



# ECOSOC

*STUDY GUIDE*

2017



**COLOMBO MODEL UNITED NATIONS**

2017

# ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

## HISTORY AND ORIGINS.

The Charter of the United Nations was signed by 51 founding Member States on 26 June 1946 and officially entered into force on 24 October 1946. Chapter X of the Charter established the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) as one of the founding bodies and a Principal Organ alongside the General Assembly, Security Council, the International Court of Justice, Secretariat, etc. As membership in the UN multiplied throughout the 1960s and 70s, the membership of the ECOSOC did likewise. In light of these changes, Article 61 of the Charter was amended twice, once in 1965 and then 1973, resulting in an increase in the council's membership from 18 to 27, and then 27 to 54 respectively. Due to the council's overarching mandate, its functions are not as widely known to the public as that of the General Assembly or the Security Council; however, ECOSOC indirectly has purview over around 70% of UN resources through its oversight of fourteen specialized agencies and thirteen functional and regional commissions. For these reasons, ECOSOC Plenary membership is highly sought after giving its central coordinating work of dozens of entities within the UN system.

## STRUCTURE OF THE ECONOMIC & SOCIAL COUNCIL FOR COMUN 2017.

- The Economic and Social Council shall consist of fifty(50) Members of the United Nations elected by the General Assembly in 2016.
- The Economic and Social Council will entertain 35 delegations of Countries along with 08 advocates from inter-governmental global organizations and finally 7 emissaries from the private sector. Total of fifty(50) members.
- Thirty five member delegating states in the Economic and Social Council shall be elected each year for a term of three years.
- The rest fifteen advocates and emissaries will be chosen in joint discussion with the relevant authorities of the U.N's Security Council and Economic and Social Council on the basis of fair and related fields.
- The 7 IGOs and 8 emissaries will be direct figureheads of the relevant seat allocated in the ECOSOC



## MEMBERSHIP

### Delegation of country's include

1. Argentina
2. Australia
3. Austria
4. Brazil
5. Canada
6. China
7. Denmark
8. France
9. Germany
10. India
11. Botswana
12. Italy
13. Japan
14. DPRK
15. Syria
16. Russia
17. Saudi Arabia
18. Sweden
19. South Africa
20. Turkey
21. UK
22. USA
23. Portugal
24. Ireland
25. Greece
26. Spain
27. Netherlands
28. Czech Republic
29. Belgium
30. Luxembourg
31. Georgia

32. Pakistan
33. Zimbabwe
34. Finland
35. Iraq

### Emissaries of the Private sector

1. JPMorgan Chase & Co.
2. Tesco
3. Apple
4. British Petroleum
5. Facebook
6. Glaxosmithkline
7. General Motors
8. Goldman Sachs

### Advocates of Inter-Governmental Organizations

1. WB Group
2. IMF
3. AIIB
4. WTO
5. ECB
6. IOM(International Organization for Migration)
7. OPEC(Organisation for Petroleum Exporting Countries)



## **FUNCTIONS, POWERS AND PROCEDURE**

- The Economic and Social Council may initiate/create studies and reports, engage in drafting conventions, take part in submitting resolutions, suggest on recommendations and employ crisis discussions (if necessary) with respect to international economic, social, cultural, educational, health, political, law/security (within boundaries of economics and social sciences) and related matters.
- A. All final conclusions will be submitted to the General Assembly of the United Nations, and to the specialized agencies in play.
- The Economic and Social Council may look into the economic, social, humanitarian and political reconstruction of regions that have been either proven to be unstable or has been recognized as a new republic that has either an independent state or an autonomous state.
  - The Economic and Social Council may make appealing suggestions towards the maintenance of international peace and security (with regards to economic and social affairs only) under the strong consensus of the Security Council. All end products related to the matter will be submitted for the approval of the Security Council.
- B. The Economic and Social Council may furnish information to the Security Council and shall assist the Security Council upon its request.
- The Economic and Social Council may make stressing injunctions towards the vindication of international law and justice (with regards to economic and social affairs only) under the approval of the legal committees of the United Nations. All end products related to the matter will be submitted for the approval of the members of the United Nations and its relevant organs.
  - a) The Legal precedent will be only related to the economic aspect and social aspect under International law which establishes the council to have a right to make legal precedence in respect of the economic and social aspect.
  - b) The legal precedent will help the ICJ to analyze the legal implications when it comes regulate international economic law more effectively.
- C. The Economic and Social Council has the right to review straining economic matters such as economic sanctions on a state under certain conditions.
- The Economic and Social Council shall invite any Member of the United Nations to participate, without vote, in its deliberations on any matter of particular concern to that Member that aids in the progression to solve the issue at hand.
- D. The Economic and Social Council may make arrangements for representatives of the specialized agencies (if invited) to participate, without vote, in its deliberations and in those of the commissions established by it, and for its representatives to participate in the deliberations of the specialized agencies.
- The Economic and Social Council has the ability to recommend the formation of an ad-hoc committee for specific requirements and overlook into its operations.
  - The Economic and Social Council may overlook the activities of specialized agencies and make recommendations to/Co-ordinate with these agencies that are under the composition of the Economic and Social Council.



E. The Economic and Social Council may take appropriate steps to absorb regular reports from the specialized agencies. It may make arrangements with the Members of the United Nations and with the specialized agencies to obtain reports on the steps taken to give effect to its own recommendations and to recommendations on matters falling within its competence made by the General Assembly.

- It may call, in alignment with the rules prescribed by the United Nations, international conferences on matters falling within its competence.
- It may, with the approval of the General Assembly, perform services at the request of Members of the United Nations and at the request of specialized agencies.
- The Economic and Social Council may solicit the consultation/authentication of agreements with governmental and relevant parties, any of the agencies referred to in Article 57 or other 3rd parties on the basis of international affairs relevant to the Economic and Social Council under lien to Council. Defining the terms on which the party concerned shall be brought into relationship with the United Nations. Such agreements shall be subject to approval by the General Assembly.
- The Economic and Social Council may make suitable arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations which are concerned with matters within its competence. Such arrangements may be made with international organizations and, where appropriate, with national organizations after consultation with the Member of the United Nations concerned

### **THE ROLES OF THE HEAD TABLE**

- The head table of the Economic and Social Council will act as a moderator/advisory board on the matters discussed within the committee.
- The head table of the Economic and Social Council has the right to make executive decisions on behalf of the subsidiary organs, commissions and specialized bodies of the Committee.
- The head table may only request for the summoning of other executive parties and delegates if necessary to help the flow of the Committee's session if necessary.
- The head table may engage and provide input in the session for the purpose of increasing awareness and gravity towards the core components of a discussion.

### **ROLE OF:**

#### **DELEGATE**

- Responsibility of being part of using resources of conference towards the progress of the council's problem-solving
- Typical approaches to caucusing and position paper requirements
- Ability to raise points to entertain the expertise of advocates and emissaries.
- Expected discussions on provided data by the advocates and emissaries
- Ability to represent the countries policies in a sound manner which fits according the mandate of the topic and the committee.



## EMISSARY

- Necessity of providing corporate and private sector opinion to discussion.
- All statements and documents provided by an emissary is legally binding due to being a figurehead of his/her respective representation.
- Position Paper is expected to be written in time.

## ADVOCATE

- Ability to Analyse the Topic in the perspective of a third person.
- Review the Costs and benefits of Solutions formulated within the committee.
- Provide the Committee with expertise with regards to the Inter-Governmental Organisation. Eg:- The WB and its expertise related to fund management etc.

## VOTING

- Each delegate will have one vote, however the representatives of the inter-governmental organizations or from the private companies will not have a vote for resolutions.
- However every constituent member of the Economic and Social Council will have one vote when it comes to voting with regards committee proceedings.
- Decisions of the Economic and Social Council shall be made by a majority of the members present and voting.



**PD1: ADDRESSING INCOME INEQUALITY: DISCUSSING A HOLISTIC STRATEGY TO MITIGATE THE EFFECTS OF INCOME INEQUALITY AND A SOCIO-ECONOMIC POLICY REFORM.**

We are expecting discussions on the structural reforms needed to mitigate income inequality. For instance, the real impact of the trickle down effect. Analysis of case studies where income inequality is present. Further, discussions about the social impacts of income inequality.



**PD2: ASSESSING THE POST FINANCIAL CRISIS: WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS TO DEBT RESTRUCTURING AND THE SOCIAL CRISIS.**

Discussing methods to prepare for a financial crisis in the future, how to mitigate the negative impacts on a global scale to make the world more immune to a financial crisis. Analysing case studies such as 'Grexit' & Argentina. In addition, the importance of customary law and basic international principles of laws with regards to debt restructuring. Also the importance of sovereignty, good faith, transparency, equitable and sustainability during restructuring negotiations.



### **PD3: ACCOUNTABILITY AND PROTECTION OF NATIONS PARTY TO AND EXTERNAL TO TRADE AGREEMENTS AND PARTNERSHIPS IN THE PROGRESSION OF THE GLOBAL ECONOMY.**

Performing a cost-benefit analysis of the current trade partnerships. Analysing the negative implications and effects of trade agreements. Discussing and evaluating the fast track programs, behind closed doors. Regarding ISDS, what role a state plays in this. Furthermore we will look into the protection of parties 'external' to trade deals. Finally, the 3 T's.



### **CONFERENCE: THE SITUATION IN THE EU.**

The situation of the European Union is a presently a major area of interest among the international community. The EU dates back to 1993 when it was set up with the aim of ending the frequent and bloody wars between neighbours, which culminated in the Second World War. As of 1950, the European Coal and Steel Community began to unite European countries economically and politically in order to secure lasting peace. Over the years the EU has become one of the world's largest trading blocs, playing a major role in the global economy.

They have maintained dominance and excellence in being a political and economical superpower throughout. However, since recently the tables are turning. With lots of disagreement within itself and many countries criticising others of draining the EU, unity amongst the EU has deteriorated. Due to Economic, Social, Humanitarian and, the EU has been under a lot of pressure by the international community, with certain countries and organizations criticising the means of how the EU has handled certain incidents. All this has led to, undoubtedly the largest concern of the EU, **Britain passing the referendum** to exit the European Union. Where does all of this leave the EU? In terms of its financial situation, border controls, immigration laws, employment opportunities.

What is the next step for the European Union? Who do they resort to? What type of **trade deals** will we see in the future? What does the future hold for the mighty EU? Will it survive, Will it recover, or Will it cripple?



**LINKS TO REFER:**

[http://ec.europa.eu/economy\\_finance/eu/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/economy_finance/eu/index_en.htm)

<http://www.economist.com/topics/european-economy>

<http://www.unhcr.org/news/briefing/2016/3/56d96de86/unhcr-6-steps-towards-solving-refugee-situation-europe.html>

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-32810887>

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/europe-news>

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/eu>

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/eu-referendum>

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/debt-crisis>

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/refugees>

**END PRODUCT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR CONFERENCE**

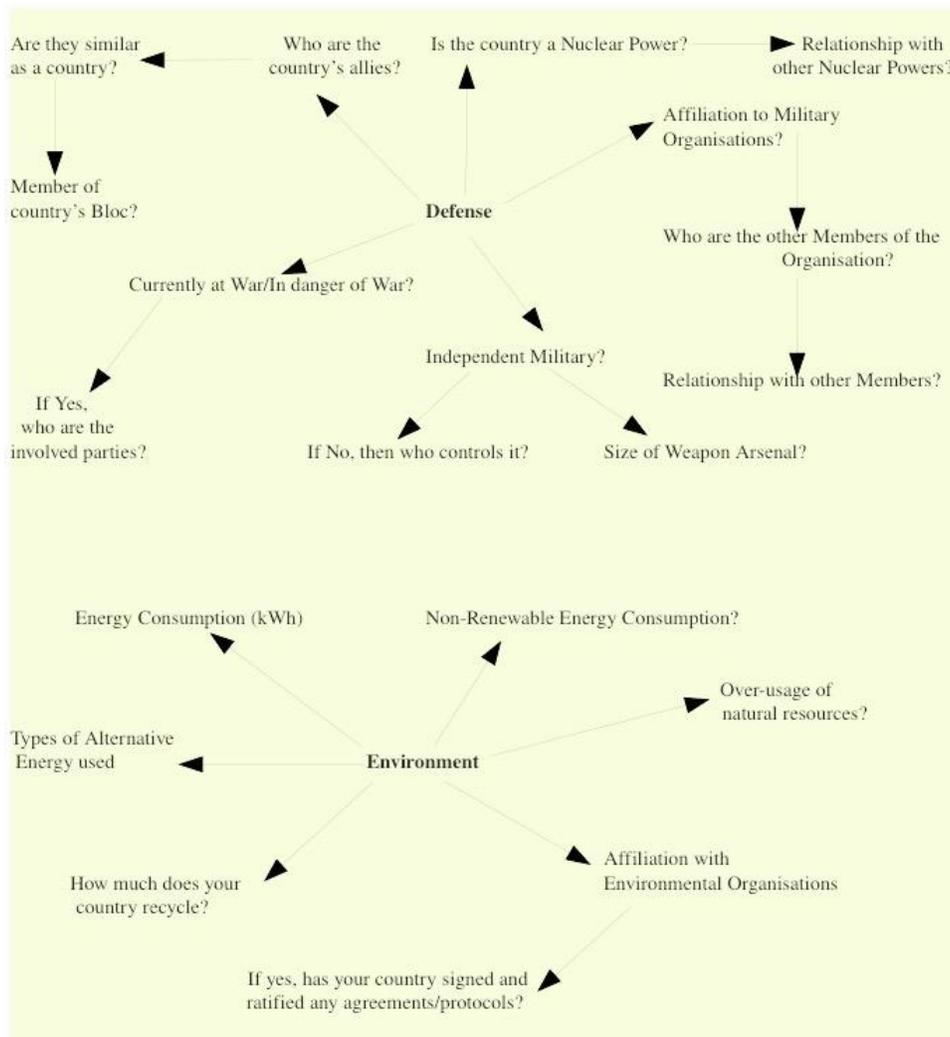
A holistic strategy to control and mitigate the current situation in the European Union is to be decided in committee; The available options are,

- a) A traditional resolution.
- b) A framework.
- c) A Convention.



## HOW TO RESEARCH

Firstly, this committee is not recommended for novice/Inexperienced delegates. But however just a general guide through as to how research has to be done with reference to the topic is as such.

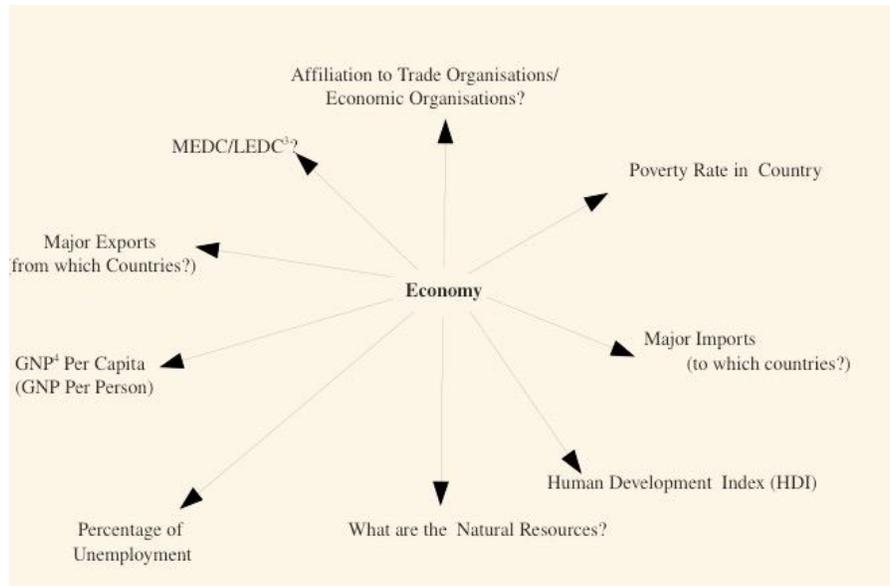


Always question yourself about different aspects of the topic. The most important aspect with the conference topic is the level of analysis the delegate shows with regard to a specific 'situation' in the EU.

For example if it is the migrant crisis in the EU.

- Question as to what the implication of this is on the EU?
- What is the net welfare loss to the European Union?
- The long term effects of the crisis on countries which accept refugees?
- Quota systems of accepting migrants?





As mentioned above it's quite evident as to how these situations have to be analysed. The best Delegate of the committee will be awarded to the delegate who brings up the most farfetched facts/ arguments to the committee and the delegate who manages to advocate/represent his country's policy effectively.

Therefore intense research is recommended for every single delegate on your individual Countries policies and the different situations in the EU.

Goodluck!

-Chairs: Mithsuka Tillakaratne and Dilain Saparamadu.

