



CHAPTER THREE

THE SECURITY COUNCILS

INTRODUCTION TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Representatives of the Security Council should note that the agenda provided is only provisional and represents a fraction of the issues the Security Council discusses. Any issue regarding international peace and security may be brought before the Council. Many topics listed in this guide will change significantly before the Conference. Additional topics may be added as necessary or as the Council sees fit.

For this reason it is highly advised that Representatives have a broad knowledge base regarding current events in the international community. Periodicals and online sources are some of the best sources available for day-to-day updates. Recommended sources include: *The New York Times*, *United Nations Chronicle*, *The Times of London*, *Al Jazeera*, *Mail & Guardian*, *Foreign Policy* and *The Economist*. The United Nations Foundation's online daily newsletter, *United Nations Wire*, is also an excellent resource for timely information. Whenever possible it is also recommended that Representatives stay abreast of the most recent reports published by the Security Council and other relevant United Nations bodies. These can be found via the United Nations homepage under the [Security Council](#) section.

Unlike many other simulations, Security Council Members are able to make declarative statements and operational decisions that will affect the course of the simulation. It will be the job of Council Representatives to actively bring their country's national policies and capabilities into the simulation. While AMUN Simulation Staff will frequently consult with Council Members, Representatives are welcome and encouraged to make declarative statements—including real or implied threats and deals—that do not carry operational implications outside of the United Nations. Representatives must always consult with the Simulations Staff before making ANY operational decisions. Operational decisions would include announcements of the movements or actions of military forces, as well as any other actions that would have an effect outside of the United Nations. In these cases the Simulation Staff would be equated with the actual home office or government of the involved Member States(s).

Representatives are also encouraged to seek out Simulation Staff to act in the home office capacity when they need extra information on a situation. Simulation Directors wear many hats, including acting as an in-house resource for Representatives about their countries as well as the topics at hand.

OTHER INVOLVED COUNTRIES

From time-to-time other countries will be involved in the deliberations of the Council. Delegations representing these countries, if present at AMUN, will be asked by the body to participate in deliberations by the body. If they are not present, or choose not to participate in deliberations, a member of the AMUN Secretariat will represent them as necessary. It is customary for the Council to request the presence of relevant Member States during discussion of topics, however it is not required. Any State mentioned in the background research for a specific Security Council is a potential candidate for an outside participant in the Council as well as any State related to a topic relevant

to international peace and security. For delegations that may be asked to appear before one of the Historical Security Councils (HSC) these countries will be notified in advance by the Secretariat, and should have one or more Representatives prepared to come before the HSC at any time. Because these countries will not be involved in all issues, it is highly recommended that the Representative(s) responsible for the HSC also be assigned to another Committee, preferably with a second Representative who can cover that Committee while they are away. A floating Permanent Representative would also be ideal for this assignment. All delegations will be asked to identify their Representative(s) to the HSC at registration, and to indicate where they can be reached if and when needed.

A NOTE ABOUT HISTORICAL SECURITY COUNCILS

AMUN's HSCs are unique not only in their topics, but also in their treatment of those topics. History and time are the HSC's media and they are flexible. Both HSC Simulations will preempt history from their start date, which are provided later in this chapter. History will be as it was written until the moment the Council convenes. From that moment forward, however, what transpires will be dependent upon both Council Members' actions and Simulation Staff decisions. Council Members are encouraged to exercise free will based on the range of all the choices within their national character and upon the capabilities of their governments.

Effective roleplaying for an HSC Member State will not just be a routine replay of national decisions as they evolved in that year. Indeed, the problems of the era may not transpire as they once did, and this will force active evaluations—and reevaluations—of national policies. Thus, it cannot be said that the policy course a government took in that year was necessarily the wisest. While rote replays must be, by definition, in character, it is not a sure thing that - given a second opportunity to look at events—any given national government would do things exactly the same way. History is replete with the musings of foreign ministers and heads of state pining for second chances.

It will be the job of Council Representatives to actively bring their country's policies and capabilities into the simulation when discussing problems and issues which may not have had adequate contemporary resolutions. There is almost always more than one alternative choice in any situation. In particular, the international community has often chosen not to actively involve itself in many regional disputes or political crises where it might have shown greater involvement. The United Nations itself has often been a bystander to regional or international conflict. Representatives will need to decide what changes, if any, could have been made to the Security Council's posture on the various issues. One major factor Representatives should consider when deciding whether or not to be actively involved, is the cost of involvement by the United Nations. An increase in costs often causes the Security Council to reprioritize its efforts.

While national governments often did not want international meddling in what they felt to be national policies or disputes, this in no way lessens the responsibility of Council Members to make the effort and find ways to actively involve themselves in crisis solutions. This task must,



however, be accomplished without violating the bounds of the Member States' national characters.

Representatives should approach these issues based on events through the final days of the previous year and should do their research accordingly. In studying their roleplaying assignments, it is strongly recommended that research be done on these topics using timely materials. The world has changed dramatically over the years, but none of these changes will be evident within the chambers of the HSC. While histories of the subject will be fine for a general overview, Representatives should peruse periodicals from 3-5 years prior to the year in question to most accurately reflect the world view at that time. Magazines featuring an overview of that year may give a particularly good feel for the international mood in which the simulation is set. Periodicals contemporary to the period, which can be easily referenced in a Readers Guide to Periodical Literature or the *New York Times* Index, should provide a much better historical perspective and feel for the times than later historical texts, which can be useful for general information.

Both HSC simulations will follow a flexible timeline based on events as they occurred and as modified by the Representatives' policy decisions in the Council. The Secretariat will be responsible for tracking the simulation and keeping it as realistic as possible. In maintaining realism Representatives must remember that they are roleplaying the individual assigned as their State's Representative to the United Nations. They may have access to the up-to-the-minute policy decisions of their countries, or they may be relatively in the dark on their countries' moment-to-moment actions in the world.

In this area, the AMUN Simulation Staff will frequently consult with HSC members. Representatives are welcome and encouraged, as their country's spokesperson, to make whatever declarative statements they like. Declarative statements would include any comments or actions (including real or implied threats or deals) that an individual at the United Nations could normally make. Representatives must, however, always consult with the Simulations Staff before making ANY operational decisions. Operational decisions would include announcements of the movements or actions of military forces as well as any other actions which would have an effect outside of the United Nations. In these cases, the Simulations Staff would be equated with the home office or government of the involved State.

Representatives are also encouraged to seek out Simulations Staff to act in the home office capacity when they need extra information on a situation. Simulation Directors wear many hats, including acting as an in-house resource for Representatives about their countries as well as the topics at hand.

OPEN ISSUES

A unique feature of each Security Council in simulations at AMUN is the Council's ability to set its own agenda. In addition to the situations outlined in the council specific topic guides on the following pages, each Security Council can discuss any topic that the body wishes. For the contemporary Security Council this includes any real-world event up until the day the simulation convenes. For the Historical Security Councils, Representatives should have a working knowledge of the events prior to and including the start date for their respective simulation. For the Historical Security Council of 1967, the start date is 15

March 1967. For the Historical Security Council of 2003, the start date is 20 January 2003.

For the time periods in question, open issues could include any active United Nations peacekeeping operations, the work of any United Nations body active at the time, and any social or economic issue of the day. It is *strongly recommended* that all Representatives be well versed on current and historical global events relevant to their simulation.

BACKGROUND RESEARCH

The following are brief synopses of the main international situations facing the Security Councils. For the contemporary Security Council these briefs are current as of spring 2015. Information for the Historical Security Councils covers information available up until the respective start dates of each simulation. It is recommended that Representatives have a solid foundational knowledge of the background of major international issues. The topics laid out in this handbook are provided as a starting point for further research.



THE CONTEMPORARY SECURITY COUNCIL

MEMBERS OF THE CONTEMPORARY SECURITY COUNCIL

ANGOLA
CHAD
CHILE
CHINA
FRANCE

JORDAN
LITHUANIA
MALAYSIA
NEW ZEALAND
NIGERIA

RUSSIAN FEDERATION
SPAIN
UNITED KINGDOM
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
VENEZUELA

For each topic area, Representatives should consider the following questions. These questions should assist Representatives in gaining a better understanding of the issues at hand, particularly from your country's perspective:

- How did this conflict begin? Is this a new conflict or a re-ignition of a previous conflict?
- How have similar situations and conflicts been peacefully resolved?
- What State and regional actors are involved in this conflict?
- If there are non-State actors involved in a conflict, are there any States supporting them? If so, which ones?

The Contemporary Security Council topics below are current as of Spring 2015 and are not all-inclusive of what the Council might talk about at Conference. With the ever-changing nature of international peace and security, these topics are a guide to help direct your research for your State's position. A more complete and updated version of likely topics for the Contemporary Security Council will be posted online in September at www.amun.org.

THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

In 2011, civilians in the Syrian Arab Republic began protesting the government of long-reigning President Bashar al-Assad; these protests quickly escalated to armed rebellion, and fighting continues to date. The violence included chemical weapon attacks on the civilian population, which the United Nations condemned and worked to stop through inspections and sanctions. This uproar also spread into neighboring Iraq when Sunni militant extremists began coordinated attacks against the Shia civilian population in July, 2014. The self-proclaimed Islamic State (IS), known also as both the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) and the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), has used the instability created by regional conflicts to conquer territory in western Iraq and eastern Syria, declaring itself a caliphate and claiming exclusive political and ideological authority over the world's Muslim population.

IS has been characterized by continual violence, including the beheadings of Western hostages and the mass execution of civilians in the country, which UN investigators are calling genocide. These provocative acts and mass violence against local civilians prompted the United States and other States to look for ways to stem the advance of IS through the Middle East. On 21 September 2014, the United States, with the help of regional partners, began air strikes to help stop the flow of IS aggression. By April 2015, Iraqi forces had gained ground against IS by liberating Tikrit, and Iraqi military commanders were focused on pushing "[IS] militants out of the country and into Syria by the end of the year."

While IS has been losing ground in Iraq and northeastern Syria, IS militants have been seizing new territory in Syria, including along the Syrian-Jordanian border and in the Yarmouk District on the southern edge of the Syrian capital, Damascus. This border-crossing incident has

led to new tensions between Jordan and Syria after Syrian airstrikes hit near the border. IS also succeeded in seizing a Palestinian refugee camp in Damascus in early April 2015, with reports of killings and beheadings spurring United Nations officials to call for quick action to prevent an impending catastrophe and for industrialized States to take in hundreds of thousands of Syrian refugees. Additionally, new reports of chemical weapons being used in Syria has angered many countries, calling for renewed United Nations efforts to force compliance on inspections and the removal of all sarin gas and chlorine barrel bombs.

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THE SITUATION IN UKRAINE

The recent unrest in Ukraine began in 2013 when Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich, under pressure from the Russian government, rejected a trade deal with the European Union. The ensuing anti-government



protests turned violent in November when government forces attacked protesters, injuring dozens. The conflict continued for several months, with President Yanukovich fleeing to Russia in February 2014, leading to his dismissal by the Ukrainian Parliament. May 2014 elections brought Petro Poroshenko to power, a result greeted warmly by Western States. President Poroshenko quickly moved to reassert government control over restive regions in eastern Ukraine, which were in favor of realignment with Russia. In September 2014, the Ukrainian Parliament granted greater autonomy to separatist regions in eastern Ukraine. On 16 September 2014, the Ukrainian Parliament unanimously supported the decision to join the European Union, a decision which had sparked the original crisis. A tenuous cease-fire held until the Ukrainian Parliament revoked the status of the autonomous regions after they held their own elections in direct violation of the Ukrainian Constitution.

The crisis took on an international focus when armed and uniformed gunmen began seizing government buildings in Crimea. Rallies erupted calling for Crimea to secede from Ukraine and rejoin the Russian Federation; this was overwhelmingly supported in a March 2014 referendum. The Security Council discussed a draft Resolution to declare the election invalid, but Russia vetoed the Resolution. After the inability of the United Nations to act, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) became involved in the Ukraine. Initially brought in to monitor human rights violations, the OSCE has become entrusted to monitor cease-fire violations, oversee the pull-back of weapons from the front lines and to eventually disarm fighters. OSCE Secretary General Lamberto Zannier has stated that an increase in the number of drones and radar systems would help enforce the cease-fire in the eastern part of the country. However, OSCE monitors have been denied access to certain areas of the country to monitor troop withdrawals. While the cease-fire is currently in effect, it has been seen as tenuous. Nonetheless, OSCE monitors have said it means a “good chance for peace” while it holds back the violence.

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THE SITUATION IN THE SUDAN AND SOUTH SUDAN

Despite the end of the Sudanese Civil War in 2005, hostility and fighting continues with conflicts taking place in South Sudan, Darfur and

the oil-rich Abyei region. The Darfur region has been fraught with violence for more than a decade, with dozens of parties clashing over political control, sovereignty, and land and water rights. Weapons have flooded Darfur; ethnic cleansing, systematic rape and the deaths of thousands have plagued the region. Today, Darfur remains in a state of humanitarian and security crisis, with little to no progress toward ending the conflict. The United Nations estimates that around 450,000 people were displaced due to the violence in 2014 alone, placing the total number of displaced peoples at close to 2.5 million since the start of the Civil War.

Relations between the north and south regions of Sudan were still tenuous following the end of the Civil War, with continued clashes over ethnic differences and land disputes. Although South Sudan seceded in 2011, the violence did not cease once they were recognized as an independent State and granted United Nations Member status. The South Sudanese government continues to struggle to put an end to violence within its borders, despite ongoing civil war between the majority ethnic group, the Dinka, and the minority ethnic group, the Nuer. The Nuer and a number of minority political parties were left out of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement between Sudan and South Sudan in 2005. The United Nations has laid out plans to impose sanctions against South Sudan in a Security Council Resolution in an attempt to spur a peaceful resolution to the ongoing Civil War. South Sudan President Salva Kiir has dismissed these ultimatums and reiterated his willingness to continue battling the minority protesters.

In addition to the ethnic conflicts in South Sudan, territorial claims over the oil-rich Abyei region remain, with both Sudan and South Sudan retaining armed forces in the district to protect their interests. Abyei has seen four attacks since January 2015, with hostility rising between the region's majority and minority ethnic groups. The Security Council extended the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA) through 15 July, urging Sudan and South Sudan to resolve the border dispute immediately and implement a joint security solution for the region.

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THE HISTORICAL SECURITY COUNCIL OF 1967

MEMBERS OF THE HISTORICAL SECURITY COUNCIL OF 1967

ARGENTINA

BRAZIL

BULGARIA

CANADA

CHINA

DENMARK

ETHIOPIA

FRANCE

INDIA

JAPAN

MALI

NIGERIA

USSR

UNITED KINGDOM

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

HISTORICAL SECURITY COUNCIL OF 1967

Key international security concerns at the beginning of 1967 revolve around the situations in Africa, including Southern Rhodesia, the Congo and South Africa. Peacekeeping questions are a major concern; the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) operation between Egypt and Israel and the Soviet Union's unwillingness to pay for certain peacekeeping operations, have both been subjects of Council discussion. The war in Viet-Nam is also a significant underlying factor in world politics, although it has received limited formal attention in the Security Council. Continued disputes over recognition issues between the two Chinas is also an issue. Additionally, the Cold War struggles between the United States and the Soviet Union are a constant undercurrent in the world of international politics, with many developing States stressing their non-aligned status and forming a power bloc within the United Nations to combat the increasingly polarized world around them.

For each topic area, Representatives should consider the following questions. These questions are designed to assist in developing a deeper understanding of the issues at hand, particularly from your State's perspective:

- Should the United Nations be involved in the situation? If yes, what role can the United Nations play in the situation?
- How can regional organizations be brought into the discussion and aid in solutions to the problems?
- Does your government feel that this situation is a threat to international peace and security?
- What are your government's interests in the region?

THE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA

On 11 November 1965, the territorial government of Southern Rhodesia, led by Ian Smith, unilaterally declared independence from the United Kingdom, sparking intense political conflict. The declaration directly violated the 1961 decolonization agreement signed by the United Kingdom and Southern Rhodesia, which required that the territory achieve majority rule prior to independence. Southern Rhodesia had been a self-governing territory of the United Kingdom for over 40 years, but the government was dominated by European elites who would have had to relinquish power under a legally independent Rhodesia. On 12 November 1965, the Security Council passed Resolution 216, condemning Southern Rhodesia's unilateral declaration of independence, calling on all Member States to refrain from recognizing the regime in Southern Rhodesia and from providing it with any assistance.

On 20 November 1965, the Council requested that Member States make a voluntary break in diplomatic and economic relations with the newly-independent Rhodesia. One month later, in Resolution 232, the Council imposed mandatory economic sanctions against Rhodesia. In April of 1966, following months of failed diplomatic efforts, the United Kingdom requested a Council meeting to approve their blockade of the *Joanna V*, a Portuguese oil tanker attempting to make a delivery to the Rhodesian government via the port of Beira in Mozambique. In response, the Council passed Resolution 221 on 9 April, allowing the United Kingdom to use force if necessary to prevent the delivery of the oil. The resolution also granted the United Kingdom the right to detain the *Joanna V*, should delivery succeed. Prior to the oil tanker incident, the United Kingdom had been given broad latitude by its Council allies to attempt a diplomatic solution to the problems caused by its former colony; bringing this issue before the Council marked a new escalation in the conflict.

Several African governments requested that the Council take much stronger steps to remove the Smith government from power, up to and including the authorization of the use of force under the terms of Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter. Extending the use of force for more than just embargo enforcement was not supported by the United States, France or the United Kingdom, which instead stood behind the continued use of sanctions, political pressure and negotiations. On 10 May 1966, 32 African States requested a Council meeting to renew discussion on Rhodesia, noting that Council actions had been ineffective in removing the minority government and again asking that the Council consider authorizing a use of force intervention. The request stated that economic sanctions were clearly failing; not all States were enforcing the sanctions, and some States were still investing in Rhodesia. In discussions on the issue, the Soviet Union specifically accused the United Kingdom of trying to reach an agreement with the Smith regime at the expense of the Zimbabwean people. A resolution, sponsored by the African bloc and reflecting its concerns, failed by a vote of six in favor, one opposed and eight abstentions. Similar discussions continued throughout the year on these issues, leading up to an eventual request by the United Kingdom for another Council meeting in December. The United Kingdom was prepared to call for additional measures against Southern Rhodesia, including stronger economic sanctions.

During the debate, other States criticized the United Kingdom's enforcement efforts. Further, a number of speakers criticized the United Kingdom's refusal to use force, as it had been partially authorized to do at its own request. Significantly, the Western powers were also beginning to realize that the situation was becoming more intractable as time went on. The African States on the Council sponsored an amendment to the



draft resolution being debated at the Council's December session which noted that the situation constituted a threat to international peace and security. This direct Chapter VII of the UN Charter language was included in the text of the final resolution. Referencing Chapter VII had been staunchly opposed by the United Kingdom and its allies in past discussions but gained more traction here, with those formerly opposed agreeing to abstain. On 16 December 1966 the Council passed Resolution 232 which increased sanctions on the Smith Government. Although language was included in Resolution 232 defining the situation as a threat to international peace and security, no official authorization of force has been granted, leaving the situation in an uneasy status-quo.

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THE QUESTION OF PALESTINE

Throughout 1966, the Security Council discussed actions taken by Israel, Syria and Jordan since the 1949 General Armistice Agreements. Repeated border incursions and military incidents led to heightened tensions in the region throughout the year. Syria and Jordan frequently accused Israel of violating the Armistice Agreements by attacking their respective territories. Israel accused Syria of continued attacks from the Golan Heights, and both Syria and Jordan of military activities across various border regions. Israel also accused both countries of harboring and supporting pro-Palestinian terrorists, who frequently conducted terrorist activities across the borders into Israel.

On 25 February 1966, a military coup in Syria returned Nureddin al-Atassi to power. From February to October, Israel alleged that Syria had attacked Israeli settlements from fortified positions in the Golan Heights. In response, Israel conducted military reprisals, while Syria argued that the original attacks were fabrications and that subsequent Israeli attacks were clear violations of the 1949 Armistice Agreements.

On the Israeli-Jordanian border, a number of smaller border incursions culminated in a 13 November invasion of southern Hebron by Israeli forces. Israeli forces attacked a number of villages in this region in what Israeli officials called reprisals for Jordanian cross-border interventions and sponsorship of pro-Palestinian Fatah forces, and what Jordan called an unprovoked attack. Resolution 228, passed on 28 November, criticized the large scale and carefully planned military action into Jordanian territory by Israeli armed forces and censured Israel for its actions. It was the only formal Council action on the region during 1966, though

the Council called Israel, Syria, Jordan, Iraq, Egypt and Saudi Arabia to speak several times as hostilities occurred throughout 1966.

Several other issues contributed to the heightening of tensions surrounding the Palestine issue. On 19 May, a sale of military jet fighters and bombers by the United States to Israel was, for the first time ever, publicly disclosed. Additionally, on 4 November, Syria and Egypt concluded a mutual defense treaty, which also provided for joint control of armed forces in case of war or aggression against either party. Furthermore, the Soviet Union, aligned with Syria since the 1956 Suez Crisis, had maintained an active political presence in the region. Most of their political pressure has been focused on aligning the other Arab states to act against Israel, including Jordan, since they have a significant Palestinian-Arab population. However, Arab unity was shaken by a 7 December call by Syria—to Jordanians and Palestinian Arabs within Jordan—for the ouster of King Hussein of Jordan. This call was accompanied by an offer to provide arms to any parties involved in the uprising.

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THE SITUATION IN VIET-NAM

THE SITUATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Following its independence from Belgium in 1960, the Republic of the Congo (renamed the Democratic Republic of the Congo in 1965) went through four years of civil war with significant United Nations and international intervention. The United Nations Operation in the Congo (ONUC) peacekeeping effort concluded in June of 1964. In the fall of 1965, the Security Council's attention turned back to simmering tensions between the Congo and the bordering Portuguese colony of Angola.

On 21 September 1966, the Congolese government accused Portugal of supporting former (now exiled) Congolese Prime Minister Tshombe and allowing the use of Angola and Cabinda as a base for insurgent activities into the Congo. The Portuguese embassy in Kinshasa was attacked by locals on 24 September, with Congolese radio broadcasts allegedly responsible for inciting much of the violence.

At Congo's request, the Security Council discussed the issue in September and October. Congo argued that Portugal was supporting these rebels because the Congolese government had granted *de jure* recognition to the Angolan government in exile. Portugal denied any support for the Congolese insurgents. On 14 October 1966, the Council passed Resolution 226, urging Portugal to deny foreign mercenaries the use of Angola as a base of operations for incursions into neighboring countries. This eased political tensions in the region.

The November 1966 military coup that abolished all competing political parties and firmly placed Joseph Mobutu in control of the country created new political complications and threats to peace in the country, though its long-term effects on peace and political reality remain unclear.

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The 1960s brought a renewed focus on the political makeup of the Viet-Name peninsula. The 1954 Geneva Accords, which sought to end tensions between Western powers and communists forces, was never fully accepted. As the 1960s progressed, forces of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam (North Viet-Nam), backed by both the People's Republic of China and the Soviet Union, sought to expand their influence by increasing their push into the Republic of Viet-Nam (South Viet-Nam) and entering into the war in neighboring Laos. In 1965, the United States, which had been providing military advisors and support to the Republic of Viet-Nam for the last decade, began amassing significant ground combat troops in the Republic of Viet-Nam to directly combat the threat of communist insurgents. This increased presence of Western-backed troops drew renewed focus from the Soviet Union which led to significantly increased tensions in the region.

In January 1966, the United States reported taking new steps toward achieving peace in Viet-Nam. While the United States continued to stress the importance of South Viet-Name self-determination, they also suggested that it would be ideal for all parties to agree on and to implement the 1954 and 1962 Geneva Accords. The situation in Viet-Nam had never previously been discussed by the Security Council but, in an effort to bring the international political arena to bear in this direction, the United States called for a meeting of the Council on 31 January. At this meeting, the United States argued that a new dimension of peace was possible and suggested that the Council assist in brokering an attempt to arrange a new conference to implement the Geneva Accords in Viet-Nam.

The United States' attempt to work through the Council was opposed on many sides. Secretary-General U Thant specifically opposed open debate of the issue before the Council, noting the problematic nature of the United States' influence in Council involvement. Thant suggested that, since the original Geneva Accords were negotiated outside of a United Nations context, any new negotiations based on these Accords were not properly within the purview of the United Nations. The Soviet Union also opposed open discussion in the Council, accusing the United States of trying to use the Council for its own purposes in the war effort. Additionally, France (which was involved in Viet-Nam before the United States presence there) also opposed these discussions, citing concern with the United States being the only party to the conflict that was a United Nations Member, and the fact that this would deny a voice to the two parts of Viet-Nam and to mainland China.

Following a contentious vote on 2 February, with nine in favor, two opposed, and four abstentions, the topic of Viet-Nam was added to the Council's agenda. Despite being added to the agenda, actual discussions proved less than meaningful. A letter from the Council President explaining the discussions noted that the failure of all parties to the dispute to meet with the Council was likely the key factor in the inability to reach any formal decision. In general, the President noted that the Members expressed a general concern over continued hostilities in the region. This minimal statement was criticized by several Council members who argued that the discussions had been strictly procedural and that the President should not have drawn any conclusions from the statements made. While a number of reports were made by the Secretary-General and various Members on the situation in Viet-Nam, after February 1967 it has not yet been considered in formal discussions.



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THE SITUATION IN CYPRUS

The United Nations Security Council first became involved in Cyprus in 1964 with the establishment of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) on 4 March. The United Nations sent Peacekeeping troops to Cyprus in response to the escalating violence between the Greek and Turkish factions beginning on 21 December 1963. These factions have been fighting over Cyprus since it gained independence from the British in 1959. Compromises in the development of the constitution angered both Greek Cypriots, who were in favor of reuniting with Greece, and Turkish Cypriots, who were in favor of dividing the island between the two groups. In addition to establishing UNFICYP peacekeeping efforts, Security Council Resolution 186 recommended that the Secretary-General appoint a mediator to aid and oversee formal peacekeeping efforts; however, the chaotic situation in Cyprus has prevented any substantive talks from happening between the factions. In December of 1966, the Security Council passed Resolution 231 extending the UN peacekeeping force until June of 1967.

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OTHER ISSUES: PEACEKEEPING ISSUES

United Nations peacekeeping operations continue to face challenges as a result of the continuing refusal of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR), among others, to pay for costs incurred for the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) and the United Nations Operation in the Congo (ONUC). The USSR has said that it considers these operations to be politically motivated and refuses to make payments. Under Article 19 of the United Nations Charter, "a Member State in arrears in the payment of its dues in an amount that equals or exceeds the contributions due for two preceding years can lose its vote in the General Assembly."

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OTHER ISSUES: THE QUESTION OF THE REPRESENTATION OF CHINA IN THE UNITED NATIONS

The representation of China continues to affect many issues before the United Nations. Since the Chinese Revolution in 1949, the Republic of China, currently based on Formosa/Taiwan, has held the official Chinese seat, including in the Security Council; however, the prominence of the People's Republic of China on the mainland has raised questions about the legitimacy of this arrangement. Discussions about this issue occurred between August and November of 1966, mainly in the General Assembly. These discussions revolved around questions such as the war in Viet-Nam, in which the People's Republic of China's involvement and lack of United Nations membership is becoming an increasingly important issue. There are also various other political and trade issues to consider when dealing with the increasingly powerful mainland government. A key question raised by allies of the Formosa government is: What would happen to Taiwan if the seat were to be awarded to the mainland government, both in terms of United Nations representation and its future relations with other States?

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THE HISTORICAL SECURITY COUNCIL OF 2003

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HISTORICAL SECURITY COUNCIL OF 2003

In 2003 the world and the Council continue to face a new era of threats to peace and security, learning to deal with a new age of terrorism and the idea of rogue States. Foremost on Council Members' minds is Iraq's continuing refusal to fully comply with weapons inspections and the increasing question of whether the imposed sanctions are bringing Iraq into compliance with Security Council mandates. The breakdown in peace and security in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Liberia and other areas in Africa and the continuing question of Palestine and the Middle East peace process also hold the Council's attention. In addition, the Council has its eye on peace processes around the world, the highest profile of which being Afghanistan's recovery and political reorganization.

For each topic area, Representatives should consider the following questions. These questions are designed to assist in developing a deeper understanding of the issues at hand, particularly from your country's perspective:

- Should the United Nations be involved in the situation? If yes, what role can the United Nations play in the situation?
- How can regional organizations be brought into the discussion and aid in solutions to the problems?
- Does your government feel that this situation is a threat to international peace and security?
- What are your government's interests in the region?

THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN

After decades of conflict during the 1970s and 1980s, Afghanistan fell into civil war after the withdrawal of foreign troops in the 1990s. As a result, millions of civilians fled the country. The civil conflict also destroyed the Afghan economy. In December 1993, the United Nations Secretary-General created the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan (UNSM) to reduce instability and address the refugee and human development crises facing the country. Despite this effort, fighting continued in Afghanistan through the mid-1990s and became more ethnically divided. From the mid-1990s to 2001, Afghanistan was controlled by the Taliban, a fundamentalist group that gained control in Afghanistan due, in large part, to foreign support during the Cold War. During this same time, al-Qaida, a radical Sunni Muslim organization, formed a close relationship with Mullah Omar, the head of state of Afghanistan and spiritual leader of the Taliban. Following the 1998 terrorist bombings on US embassies in Kenya and Tanzania by al-Qaida, the Security Council passed Resolution 1193, which reiterated concerns of the continued and growing presence of terrorists in Afghanistan territory and condemned terrorist attacks on United Nations personnel in Taliban-held areas of Afghanistan. Concerned

that the Taliban was continuing to provide support and protection to al-Qaida, the Security Council demanded that the Taliban cease providing sanctuary and training for international terrorist organizations in Resolution 1214. The Resolution also requested that all Afghan factions cooperate in bringing indicted terrorists to justice. Concerns that the Taliban was providing support and protection to al-Qaida grew. During the late 1990s and into 2000, the Security Council expressed grave concern at the seriously deteriorating humanitarian situation and deplored the worsening human rights situation - including forced displacements of civilian populations, summary executions, abuse and arbitrary detention of civilians, violence against women and girls, and bombings on civilians.

Reaffirming its commitment to the sovereignty and independence of the Afghan State and also recognizing the humanitarian needs of the Afghan people, the Security Council passed Resolution 1333 in December of 2000, which called for multilateral peace negotiations and a broad-based, multi-ethnic, representative Afghan government. The resolution further called upon United Nations Member States to enforce sanctions on the Taliban, as had previously been requested in Resolution 1267 from October 1999. Resolution 1333 requested the formation of a special committee by the Secretary-General to monitor the sanctions. However, Council actions did little to remedy the situation. In a report released 7 December 2001, the Secretary-General concluded that the combination of drought, conflict and human rights abuses, as well as the deteriorating operating environment for aid agencies, had deepened the Afghanistan humanitarian crisis.

After a US-led military offensive in Afghanistan, the Taliban lost its political power and control in 2001, but al-Qaida's presence and objectives continued in Afghanistan. In 2001, the United Nations facilitated the Bonn Agreement, which established a six-month Afghan Interim Authority (AIA). In Resolution 1386, the Security Council authorized the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) to assist Hamid Karzai in the administration of the AIA. The ISAF primary objective was to enable the Afghan government to provide effective security across the country and develop new Afghan security forces to ensure Afghanistan would never again become a safe haven for terrorists. After the AIA mandate expired, an emergency Loya Jirga (Grand Council) met and formed the Transitional Administration (TA), also led by Hamid Karzai as Interim President.

Despite these developments, conflict has continued, worsening the humanitarian situation. In 2002, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) estimated that there were approximately 3.5 million Afghan refugees, but the Commission discourages them from returning to Afghanistan due to security issues. Maintaining security



inside of Afghanistan remains a significant challenge, with some estimating the need for an international force of 80,000. A force of this size would cost approximately \$300 million per year. Although initial financial support for the security and humanitarian efforts in Afghanistan was strong, international financial support has declined. Without adequate long-term funding, the success of the political and humanitarian efforts is compromised.

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THE SITUATION IN IRAQ

The Security Council passed numerous resolutions in response to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in 1990. Resolution 661 imposed strict sanctions on Iraq by restricting foreign financial assistance to humanitarian and medical aid. Once Iraqi troops withdrew from Kuwait in 1991, Resolution 687 required Iraq to agree unconditionally to the destruction or disarmament of its chemical, biological and ballistic weapons. Resolution 687 also called for Iraq to grant a commission of weapons inspectors unfettered access within Iraq to ensure compliance. The Security Council also established the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observer Mission in April 1991, which periodically submits reports to the Security Council. The United States, United Kingdom and France

also established no-fly zones to protect Kurdish and Shiite Muslim populations in Iraq.

In the mid-1990s, United Nations weapons inspections uncovered weapons and technology in Iraq that had been banned by earlier Security Council resolutions. In response, the Security Council imposed sanctions designed to prevent Iraq from redeveloping or strengthening its military and weapons capabilities. The imposed sanctions came hand in hand with aid designed to help Iraqi citizens with their basic needs. Resolution 986 established the Oil-for-Food Programme in April 1995. The Programme was designed to prevent a severe humanitarian crisis and serve as a temporary measure of providing for Iraqi citizens' humanitarian needs until Iraq complied with all previous resolutions' requirements.

Amid concerns of Iraq developing prohibited weapons and violating no-fly zones, the United States bombed several Iraqi military installations in 1998. Afterwards, Iraq refused to allow weapons inspectors to enter, and sanctions became less effective as neighboring countries sought to re-establish economic relationships with Iraq, ignoring the mandates from earlier Security Council resolutions.

Since this past autumn, international pressure on Iraq to allow the return of inspectors has intensified. In a statement to the General Assembly on 12 September, United States President George W. Bush demanded the disarmament of Iraq, accusing Iraq of harboring and supporting al-Qaida terrorists and weapons of mass destruction (WMDs). In light of the 11 September 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States and continued Iraqi noncompliance with Security Council demands to allow weapons inspectors access, President Bush stated that disarming Iraq was an extremely urgent necessity. On 16 September, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq, Naji Sabri, wrote to the Security Council accepting the return of inspectors without conditions. Despite these assurances, many, including the United States, remain unconvinced that inspections will, in fact occur, particularly in light of United States reports of Iraq firing on Allied jets.

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THREATS TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY BY INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

Prior to 1999, the Security Council addressed international terrorism issues in the context of broader security issues or in condemnation of specific terror attacks. Beginning with Resolution 1269 in 1999, addressing international terrorism has become an increasingly important thematic issue for the Council in its own right. Concerned by the increasing number of terrorist attacks, the Council passed Resolution 1269, urging all States to work together to detect and prevent terrorist attacks. Focus further intensified in response to the 11 September 2001 attacks and the growing threat posed by international terrorism with the passage of Resolution 1373 which created the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee. Resolution 1373 further obligates Member States to take measures to prevent terrorist activities while assisting and promoting cooperation among States to adhere to international counter-terrorism instruments. Subsequent resolutions, including Resolution 1452 of 2002, have affirmed the purpose of the Counter-Terrorism Committee. These resolutions also encourage Member States to root out international terrorism and set forth guidelines regarding the funding of terrorism, identifying and locating known or suspected terrorists and preventing future terrorist attacks.

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THE SITUATION IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has suffered from decades of political instability. Regions of DRC are particularly mineral-rich, which has led to continued conflict. Since conflict over political control of the newly independent Congo first began in the 1960s, various political groups have used these minerals as a means to finance their

purposes, as well as control and inflict terror on civilians living and working in these resource-rich regions. Wars in neighboring regions have also contributed to destabilization within DRC. Large numbers of Rwandese Hutus fled the 1994 Rwandan genocide into the Democratic Republic of the Congo (then known as Zaire). Rebellion and fighting broke out in DRC in 1996, primarily between forces led by prominent Tutsi General Laurent Kabila and Congolese President Mobutu Sese Seko. With assistance from Rwanda and Uganda, Kabila forces were able to gain control over the government in Kinshasa in 1997, renaming the country the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Widespread fighting erupted in 1998 when the Rally for Congolese Democracy (RCD) launched a rebellion against the Kabila government. The Kabila government found support from Angola, Chad, Namibia and Zimbabwe, but the RCD was able to hold Kivu and other eastern areas with Rwandan and Ugandan support. Internal conflict however soon led the RCD to split into different factions between 1998-1999, including the RCD-Goma and the RCD-Kisangani.

The Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement, signed in 1999 by the DRC, Angola, Namibia, Rwanda, Uganda and Zimbabwe, attempted to bring stability to the region. Despite this, rifts emerged between the Congolese Liberation Movement (MLC) and Rally for Congolese Democracy (RCD), resulting in continued fighting and the deaths of tens of thousands of civilians from violence, disease and starvation. Thereafter, the Security Council authorized the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC), a United Nations force of 5,500 troops and 500 observers, to monitor the Lusaka Ceasefire as well as humanitarian conditions, human rights, child protection and medical support issues; however, fighting continued between the rebels.

Humanitarian groups estimate that, since 1999, the fighting and conflict have displaced over half a million people and resulted in the deaths of approximately 50,000. Additionally, there are significant concerns about human rights violations, particularly in Eastern DRC, where there are reports of systematic rape of women and girls, destruction of property and mass killings. Despite previous Security Council resolutions condemning such violence, ethnically and nationality based violence, attacks and killings against civilians continue.

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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

The First Intifada, which ended in 1993, brought the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians back to the attention of the international community, illustrating the daily struggles for both Palestinian and Israeli citizens and highlighting many of the humanitarian issues faced by Palestinian people. On 28 September 2000, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon visited the Haram al Sharif, also known as the Temple Mount, where in his speech he said, "The Temple is in our hands," a phrase from the 1967 Six-Day War. This offended many Palestinians and resulted in protests. The protests and subsequent Israeli response quickly spiraled into the Second Intifada. Violence presently continues to escalate due partly to the mounting humanitarian crises and failed peace talks. The conflict has been characterized by Palestinian suicide bombers and Israeli military operations. In the days following Sharon's visit to the Mount and the resulting demonstrations, at least 47 Palestinians were killed and over 1,800 were wounded. Responding to the violence, the Security Council passed Resolution 1322 in October 2000, which not only condemned acts of violence, particularly those against Palestinians, but also called for negotiations to resume.

In 2002, Israel launched Operation Defensive Shield in response to a 27 March suicide bombing of a Passover Seder that killed 30 and injured over 140, for which Hamas claimed responsibility. The 36 day offensive was the largest in the West Bank since the Six-Day War. A total of 497 Palestinians and 30 Israeli soldiers were killed in the conflict; many Palestinian-controlled cities were occupied and Palestinian infrastructure was heavily damaged. In June, Israel began construction of a 440-mile West Bank security barrier.

The conflict has renewed calls from the international community and the Security Council for increased safety for civilians and for the Israeli and Palestinian sides to work toward a political settlement, as described by Resolution 1397 (March 2002). Additionally, Members of the United Nations, the United States, the Russian Federation and the European Union met in Madrid and formed the Quartet on the Middle East in an effort to broker a ceasefire and lasting peace. The Quartet also advocates for a two-State solution, though details of its Road Map to Peace are being withheld until a Palestinian Prime Minister is in place. There is growing concern for the escalating violence and the declining humanitarian situation, particularly with regard to Palestinian civilians and in Palestinian cities.

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OTHER ISSUES IN AFRICA

The Security Council recognizes that security and humanitarian issues affect many regions in Africa. After the death of its president in 1993, Cote d'Ivoire fell into a conflict for control that ended with a coup in 1999. Cote d'Ivoire has since held presidential elections but has also suffered further attempted coups. On 19 September 2002, simultaneous attacks were conducted by rebel forces in most major cities of Cote d'Ivoire. Fighting continues to intensify.

Sierra Leone, meanwhile, was embroiled in civil war beginning in 1991 between government forces and the Revolutionary United Front (RUF). The RUF, along with other rebel groups, fought for control of Sierra Leone, diamond mines and the capital city of Freetown. The RUF was temporarily driven to Liberia in 1999 after United Nations intervention, and militarily defeated in 2002, ending the civil war. RUF leader Foday Sankoh is currently awaiting trial for war crimes.

Adding to regional tensions is Liberia's involvement in Sierra Leone. President Charles Taylor has been accused of aiding the RUF in Sierra Leone in an attempt to destabilize the government and acquire diamonds. In return for aid in Sierra Leone, the RUF helped Liberia increase its diamond output from 100,000 to over 6 million carats per year in the late 1990s by reportedly transferring diamonds from the mines of Sierra Leone to Liberia.

In 1999, Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy (LURD), loosely aligned across Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea, began a campaign specifically against Taylor's government. Guinea began directly supporting LURD after RUF forces, then pushed out of Sierra Leone into Liberia, invaded Guinea in September 2000. The Security Council has increasingly isolated Liberia, in particular for its role in the Sierra Leone civil war and subsequent continued unrest. Liberian



noncompliance has resulted in arms and diamond embargoes and a travel ban for senior Liberian officials, while direct aid from other States has dwindled or been cut off altogether.

Since decolonization in 1975, civil war and internal fighting began in Angola with several periods of heavy fighting. The Angolan conflict intensified in 1998 and continues, largely funded through the diamond trade. Additionally, Sudan and Somalia are still without strong central governments, while the territorial dispute between Eritrea and Ethiopia has yet to be resolved. Fighting, violence against civilians and a severe economic collapse have caused a significant destabilization in Zimbabwe. Political instability, the use of child soldiers in armed conflicts, and humanitarian issues continue to be a significant concern in Africa for the Security Council.

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