**Letter from the Executive Board**

Greetings Delegates!

It is indeed a great honor and privilege to be welcoming you to JECRC MUN. As facilitators, we are very excited to guide you all through this committee in terms of debate, negotiations, and both directive and resolution writing.

This guide is a resource material released by us. You may only treat the guides as introductory documents, which is build insight into the concepts that the agenda deals with. Agendas within the UNSC are extremely broad and require a fair amount of reading and research.

Our goal for this committee has always been to design it in a way that every delegate has cards in or against their favour, that have and will continue to shape the game of diplomacy, and we expect you to carry this objective through with us. Every single one of the countries you will be representing has something to win and something to lose — whether that be important country relations, international peace, a part of its culture and history, or, put blatantly, issues of personal interests — which is why you are tasked to end with the most cards on your side of the table.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at any time. We wish you the best and see you soon!

Sincerely,

President Vice-President

Jayant Thanvi Jyeshtha Singh

[jayantthanvi@gmail.com](mailto:jayantthanvi@gmail.com) jyeshta2002@gmail.com

**Introduction to the United Nations Security Council**

Mandate

The United Nations Chartre established six main organs of the United Nations, including the Security Council. It gives primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security to the Security Council, which may meet whenever peace is threatened.

According to the Charter, the United Nations has four purposes:

* to maintain international peace and security;
* to develop friendly relations among nations;
* to cooperate in solving international problems and in promoting respect for human rights;
* and to be a Centre for harmonising the actions of nations.

All members of the United Nations agree to accept and carry out the decisions of the Security Council. "While other organs of the United Nations make recommendations to member states, only the Security Council has the power to make decisions that member states are then obligated to implement under the Charter." [[1]](#footnote-0)

Maintaining Peace and Security

When a complaint concerning a threat to peace is brought before it, the Council’s first action is usually to recommend that the parties try to reach agreement by peaceful means. The Council may:

* set forth principles for such an agreement.
* undertake investigation and mediation, in some cases.
* dispatch a mission.
* appoint special envoys; or
* request the Secretary-General to use his good offices to achieve a pacific settlement of the dispute.

When a dispute leads to hostilities, the Council’s primary concern is to bring them to an end as soon as possible. In that case, the Council may:

"Issue ceasefire directives that can help prevent an escalation of the conflict."

dispatch military observers or a peacekeeping force to help reduce tensions, separate opposing forces, and establish a calm in which peaceful settlements may be sought.

Beyond this, the Council may opt for enforcement measures, including:

* economic sanctions, arms embargoes, financial penalties and restrictions, and travel bans.
* severance of diplomatic relations.
* blockade.
* or even collective military action.

A chief concern is to focus action on those responsible for the policies or practices condemned by the international community, while minimising the impact of the measures taken on other parts of the population and economy.[[2]](#footnote-1)

The Organisation

The Security Council held its first session on 17 January 1946 at Church House, Westminster, London. Since its first meeting, the Security Council has taken permanent residence at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City. It also travelled to many cities, holding sessions in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in 1972, in Panama City, Panama, and in Geneva, Switzerland, in 1990.

A representative of each of its members must be present at all times at UN Headquarters so that the Security Council can meet at any time as the need arises.[[3]](#footnote-2)

In an MUN

The UN Security Council will try to stay true to the mandate even in a Model UN to maintain its integrity and importance in the multilateral sphere of international relations and diplomacy. To uphold this the Security Council will follow the rule of Veto in the voting process during the documentation stage and every non-member state will have equal voting strength apart from the veto which is only granted to the 5 Permanent members.

**Please read the** [**Rules of Procedures for an MUN**](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5457f2ece4b0a485997c0d67/t/5a318b52e4966b0b6edbbdcb/1513196371261/UNA-USA+Procedure.pdf)**[[4]](#footnote-3). This will be discussed in the committee before the initiation of the discussion. The rules of procedures might be slightly altered based on the overall experience of the committee.**

**Introduction to the Agenda**

The world is witnessing itself fall apart as countries fail to understand how to uphold the peace and cherish humanity. With its roots in a complicated web of political, religious, and historical circumstances, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is one of the most persistent and divisive issues of the modern era. Fundamentally, this conflict is about conflicting national claims to the same territory, especially in the area that has historically been referred to as Palestine. The conflict, which has deep historical roots dating back more than a century, has seen multiple wars, uprisings, peace initiatives, and diplomatic attempts, but a long-term solution is still elusive. The Middle East as a whole, as well as the lives of Israelis and Palestinians, have been significantly impacted by the conflict over territory, sovereignty, and identity.

1897-1947: Pre-State Israel

* [1897: The First Zionist Congress was convened by Theodor Herzl, laying the foundation for the future state of Israel in response to antisemitism in Europe1](https://www.ajc.org/IsraelConflictTimeline).
* [1917: The Balfour Declaration was issued by Britain, expressing support for the establishment of a Jewish homeland in Palestine](https://www.ajc.org/IsraelConflictTimeline)
* [1920: The League of Nations Mandate was established, giving Britain administrative control over Palestine after World War I](https://www.ajc.org/IsraelConflictTimeline)

1947-1979: Statehood and Early Conflicts

* [1947: The UN Partition Plan proposed a division of Palestine into Jewish and Arab states, leading to civil unrest](https://www.ajc.org/IsraelConflictTimeline)
* [1948: Israel declared its independence, resulting in the first Arab-Israeli War with neighbouring Arab states](https://www.ajc.org/IsraelConflictTimeline)
* [1967: The Six-Day War occurred, with Israel capturing the Golan Heights, West Bank, and Gaza Strip](https://www.ajc.org/IsraelConflictTimeline)
* [1973: The Yom Kippur War took place, with Egypt and Syria launching a surprise attack on Israel](https://www.ajc.org/IsraelConflictTimeline)
* [1979: The Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty was signed, marking the first peace agreement between Israel and an Arab country](https://www.ajc.org/IsraelConflictTimeline)

1982-Present: Ongoing Conflict and Peace Efforts

* [1982: The Lebanon War began, leading to Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon](https://www.ajc.org/IsraelConflictTimeline)
* [1993: The Oslo Accords were signed, aiming to achieve a peace treaty between Israel and the PLO](https://www.ajc.org/IsraelConflictTimeline)
* [2000: The Second Intifada erupted, a period of intensified Israeli-Palestinian violence](https://www.ajc.org/IsraelConflictTimeline)
* [2021: The May Conflict in Gaza saw an escalation between Israel and Hamas](https://www.ajc.org/IsraelConflictTimeline)
* [2023: In October, a new round of conflict sparked between Israel and Hamas, leading to further instability in the region](https://www.ajc.org/IsraelConflictTimeline)[[5]](#footnote-4)

**Ways to Approach the Agenda**

1. **Immediate Humanitarian Relief:** Prioritise the immediate provision of humanitarian aid to Gaza and Rafah to address the urgent needs of civilians affected by the conflict. This includes access to food, clean water, medical supplies, and shelter.
2. **Call for a Permanent Ceasefire:** Urge all parties, particularly Israel and Hamas, to immediately cease hostilities and agree to a permanent ceasefire. Emphasise the importance of upholding international humanitarian law and protecting civilians.
3. **Facilitate Negotiations:** Encourage direct negotiations between Israel and Hamas, facilitated by regional mediators or international actors, to reach a long-term ceasefire agreement. Stress the need for both sides to engage in good faith and compromise to achieve lasting peace.
4. **Addressing Hostages:** Condemn the practice of hostage-taking by both Israel and Hamas, emphasising that it is a violation of international law. Call for the immediate release of all hostages and detainees held by both parties, including civilians and combatants.
5. **Ensuring Accountability:** Advocate for accountability and justice for violations of international law, including attacks on civilians and hostage-taking. Support the work of relevant international bodies, such as the International Criminal Court (ICC), in investigating and prosecuting those responsible for war crimes and human rights abuses.
6. **Algeria:**

* In order to stop more deaths, Algeria demands an immediate ceasefire and denounces the violence in Israel and Palestine. It highlights how important it is for all sides to uphold international law and make sure that civilians are protected. Algeria encourages the delivery of humanitarian aid to civilians impacted by the conflict and backs diplomatic initiatives meant to promote communication between the disputing parties.

1. **Guyana:**

* Guyana demands an immediate end to hostilities and expresses concern over the death toll and suffering brought on by the conflict in Palestine and Israel. It exhorts all sides to desist from taking any action that raises tensions and supports diplomatic efforts to bring about a ceasefire. Guyana is prepared and stresses the value of communication and diplomacy in resolving the dispute.

1. **Ecuador:**

* Ecuador demands an end to the violence in the area and declares its support for the Palestinian people. It exhorts all parties to give civilian protection top priority and backs attempts to come to a ceasefire agreement. Ecuador promotes a peaceful and long-lasting solution founded on the values of justice and equality and highlights the significance of international cooperation and discourse in resolving the conflict.

1. **Japan:**

* Japan expresses grave concerns about the violence that is occurring in the region and highlights the necessity of a ceasefire immediately in order to stop more deaths. It promotes the distribution of humanitarian aid to those in need among civilians and backs diplomatic attempts to open lines of communication between Israel and Palestine. Japan reiterates its dedication to aiding in the peaceful resolution to the conflict based on the principles of coexistence and mutual respect.

1. **France:**
   * France strongly condemns the violence in Palestine and Israel and urges both parties to immediately cease hostilities. It calls for the protection of civilians and the provision of humanitarian assistance to those in need. France emphasises the need for renewed diplomatic efforts to resume peace negotiations and achieve a two-state solution based on mutual recognition and security.
2. **Sierra Leone:**
   * Sierra Leone expresses concern over the loss of life and humanitarian crisis in Palestine and Israel and calls for an immediate cessation of hostilities. It supports diplomatic efforts to facilitate dialogue between the conflicting parties and advocates for the provision of humanitarian aid to civilians affected by the conflict. Sierra Leone reaffirms its commitment to international peace and security and emphasises the need for a negotiated settlement to the Israel-Palestine conflict.
3. **Slovenia:**
   * Slovenia condemns the violence in Palestine and Israel and calls for an immediate ceasefire to prevent further loss of life. It emphasises the importance of respecting international law and human rights in resolving the conflict and supports diplomatic efforts aimed at facilitating dialogue between the parties. Slovenia advocates for the provision of humanitarian aid to civilians affected by the conflict and stands ready to support international initiatives for peace and stability in the region.
4. **Republic of Korea:**
   * The Republic of Korea condemns the violence in Palestine and Israel and calls for an immediate end to hostilities. It supports efforts to achieve a ceasefire and urges all parties to refrain from actions that exacerbate tensions. The Republic of Korea emphasises the importance of dialogue and diplomacy in resolving the conflict and stands ready to support international efforts aimed at promoting peace and stability in the region.
5. **Malta:**
   * Malta condemns the violence and loss of life in Palestine and Israel and calls for an immediate halt to hostilities. It emphasises the importance of protecting civilians and ensuring access to humanitarian assistance for those in need. Malta supports diplomatic efforts aimed at de-escalating tensions and facilitating dialogue between the conflicting parties. It reaffirms its commitment to promoting peace and stability in the region and stands ready to contribute to international efforts for a peaceful resolution to the conflict.
6. **Mozambique:**
   * Mozambique expresses grave concern over the escalating violence in Palestine and Israel and calls for an immediate ceasefire to prevent further loss of life. It emphasises the need for all parties to respect international law and ensure the protection of civilians. Mozambique supports diplomatic initiatives aimed at promoting dialogue and reconciliation between the conflicting parties and advocates for the provision of humanitarian aid to alleviate the suffering of civilians affected by the conflict.
7. **Russian Federation:**
   * The Russian Federation expresses grave concern over the escalation of violence in the region and emphasises the urgent need for a ceasefire. It calls for the resumption of direct negotiations between Israel and Palestine under international mediation and supports the UN's role in facilitating a peaceful resolution to the conflict. Russia stands ready to contribute to efforts aimed at de-escalating tensions and promoting dialogue.
8. **Switzerland:**
   * Switzerland expresses deep concern over the escalation of violence in Palestine and Israel and calls for an immediate cessation of hostilities. It supports efforts to achieve a durable ceasefire and urges all parties to respect international humanitarian law and ensure the protection of civilians. Switzerland advocates for a negotiated settlement to the conflict based on the principles of international law, human rights, and the right to self-determination for all peoples involved.
9. **China:**
   * China advocates for an immediate ceasefire in the Israel-Palestine conflict and calls for the provision of humanitarian aid to alleviate the suffering of civilians. It emphasises the importance of respecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all parties involved and supports a negotiated settlement based on the principles of international law and UN resolutions.
10. **United Kingdom:**
    * The United Kingdom urges all parties to the conflict to immediately halt hostilities and prioritize the protection of civilians. It supports the provision of humanitarian aid to alleviate the humanitarian crisis in Palestine and advocates for a sustainable ceasefire that can pave the way for renewed peace talks. The UK reaffirms its commitment to a two-state solution and calls for all parties to refrain from actions that undermine prospects for peace.
11. **United States:**
    * The United States maintains its stance of supporting Israel's right to self-defense and opposes any measures that it perceives as undermining Israel's security. While expressing concern for civilian casualties, the US emphasises the need for Israel to defend itself against threats posed by Palestinian factions. It has previously vetoed resolutions calling for a ceasefire and humanitarian aid, citing concerns over their perceived bias against Israel.
12. **India (Observing Nation):**
    * India, as an observing nation, expresses concern over the escalating violence in the Israel-Palestine conflict and calls for an immediate ceasefire to prevent further loss of life. It emphasises the importance of respecting international law and humanitarian principles and supports diplomatic efforts aimed at de-escalating tensions and promoting dialogue between the conflicting parties. India stands ready to contribute to international initiatives aimed at achieving a peaceful resolution to the conflict.
13. **Israel (Observing Nation):**
    * Israel, as an observing nation, asserts its right to self-defence and defends its military operations in Palestine as necessary measures to ensure its security. It calls for continued international support for its actions and rejects external interference in its internal affairs. Israel emphasises the need to address the root causes of the conflict, including the threat posed by Palestinian militant groups, and remains committed to safeguarding its sovereignty and territorial integrity.
14. **Palestine (Observing Nation):**
    * Palestine, as an observing nation, condemns Israel's military incursions and calls for international intervention to protect Palestinian civilians. It accuses Israel of human rights violations and violations of international law and asserts its right to self-determination and statehood. Palestine calls for solidarity from the international community and support for its quest for independence and an end to occupation.

**Recent Statistics and Updates**

The death toll in the **Gaza Strip** has risen to at least **34,049** since the conflict began between Israel and Hamas on **October 7**. This grim marker represents about **1.3%** of the **2.3 million population** of the territory[[6]](#footnote-5). The toll includes both fatalities and injuries resulting from Israeli attacks in Gaza.

Here are the latest casualty figures as of **April 30, 2024** in Gaza:

* **Killed**: At least **34,535** people, including more than:
  + **14,500 children**
  + **8,400 women**
* **Injured**: More than **77,704** people
* **Missing**: More than **8,000**

Additionally, in the **Occupied West Bank**, the death toll stands at **atleast 492 people**, including more than **124 children**. In Israel, the death toll from the October 7 attacks has been revised down from **1,405 to 1,139**[[7]](#footnote-6).

The situation in Gaza remains devastating, with widespread destruction of homes, schools, hospitals, and infrastructure. More than half of Gaza’s homes have been destroyed or damaged, and many essential facilities are not fully operational[[8]](#footnote-7). The conflict continues to take a heavy toll on civilians, and efforts toward peace and humanitarian aid are crucial.

1. **Hostage Releases**: In a significant development, **24 hostages** were released from Gaza, and **39 Palestinian prisoners** were released from Israeli jails amid a **four-day cease-fire**. This has caused jubilation in the West Bank and hope in Israel. Among those released by militants were **13 Israelis**, **10 Thais**, and **one Filipino**[[9]](#footnote-8).
2. **Ceasefire Talks in Cairo**: A **Hamas delegation** has arrived in Egypt for further talks on a possible **ceasefire and hostage deal**. Egyptian mediators are approaching a “consensus formula on many points of disagreement.” However, Israel still awaits confirmation that Hamas has changed its “extreme” positions[[10]](#footnote-9).
3. **Gaza Death Toll**: The death toll in the Gaza Strip has risen to at least **34,654** due to **211 days** of Israeli military operations. In the last 24 hours, **32 Palestinians** were killed in Israeli attacks, and **41 people** were injured, bringing the total wounded to **77,908** since the conflict began[[11]](#footnote-10).
4. **Additional Hostage Releases**: **12 more freed hostages** (10 Israelis and 2 Thai nationals) have left Gaza and are now in Israeli territory. Additionally, **30 Palestinians** have been released, joining the 150 others who were freed earlier[[12]](#footnote-11).

Potential Areas of Discussion

1. **Ceasefire Monitoring and Enforcement:**
   * Establishing a robust mechanism for monitoring and enforcing the ceasefire agreement, including the deployment of peacekeeping forces or international observers.
   * Discussing measures to ensure compliance with the ceasefire by all parties and address violations promptly.
2. **Humanitarian Access and Assistance:**
   * Addressing challenges related to humanitarian access in Gaza and Rafah, including facilitating the delivery of aid and ensuring the protection of civilians.
   * Coordinating efforts to provide essential humanitarian assistance, such as medical supplies, food aid, and shelter, to civilians affected by the conflict.
3. **Release of Hostages and Prisoners:**
   * Negotiating the release of hostages held by both Israel and Hamas, including civilians and captured combatants, as part of the ceasefire agreement.
   * Discussing confidence-building measures and humanitarian considerations to facilitate the release of prisoners and detainees.
4. **Accountability for Violations of International Law:**
   * Establishing mechanisms for ensuring accountability and justice for violations of international humanitarian law and human rights abuses committed during the conflict.
   * Supporting the work of relevant international bodies, such as the International Criminal Court (ICC), in investigating and prosecuting perpetrators of war crimes and atrocities.

1. What is the UN Security Council, United Nations (<https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/what-security-council#:~:text=to%20maintain%20international%20peace%20and,harmonizing%20the%20actions%20of%20nations>.) [↑](#footnote-ref-0)
2. ibid [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
3. ibid [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
4. <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5457f2ece4b0a485997c0d67/t/5a318b52e4966b0b6edbbdcb/1513196371261/UNA-USA+Procedure.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
5. https://www.ajc.org/IsraelConflictTimeline [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
6. [This grim marker represents about **1.3%** of the **2.3 million population** of the territory](https://edition.cnn.com/middleeast/live-news/israel-hamas-war-gaza-news-04-20-24/h_9028bea0eb35e872c6227c856fde3d4d) [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
7. [In Israel, the death toll from the October 7 attacks has been revised down from **1,405 to 1,139**](https://www.aljazeera.com/news/longform/2023/10/9/israel-hamas-war-in-maps-and-charts-live-tracker) [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
8. [More than half of Gaza’s homes have been destroyed or damaged, and many essential facilities are not fully operational](https://edition.cnn.com/middleeast/live-news/israel-hamas-war-gaza-news-04-20-24/h_9028bea0eb35e872c6227c856fde3d4d) [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
9. [Among those released by militants were **13 Israelis**, **10 Thais**, and **one Filipino**](https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/blog/israel-hamas-war-live-updates-rcna126500) [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
10. [Egyptian mediators are approaching a “consensus formula on many points of disagreement.” However, Israel still awaits confirmation that Hamas has changed its “extreme” positions](https://www.cnn.com/middleeast/live-news/israel-hamas-war-gaza-news-05-04-24/index.html) [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
11. [In the last 24 hours, **32 Palestinians** were killed in Israeli attacks, and **41 people** were injured, bringing the total wounded to **77,908** since the conflict began](https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/blog/israel-hamas-war-live-updates-rcna126500) [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
12. [Additionally, **30 Palestinians** have been released, joining the 150 others who were freed earlier](https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/blog/israel-hamas-war-live-updates-rcna126500) [↑](#footnote-ref-11)