight. Anti-Balaka forces, village “self-defense” units that are predominantly Christian, rose to meet ex-Seleka groups and equaled their brutality and began to raid Muslim communities in the west. Civilian violence from both sides multiplied dramatically in late 2013 through 2014, and the continuous stream of Christians into the civil war has turned the conflict into one based on religion. Tens of thousands have been internally displaced, and militias continue to grow in number as tensions grow increasingly strong in ‘total breakdown of law and order’, as described by former Secretary General Ban-Ki Moon.

Past Action

The crisis in the Central African Republic has been extensively within the United Nations, and past resolutions have attempted to encourage peace and send aid to the war-ravaged nation. The UNSC has adopted comprehensive resolutions to combat civilian violence and human rights violations, including Resolution 2149 (2014), which approved of a multidimensional United Nations peacekeeping operation called MINUSCA. MINUSCA's utmost priority is protecting citizens, with other objectives including facilitating humanitarian assistance, promoting and protecting human rights, supporting justice and the rule of law, and overseeing the disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and repatriation processes. The peacekeeping group has successfully ended several local conflicts peacefully; however, security remains an urgent issue for MINUSCA troops. According to Secretary General Report 611 from June 2018, 218 security incidents were reported for UN personnel in the CAR during the reporting period, with 82 injured. MINUSCA peacekeepers also receive various death threats and face harassment but continue to remain a vital factor in reducing violence by armed militia. Community violence reduction programmes have been implemented by MINUSCA to support the effective implementation of local peace agreements and to boost recovery- and stabilization-related programmes.

Additionally, the UNSC has implemented an arms embargo, assets freeze, and travel ban in Resolutions 2127 (2013) and 2134 (2014), hoping to stop the flow of arms into the nation, subsequently ending the violence. The illicit trafficking of weaponry continues to occur particularly through Sudan, the *Front populaire pour la renaissance de la Centrafrique* (FPRC), and the *Union pour la paix en Centrafrique* (UPC). Armed militias also generate revenue through gold and diamond mining activities, mainly through illegal taxation systems, as indicated by UNSC Report 1136 of the 2127 CAR Sanctions Committee. Most recently, Resolution 2454 (2019) continues to reaffirm and renew past action in Resolution 2399 (2018), which fully outlines the arms embargo, assets freeze, travel ban, sanctions, and the Panel of Experts, which works to collaborate with MINUSCA in investigating illicit trade and reporting to the UNSC. Although many UN resolutions have been adopted, the crisis continues as militia groups seem far from peace, and further action is required to prevent the loss of thousands in upcoming years.

Current Situation

In November 2018 the Security Council voted to extend an arms embargo on the country for a year, and this embargo is currently under effect. In January of 2019 talks of a peace agreement between 14 armed groups and the government of the Central African Republic began in the capital of Sudan, Khartoum. On February 2, the two sides were finally able to come to an agreement stating it to be a “Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation”. Following the a rebel attack in November on a displaced persons camp where more than 40 people were killed, both the United Nations peacekeeping mission as well as the country's prime minister acknowledged the lack of response. The agreement includes the government agreeing to decentralisation, which included responsibilities relating to natural resource management. The Peace Agreement foresees the creation of mixed security units, comprising soldiers, armed group members and UN peacekeepers, and of “viable judicial action” as well as creating funds for victims.

It is important to recognize that this is the eighth peace agreement created to try and address the situation in CAR, all of which have not been successful at stopping the violence and unrest the country has been experiencing. Although this is not close to being the first agreement created, it is the first agreement that has been created out of direct dialogue. The Peace agreement mainly focuses on the assistance of victims, ending the violence, and a national reconciliation between armed groups and civilians.

Armed groups have agreed to many peaceful measures within the terms of the agreement. The groups must respect the legitimacy of the country's institutions as well as renounce the use of arms and violence against the defense and security forces, UN personnel and humanitarian workers. Further the armed groups have also agreed to refrain from any act of destruction, occupation of public buildings, place of worship and violence against the civilian population, as well as acts of sexual or gender-based violence. This agreement will be monitored by the government. The government has also agreed to set up a Truth, Justice, Reparation and Reconciliation Process within 90 days to rebuild infrastructure of the country and to provide as much aid to civilians impacted as possible.

Currently armed militias control about 80% of CAR, this agreement would be a step forward in restoring control to the government, as well as the end of violence.

Although the government and armed militias have been able to create a peace agreement, there are still many lasting effects of the situation. The education system has been greatly affected by the war. The extreme violence has limited students from gaining their education, as many have had to stop attending school to avoid violence. The country is in need of teachers, training, and capacity building. The war has also created extreme food deficits within the nation. Communities and individuals have lost access to their livelihoods as armed militias have interfered with humanitarian aid.

Bloc Positions

Countries Contributing Troops

Nations in this bloc include Côte d'Ivoire, France, and South Africa, and are the main contributors to the stabilization effort in the Central African Republic. Most of these nations are directly impacted by consequences of the conflict, such as the massive outflow of Central African Republic refugees into their countries, and therefore are extremely motivated to put an end to the fighting. In addition, because the nations in this bloc are contributing troops towards the CAR effort, they possess the most influence over the military agenda in the Central African Republic. The primary focus of this bloc should be to develop new force-related strategies to put an end to the conflict and to acquire aid from other nations with more resources if necessary.

Countries Providing Monetary Aid

Nations in this bloc include nations in the Russia, Germany, Belgium, Poland, the UK and the United States. Although these nations are unwilling to contribute troops to the CAR cause, they still possess a great deal of influence over the financing of different efforts in the Central African Republic. The motives of such donations generally lie in promoting the enforcement of international humanitarian laws, and therefore, nations in this bloc should consider the safety of refugees and innocent habitants of the Central African Republic a priority. Able nations in this bloc may also choose to provide military support to UNSC forces in the Central African Republic if given a strong enough motive during debate.

Countries Uninvolved

This bloc includes Dominican Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Indonesia, Kuwait, and Peru. Many of these countries are not involved in the war effort because they are financially unable or unwilling to provide troops. The priority of such countries should be to remain generally uninvolved in the issue if necessary, but considering the scale of the humanitarian problem, may also choose to contribute some resources if given a strong enough motive during debate. These nations may also suggest ideas in furthering the UNSC agenda in the Central African Republic even if unable to provide resources.

Case Studies

South Sudanese Civil War

The South Sudanese Civil War is a conflict between the SPLM-IO and South Sudan's government which started in 2013. The fighting began when the president of South Sudan, Salva Kiir, accused his deputy, Riek Machar and some others of attempting a coup d'état. Machar escaped, denying the accusations, and formed the Sudan's People's Liberation Movement In Opposition, or the SPLM-IO and ignited a civil war between his party and Kiir's government. The fighting was temporarily put to an end in January 2014 by negotiations which were mediated by IGAD+ which yielded a peace agreement that would make Machar vice president. However, this peace was short lived because those still in opposition to the government refused to remain in the SPLM-IO because it was in a peace agreement with the government, and formed their own rebel groups which began to wreak havoc in the capital. In response, Machar abandoned the peace agreement and called for an armed struggle against Kiir and the government, demanding a revised agreement. The UN responded to the renewed fighting by passing arms embargoes, and with the help of UN peacekeepers and Ugandan military forces, pressured Kiir and Machar to adopt another compromise which would give Machar the position of vice president and split parliament in a way that would give both Kiir's and Machar's factions representation

GUIDING QUESTIONS

1. What is the most effective way to send resources those in need of humanitarian aid without fueling violent insurgent groups or angering the Central African Republic's current government?
2. Has the ethnic war in the CAR impacted your country socially, economically, or politically?
3. Should any action against the CAR government and leaders of opposition parties be taken because of the human rights violations that they've caused against each respective group?
4. How can violent militias be quelled? How have similar conflicts been solved in the past?
5. How does your nation respond to regional conflicts in other parts of the world? Are humanitarian aid, peacekeepers, or representatives usually sent in to help?
6. How can neighbouring nations to the CAR respond? Should they/the African Union intervene?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

1. <https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/un-documents/central-african-republic/>

This webpage highlights important documents released by the UNSC, including past resolutions, letters, and statements by the Secretary General. A great place to start if you want to learn more about past UN action.

2. <https://www.un.org/africarenewal/news/central-african-republic-challenge-stabilization>

This webpage explores the complexities of the conflict in CAR and provides reasons as to why stabilization has proven to be so difficult. It can be used to look at why previous peacekeeping missions by the UN failed or to just get a stronger grasp on the issue itself.

3. <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/minusca>

This webpage describes the resources being put into the struggle in CAR by different countries in the UN. It can be used to discover a country's past contributions to the stabilization effort to help shape plans for future involvement.

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