



GA4

STUDY GUIDE

2017



COLOMBO MODEL UNITED NATIONS

2017

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 4

MANDATE

The mandate that has resonated within the UN for the GA4 will be adopted without any censorship or modification. The study guide will lay down the basic principles that ought to be followed in committee so as to support the delegates in composing their Foreign Policy Statement.

Fundamentally the GA provides its function in 5 different accepted regions (exclusive of the 5th general assembly) which have been adopted as committees. The fourth general assembly is the only committee that has a very adaptive mandate that requires a wide array of skills, mostly the knowledge on history and law. The fourth general assembly is basically understood as the Special Political and Decolonization committee (SPECPOL). The fundamental mandate is inclusive of outer space administration, refugee and colonization crisis management, information handling and disaster management (radiation and other airborne toxic matter), administration of post conflict regions and remnants of warfare, also the fourth general assembly is especially in charge of peace keeping and absolute representative decision making on the UN's involvement in war.

When understanding these key areas of the mandate it is easy for a delegate to see that a very broad and well updated understanding of: Policies, Principles and Crisis management, is requirement for all GA4 delegates. Apart from all of this, as will be mentioned in the topics to come, the delegates will be expected to be aware of decisions made in the ICJ and domestic legislature that plays a multi lateral role in the proceedings of the committee.

As it is a General Assembly, the chairs are aware of the procedure the resolutions have to go through to be binding, but at COMUN 2017 the delegates will be requested to be very vigilant and very specific in addressing problems, and not leave any ambiguity for the UNSC to decide upon the technicalities. Swift decision making is a requirement and will specifically be exercised in the situations that may arise during conference



PD1: ADDRESSING THE ASPIRATIONS FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT OR GREATER AUTONOMY AMONG THE KURDISH MINORITIES IN IRAQ, SYRIA, TURKEY AND THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN.

BREAKDOWN:

In recent history the influence the Kurdish minority has been having in politics and autonomy of nations has put into a paramount question of self determination. Here at COMUN 2017 the Fourth General Assembly would begin its caucusing on this very volatile subject. Delegates will be pushed on simply how well they are able to bring in all regions of debate to the assembly. A great deal of the delegates' knowledge on history and geo-politics will be put into question.

A fundamental breakdown of the topic would be for a delegate to address the:

- Historical representation of the Kurdish Diaspora.
- Kurdish encounter with regional terrorist activity
- Revision of the scope of Human Rights and self determination of stakeholders in self government.

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT:

Considering the 25 to 30 million Kurds living in the region of Iraqi, Syria, Turkey and Islamic Republic of Iran, this topic encompasses the ways in which these minority groups govern themselves in terms of income and security. The residing area of the Kurds is known as Kurdistan and its borders are loosely defined in the Middle Eastern region and do not have an observable economy.

In terms of autonomy Iraqi Kurdistan has had the most success and was promised independence in 1973 however, the whole of Kurdistan has not been successful in gaining autonomy of the entire region. The Kurdish people also faced conflict with Iraqi government in terms of autonomy and with their continuous fight with ISIS.

Kurds have formed independent defence groups like the Peshmerga, YPG and the PKK who continue to fight for independence and fight against terrorism; some have also been considered terrorist groups themselves. It is important to note that these such 'terror groups' also have a large amount of international support from countries not only in their fight against ISIS but in terms of supporting the aspiration of autonomy.



They have also formed allies with global superpowers like the United States of America likewise different sectors of Kurds like the communist sector have a large amount of backing from China, Russia, Pakistan and others. Countries that have supported the Kurds have been engaged in trade and have provided aid in terms of food, medicine and weapons to this marginalised minority.

The Kurdish forces have been successful in gaining back territory from ISIS, has the showed the ability to becoming economically stable thus, proving that an independent Kurdistan would be a force to be reckoned with in the Middle East nonetheless, it must be considered that even though the Kurds might have a similar ethnicity there are still vast differences amongst the Kurdish organisations of Turkey, Syria, Iraq and the Islamic Republic of Iran in terms of goals and visions of the independent Kurdistan and a difference in opinions related to political ideologies and international alliances.

Important Kurdish political parties, movements and armed militia fighting for self-governance

KURDS OF TURKEY,

1. The PKK movement (Kurdistan Workers' Party) with its armed branch HPG (People's Defense Forces)
2. TAK (Kurdistan Freedom Falcons)
3. HDP party (Peoples' Democratic Party)
4. KCK (Group of Communities in Kurdistan)
5. The PYD (Democratic Union Party) and it's two armed wings YPG (People's Protection Units) and the YPJ, the female brigade.

KURDS OF IRAQ,

6. The KRG (Kurdistan Regional Government) and its subsidiary the conservative KDP (Kurdistan Democratic Party)
7. The PUK (Patriotic Union of Kurdistan)
8. Gorran (Movement for Change)

KURDS IN IRAN,

9. Kurdistan Democratic Party of Iran (KDPI)
10. Kurdistan Free Life Party (PJAK)
11. Eastern Kurdistan Defense Units (YRK)
12. Women's Defence Forces (HPJ)

The fore mentioned are the most prominent.



TALKING POINTS:

- 1) State military and Kurdish affiliation.
- 2) Lessons learnt on marginalization of Kurdish minorities.
- 3) Historical Background and regional colonization alongside UN attributions.
- 4) Demographic models and application to the Kurdish situation in Middle East.
- 5) Situation in Syria and Turkey.

PD2 : THE QUESTION OF STATEHOOD IN THE 21ST CENTURY: REVISITING THE MECHANISMS SET FORTH BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

BACKGROUND

Statehood is popularly defined as the status of being a recognized independent nation. For example when nations gained independence from their colonial masters those nations gained political statehood. With globalisation and internalisation the question of statehood has been widely debated in the international arena in the context of the 21st century.

Most states are de facto and de jure (they exist both in law and reality) However, there are some countries that have not been recognized by all countries in the world and thereby 'de facto' such as Armenia not recognised by Pakistan, Islamic State unrecognised by almost all countries, Israel unrecognised by 32 countries to name a few. Likewise there are recognised states that fail to meet one or more of the requirements such as the Holy Sea and the Order of Malta. The UN has intervened in statehood matters regarding countries such as Israel and Palestine. The most recent movement has been the Puerto Rican statehood movement.

CONTEXT

The Montevideo Convention on Statehood of 1933 sets out several requirements for Statehood. The criteria of the convention are: (1) a permanent population, (2) a defined territory, (3) government and (4) the capacity to enter into relations with other States. Article 3 states '*The political existence of the state is independent of recognition by the other states. Even before recognition the state has the right to defend its integrity and independence, to provide for its conservation and prosperity, and consequently to organize*



itself as it sees fit, to legislate upon its interests, administer its services, and to define the jurisdiction and competence of its courts'

Debate in the legal arena has questioned whether the Montevideo Convention is sufficient or if recognition is even necessary? The Montevideo Convention has also been criticised that if all that mattered was the convention that almost anyone could create a state as long as there is territorial control.

The Montevideo Convention also introduces Article stating that "The political existence of the state is independent of recognition by the other states." This is known as the declarative theory of statehood. However, recognition is considered a requirement for statehood by the constitutive theory of statehood.

The requirements in international law states territory is a necessary prerequisite for statehood, however will countries submerging possibly within the 21st century due to high sea levels like Maldives, Tuvalu and Nauru cease to exist when territory is lost. Therefore, should territorial requirements continue for the existence of a state? And if not then can a country's sovereignty and territorial integrity be protected. Therefore requirements of statehood in the 21st century need to be revisited.

TALKING POINTS

- Discuss the neo-colonization and its global bearing.
- Break down the analysis of terrorism and its influence to statehood
- Provision of intelligence and research from global debate on imperialism and colonization.
- Analyze the basics and lessons learnt on ICJ decisions regarding statehood
- Discuss the powers of referendum and arbitrary



PD3: THE DILEMMA OF HUMANITARIAN INTERVENTION: THE QUESTION OF STATE SOVEREIGNTY VS. RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT

BREAKDOWN:

The responsibility to protect is inclusive of 3 basic principles known as the responsibility to prevent, react and rebuild. Alongside which the 3 pillars have been mentioned.

The well renowned three pillars suggest the following, in its first it suggest the responsibility a nation has to protect its own civilians from mass atrocities and especially that of which is mentioned under Article 5 of the Roman Statute. The second pillar is more multi lateral suggesting the responsibility of the global forum to promote said rights and duties of a single nation. The 3rd pillar basically deals with collective action and the revival of intervention from the global community.

In all this policy the question of sovereignty arises and can be defined in a manner of truism s being the states' or peoples right of determination and dignity and ability to shape their unique identities alongside with national freedom and ambition. It is pivotal that such a sensitive subject is tested to a certain scope of a delegate in approaching conference date.

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT:

Reaching the basic context of the topic there are a number of resolutions (exceeding 45 by the UNSC) that has mentioned the R2P. The 1st form of direction that was provided to the model of R2P was by the ICISS brought into existence under the collaboration of the UN and Canadian government had suggested in interpreting the 3rd pillar military intervention would be regarded as a last resort. This took place in 2001.

Secretary General Ban Ki-moon had made an illustration upon this matter as well in 2009 immediately after the world Summit known as "Implementing the responsibility to protect". A source which delegates can be channeled to wards in order to find some substance in approaching the subject of sovereignty.

On another point suggestive of the direction delegates should have in order to proceed at committee is that delegates should be aware of what are the constituents required to safeguard the sovereignty of the people in all countries. In this process delegates should bring to the discussion of what is required to be in legislature and also in thematic action plans to cater to humanitarian intervention.

Delegates are often suggested to follow a R&D form of commitment to resolution and alongside this be very inclusive of Lessons Learnt, where delegates should be especially



aware of foreign policies of countries such as China (Sino- Myanmar situation in 2009), the United States and other stakeholder nations.

The US was specifically mentioned since the delegates that are about to venture into the fourth general assembly should be well versed with previous invocations of the R2P and military/humanitarian interventions. The Libyan situation and the intervention alongside the nature and public up rise during other past interventions should all be discussed and required arguments and policies should be crystallized. It is up to a delegate to prepare a certain path and procedure to guide the committee debate, seeing which a chair will be comfortable in marking up a delegate.

On a final note it should occur to the delegates that the direction provided in the study guide provides the mindset of a chair. It is important that the mentioned points are kept in mind when moving into research.

Delegates should research deeply into the UNPKF's, its mandates and necessary alterations that should be done when dealing with crisis and humanitarian intervention. Apart from the fore mentioned nations. The Russian advances in Georgia (2008) and annexation of Crimea and the UN mission in Somalia are prospective research points for a Delegate.

TALKING POINTS:

- UNPKF mandate and advancement overtime
- Repercussions of military involvement in any situation
- Lessons Learnt on Humanitarian intervention
- Need of A thematic action plan in dealing with intervention with special emphasis on the Rules of Engagement.
- UN models in play to override intervention, post intervention analysis and nation rebuilding



COMUN2017



CONFERENCE: SUSTAINABILITY OF SPACE: QUESTIONING THE MILITARIZATION OF SPACE AND ITS GLOBAL IMPACT

BREAKDOWN:

Coming up to conference delegates are expected to have polished up their skills on the research required at GA4 and the depth that is required especially in the conference topic. It is a topic that has had many elements discussed previously, but has on the other hand left a lot of uncharted areas of discussion.

The topic directly addresses militarization of space in its context of sustainability. This should allow a delegate to break down the key areas required to be discussed and for that purpose delegates are expected to use the mandate of the committee that the study guide provides and is available under the UN.

Delegates are expected to be able to identify and classify the difference between militarization and weaponization as it is the most fundamental principle in play. Apart from that, the stakeholders to the topic should be identified alongside the analysis of the outer space treaty.

The use of Space, its recent developments and the problems faced in the development are all areas of key interest. The topic suggests the sustainability of space, which should come hand in hand with the sustainable use of space, keeping in mind the rights and freedom given to all nations in space exploration.

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT:

The important thing to remember is that MUNers currently have not properly revisited the mechanism and models that the UN has already put in place to administer the activities in space such as the registry of celestial objects and the UN-SPIDER program. This study guide would take you through very concise yet precise points of interest for delegates. A delegate at conference who is prone to cover only these topics in conference may not be capable of being marked up, yet a delegate who has these rudiments covered will find life to be easier in conference.

The UNOOSA provides a lot of information with regards to what a delegate should know in terms of strictly the context and not the body of the debate that is to take place. Fields such as the Outer Space Treaty and functions of ISS are pivotal for a delegate beginning research. Moving on from there since the UN specifically is an organ put in place to solve crisis and make the people's lives easier, secure and dignified, it would help if delegates are aware of what the special organs and bodies under the UNOOSA and COPUOS are capable of doing in immediate crisis management.



The UN is in charge of providing avenues for peace to be withheld so the committee is pushed to finding pacific solutions to the militarization of outer space which most leading countries are interested in doing.

There are 5 basic treaties that have allowed the unbiased and unrestricted use of outer space. They are the Outer Space Treaty, Rescue Treaty, Liability Convention, Moon Agreement and Registration Convention. Apart from them there a number of multilateral agreements such as the Treaty Banning Nuclear Tests in the atmosphere (1963) and agreements on Telecommunication. Delegates are expected to find out the required changes that should be made in prevailing agreements and provide advisory policy papers included within the resolution operatives. To access those loopholes first would make the flow of debate very efficient.

The delegation that will represent the GA4 would need to know its foreign policies in not only status quo but also on its projected views. Delegates must be able to show how and why they abide by a certain resolution or operative. On the note of foreign policy delegates should be careful of the private sectors investment and upbringing of the area of outer space. In addition the neo-military advances nations have made (i.e. China) in Outer Space. Apart from all of this, the sustainable use of space is put into question. The delegates are expected to bring up new solutions and strategy in reviewing the existing mechanism and technology and (with relation to the committees' mandate) makes corrections. All delegates of the GA4 must be well aware that the crisis management of GA4 will also be done with accordance to its mandate which encompasses a slightly direct set of principles.

TALKING POINTS:

- Discuss the similarities and draw backs of the existing treaties and multilateral agreements
- Decide on the differences between neo-weaponization and militarization
- Crystallize outer space constitution and structure for identification
- Discuss legal impediments and loopholes in discussing outer space colonizations
- Study the influences of private companies and discuss its legal standing and liability

