



20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of March

## Security Council

### 1) *Exploring Measures to Ensure Israeli Compliance with Security Council Resolution in 2016*

#### **Background Information:**

The Israeli–Palestinian conflict is arguably one of the most controversial ongoing conflicts, which dates back to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. To understand the conflict, we must first understand who the both parties are. Palestinians are the Arab population that comes from the land that is now under Israeli control, and they wish to establish a state under their name on the land. The main reason for the conflict is over which side will control and get the land. Jews were fleeing from Europe and wanted to establish a home in the territory in the Ottoman and later the British Empire, which was majority populated by Arabs and Muslims. Retaliation from the Arabs was obviously inevitable as they believed the land was their right. Israel and other neighboring Arab nations fought in a number of wars over the land. The current situation of the conflict is the result of two of the past wars, one in 1948 and the other in 1967.

In 1967, a war erupted that evidently left Israel in control of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, which are the two territories that is home to large Palestinian populations. Currently the West Bank is technically under the control of the Palestinian Authority but is under Israeli occupation, meaning that Israeli troops roam the land, enforcing security restrictions on Palestinian movement/activities. The Gaza Strip is under the control of Hamas (an Islamist fundamentalist party) and is under Israeli blockade but without the occupation of ground troops. The two Palestinian parties reconciled but the peace negotiations ended in failure, which erupted a full scale war between Israel and Hamas in July/August of 2014.

The main approach to solve this conflict is called a ‘two-state solution’, meaning that Palestine will be established as an independent state in Gaza and most of the West Bank, but leaving the remaining land to Israel. The other approach is the ‘one-state solution’, meaning that the whole land will become either Israel or Palestine.

#### **UN Involvement:**

##### **Key UN General Assembly Resolutions:**

- 19 November 1948, Resolution 212 – Assistance to Palestinian refugees

- The UN has assisted Palestinian refugees numerous times throughout the years other than this case
- 11 December 1948, Resolution 194 – Establishes Conciliation Commission; protection of and free access to Jerusalem and other Holy Places
- 11 May 1949, Resolution 273 – Israel admitted as a member of the UN
- 9 December 1949, Resolution 303 (IV) – International Regime for Jerusalem
- 14 December 1950, Resolution 394 (V) – Calls for peace negotiations between Arab and Israelis, and also a solution for the Palestinian refugees
- 21 December 1952, Resolution 619 – “Takes note” of Israel’s complaint against ceasefire violations by Arabs
- 25 November 1952, Resolution 660 – Report of UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees (UNRWA)
- 4 July 1967, Resolution 2252 - Humanitarian assistance in the 1967 war
- 4 July 1967, Resolution 2253 (ES-V) - Condemns Israel’s measures to change status of Jerusalem as invalid
- 19 December 1968, Resolution 2443 – Establishes Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People

#### **Key UN Security Council Resolutions:**

- 1 April 1948, Resolution 43 - Recognizes "increasing violence and disorder in Palestine" and requests that representatives of "the Jewish Agency for Palestine and the Arab Higher Committee" arrange, with the Security Council, "a truce between the Arab and Jewish Communities of Palestine...Calls upon Arab and Jewish armed groups in Palestine to cease acts of violence immediately."
- 23 April 1948, Resolution 48 – Establishes Truce Commission for Palestine to assist the Security Council in implementing the truce
- 22 May 1948, Resolution 49 - Issues cease-fire order
- 41 June 1967, Resolution 237 – Urges Israel to allow return of Palestinian refugees, and called on Israel to ensure safety/welfare of inhabitants in areas of war
- 12 March 2002, Resolution 1397 – First resolution to explicitly call for a two-state solution
- 9 January 2009, Resolution 1860 – Calls for full cease of war between Israel and Hamas
- 23 December 2016, Resolution 2334 – Calls for an end to Israeli settlement building

#### **Topics for Debate:**

1. What actions can be taken by the UN for the resolution to be in full action (for Israel to comply)?
2. If Israel does not comply, what actions can be taken?

#### **Guiding Questions:**

1. How does the resolution passed by the UN affect your country?

2. To what extent is your country involved in the Israel-Palestine conflict? And if involved, how are they involved in regards to the passed resolution? Is your country taking any measures to ensure Israeli compliance?
3. What are the effects and consequences of this conflict and what has your country done to combat this? How does the resolution change or affect the outcome?
4. Also, what are the short-term and long-term effects of the resolution

### **Bibliography:**

- Beauchamp, Z. (2017). *Everything you need to know about Israel-Palestine*. Available: <http://www.vox.com/cards/israel-palestine/intro>. Last accessed 3rd March 2017.
- Security Council Report. (2017). *UN Documents for Israel/Palestine*. Available: <http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/un-documents/israel/palestine/>. Last accessed 4th March 2017.
- Hammond, J R. (2013). *The Role of the U.N. in Creating the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*. Available: <http://www.wrmea.org/2013-august/the-role-of-the-u.n.-in-creating-the-israeli-palestinian-conflict.html>. Last accessed 4th March 2017.
- Wikipedia. (2017). *List of the UN resolutions concerning Israel and Palestine*. Available: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_the\\_UN\\_resolutions\\_concerning\\_Israel\\_and\\_Palestine#United\\_Nations\\_Security\\_Council\\_resolutions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_the_UN_resolutions_concerning_Israel_and_Palestine#United_Nations_Security_Council_resolutions). Last accessed 5th March 2017.

### **Good Websites to Check:**

- Report on Israel and Palestine  
<http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/un-documents/israel/palestine/>
- Vox on Israel and Palestine  
<http://www.vox.com/cards/israel-palestine/intro>
- History (*If America Knew*)  
<http://ifamericaknew.org/history/origin.html>

## ***2) South Sudan; Our Newest Nation on the Brink of Civil War***

### **Background Information:**

The civil war in South Sudan broke out in 2013 between the South Sudanese Government and the South Sudan Democratic Movement (SSDM). It all started from President Kiir, the current president of South Sudan, accusing his former deputy and close-friend, Riek Machar, and a group of people of trying to start a coup. This accusation sparked the formation of Sudan People's Liberation Movement-in-Opposition (SPLM-IO), and the civil war in South Sudan.

This civil war has been on for a bit more than 3 years, becoming more violent and more aggressive. There have been multiple war crimes, by the SPLM-IO and this has resulted in

more than 300,000 to 500,000 being displaced. And recently, multiple South Sudanese citizens have taken refuge in Kenya, Ethiopia and Uganda.

In 2014, the Ugandan military forces were sent in to fight along the South Sudanese government as support along with the United Nation peacekeepers under the 'United Nations Mission In South Sudan' (UNMISS). Following this, the first ceasefire agreement was reached in January of 2014, but it failed to last the duration. There were multiple ceasefire agreements following this date, but none of them were effective. Starting in mid-2014 the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), which is made of the eight regional nations (Djibouti, Ethiopia, Somalia, Eritrea, Sudan, South Sudan, Kenya and Uganda) along with the UN and multiple powerhouse nations. These peace talks were held in Ethiopia, one of the founding members of IGAD.

In mid-2016 the opposition leader returned to Juba, capital of South Sudan, and sworn in as a vice-president under the new unity government. But he was sacked after further arguments occurred between the two parties. Ever since then, Kenyan troops have pulled out of South Sudan, Japanese peacekeepers have come in to help dilute the war and a famine alert was declared due to the civil war and the economic collapse of the nation.

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### **UN Involvement**

The UN has had a lot to play in this civil war. Currently, there are about 9 UN agencies present in South Sudan. These agencies are:

- OCHA
- UNICEF
- UNDP
- WFP
- WHO
- OHCHR
- UNOPS
- UNHCR

All of these UN agencies are attempting reduce famine, restart the economy and resolve the issues that are erupting from South Sudan. The UN has also provided a lot support to the citizens of South Sudan, by encouraging neighboring countries to allow these citizens to obtain temporary refugee status. The UN has also deployed peacekeepers to support the current government and to help dilute the war.

### **Potential Topics of Debate:**

1. Potential methods of re-implementing the peace agreement.
2. Varying Methods to solve the on-going war and implement a suggestion to end the war.

**Guiding Questions:**

1. How your country can contribute to resolve this issue?
2. What effect has the involvement of other nations out of the African continent on the civil war in South Sudan?
3. What other measures can be taken to combat the fight over power?

**Bibliography:**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-14019202>

<http://www.cfr.org/global/global-conflict-tracker/p32137#!/conflict/civil-war-in-south-sudan>

<https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2017/03/01/suda-m01.html>

<http://www.npr.org/2017/03/03/518292106/civilians-fleeing-south-sudan-s-civil-war-sparks-africa-s-largest-refugee-crisis>

**Suggested Sites:**

1. *'HOW THE U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL IS PERPETUATING SOUTH SUDAN'S CONFLICT'* –

<HTTP://EUROPE.NEWSWEEK.COM/SOUTH-SUDAN-CONFLICT-CIVIL-WAR-UN-SECURITY-COUNCIL-ARMS-EMBARGO-544738?RM=EU>

2. Sudan & South Sudan-

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/infocus/> <http://www.un.org/apps/news/infocusRel.asp?infocusID=88>