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A LETTER FROM YOUR DIRECTOR

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to UTMUN 2019! My name is Thomas Gendron, and it is my great pleasure to serve as the director of this year's United Nations Security Council committee. Congratulations to all of you on your placements as delegates in one of the world's most influential councils - I look forward to hearing your resolutions to combat what we have selected as the world's most pressing modern issues.

It is the goal of the UTMUN team to provide you all with an experience conducive to productive debate and collaboration when faced with contemporary international challenges. This committee is designed to test each delegate's teamwork, critical thought, and diplomacy skills through interaction both in formal caucus and unmoderated discussion. Delegates that demonstrate oral excellence, diplomatic behaviour, respect for themselves and others, and proper adherence to their foreign policy will perform well in this committee.

For your research, please be familiar with the topics of this committee beyond the background guide alone. You are encouraged to use this guide as a base for further exploration into the matter, not as your final stop. Please consult the guide to researching we have provided at the end of this document for tips and advice. You are expected to be the expert on your nation's historical and current position on both topics, and to present your foreign policy accurately in both speech and conduct.

The UNSC staff and I are incredibly excited to meet all of you, and to see what fruitful debate will arise from our committee topics for UTMUN 2019. Good luck on your research and see you in February!

Thomas Gendron

Director, United Nations Security Council
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TOPIC A: THE NEW KOREAN PARADIGM

THE 2018 NORTH KOREA-

UNITED STATES SUMMIT

History was made in June 2018 when Kim Jong Un and Donald Trump, the respective leaders of North Korea and the United States, met in a summit in Singapore. The summit had been planned and orchestrated for months by US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo.¹ At the summit, a joint statement was signed by the two leaders with four points: to establish new relations with the desire “for peace and prosperity,” “to build a lasting and stable peace regime on the Korean Peninsula,” “to work toward complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula,” and a commitment “to recovering POW/MIA remains” along with repatriation.²



Figure 1 -
<https://www.cnn.com/videos/politics/2018/06/11/donald-trump-kim-jong-un-summit-handshake.cnn>

On the international stage, the summit was seen as a monumental step with questionable significance. The motives for the summit, as well as the implications of recognizing a nation such as North Korea were major concerns. Many questions still remain surrounding what will occur moving forward, the biggest of which is *when*. No timeline has been set for when changes will occur nor for when the leaders shall meet next. The current progress that has been made rests in the words outlined in the leaders' agreement, but many specifics still need to be addressed.

In committee, delegates may want to discuss and analyze the possibility of arranging future summits. This may include discussion regarding the inclusion of other nations that have specific interest in the development of these relations, as well as addressing the concerns of those who oppose such summits.

¹ Benjamin Haas, “North Korea Summit Explainer: The People, Problems and Possibilities,” *The Guardian*, June 10, 2018, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/jun/11/north-korea-summit-explainer>.

² “The Trump-Kim Summit Statement: Read the Full Text,” *The New York Times*, June 13, 2018, <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/06/12/world/asia/trump-kim-summit-statement.html>.

THE FUTURE OF US-NORTH KOREA RELATIONS

The United States and North Korea continue to technically be at war due to the armistice that ended the Korean War.³ As a result, current talks between the two nations not only include nuclear issues, but also involve peace talks. Both sides have demonstrated an interest to move towards writing a peace agreement to officially end the Korean War, however both have also outlined conditions that they wish to be met.⁴ As the U.S wants to see nuclear disarmament occur first while North Korea wants a peace agreement to be drawn, any change will likely take a long process. Many experts in the U.S do not want to see a peace agreement

being written before any changes are made to North Korea's nuclear program because they fear it would de-motivate North Korea to make changes to their arms program.



Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump

North Korean Leader Kim Jong Un just stated that the "Nuclear Button is on his desk at all times." Will someone from his depleted and food starved regime please inform him that I too have a Nuclear Button, but it is a much bigger & more powerful one than his, and my Button works!

7:49 PM - 2 Jan 2018

Figure 2 -

<https://www.vox.com/2018/1/2/16843480/trump-taunts-kim-jong-un-nuclear-button-tweet>

The relationship between the leaders themselves is one that warrants special attention. The relationship which at one point seemed tense due to nuclear arms, has now changed completely into a seemingly fruitful and friendly one. Early in Trump's presidency, his reactions towards Kim Jong Un were negative, calling Kim "Little Rocket Man."⁵

In January 2018, Trump tweeted about his big and powerful nuclear button, attacking Kim Jong Un's nuclear prowess.⁶ However, in Spring 2018, reports began to appear about the possible meeting between the two leaders, as the US Secretary of State secretly met with Kim and other North Korean officials. Leading up the June summit, Trump's comments became less hostile. As of November 2018, the appearance that the two leaders give off is one of friendliness and cooperation. Trump said, "He wrote me beautiful letters. And they're great letters. We fell in love," at a September rally for the American midterm elections.⁷

Delegates will want to consider how relations between the two nations will play out with these two leaders at the helm. Whether Trump is amenable to Kim can rapidly change the

³ Josh Smith, "When to End the War? North Korea, U.S. at Odds over Path to Peace," *Reuters*, July 26, 2018, <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-northkorea-usa-peace-analysis-idUSKBN1KG0PC>.

⁴ Josh Smith, "When to End the War? North Korea, U.S. at Odds over Path to Peace," *Reuters*, July 26, 2018, <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-northkorea-usa-peace-analysis-idUSKBN1KG0PC>.

⁵ "Donald Trump and North Korea's Kim Jong Un: A Timeline of Events," *ABC News*, June 01, 2018, <https://abc7news.com/politics/pres-trump-and-north-korea-a-timeline-of-events/3517451/>.

⁶ Peter Barker and Michael Tackett, "Trump Says His 'Nuclear Button' Is 'Much Bigger' Than North Korea's," *New York Times*, January 2, 2018, <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/01/02/us/politics/trump-tweet-north-korea.html>.

⁷ Jennifer Jacobs, "President Trump Says He and Kim Jong-Un 'Fell in Love,'" *Time Magazine*, September 30, 2018, <http://time.com/5411002/trump-kim-jon-un-fell-in-love/>.

discourse, and how Kim wants North Korea to be seen internationally may make him more or less agreeable. The motivations for Trump to be friendly or aggressive towards North Korea changes with many factors and can greatly affect any progress the two nations make, as well as how the international community responds to the situation.

IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Outside the developing Trump-Kim relationship there lies large concerns by other nations on the implications of improving or worsening relations with North Korea. The peace talks, sanctions, and human rights violations all provoke varied responses on the international stage. Although North Korea seems to be attempting to appeal to more nations recently, it is important to note that they are still under heavy sanctions by the United Nations Security Council.⁸ In 2017 alone, three separate Resolutions were passed by the Security Council imposing different sanctions on the nation. Sanctions, although used relatively frequently for North Korea, come with their own challenges, such as evasion of the measures or the negative impacts these sanctions impose on the people of North Korea. Delegates will want to consider how they want to move forward with past sanctions in mind.

The peace talks and summits that have been held, and will most likely continue to be held with North Korea afford the nation a level of legitimacy and recognition that they have not previously been granted. It is still unclear to many whether these talks will achieve any progress, or are merely a platform for both Trump and Kim to further their own personal agendas. Many nations are unhappy with the sudden disregard for the sanctions on North Korea and their human rights violations in favour of a new strengthened relationship.⁹

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

Human rights abuses in North Korea continue to be a major issue in the nation, although they have been pushed to the back of public discourse with the recent U.S-North Korea developments. However, these are still very real issues that delegates will have to take into consideration even in discussions about military disarmament and diplomatic summits. The common and most pressing violations executed by the state of North Korea include the lack of freedom of movement and expression, forced labour, prison camps, a disregard for women's rights, and foreign detentions.

⁸ Eleanor Albert, "What to Know About the Sanctions on North Korea," Council on Foreign Relations, January 3, 2018, <https://www.cfr.org/background/what-know-about-sanctions-north-korea>.

⁹ Kristen Bialik, "How the U.S. and Its Allies See North Korea," *Pew Research Center*, June 11, 2018, <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2018/06/11/5-facts-about-how-the-u-s-and-its-allies-see-north-korea/>.

The North Korean regime allows little freedom to its citizens, such as the freedoms of movement and expression.¹⁰ Tightened border security in North Korea has led to even less people being allowed to travel or resettle to other countries. Those that choose to illegally escape risk being trapped in human trafficking or being caught and being sent to torture camps.¹¹ Freedom of expression is virtually nonexistent in North Korea as citizens are only exposed to state-owned media and only a small sect of the population is allowed to use the internet or have a mobile phone.¹² Citizens and foreign tourists are often subject to arbitrary detentions as they can be jailed for being a “threat to the state” or for “guilt-by-association.” Up to 120,000 North Koreans are currently in prison camps, and subjected to torture and inhumane conditions.¹³ Foreigners are also imprisoned and detained for extended periods of time. Notable cases include those of Otto Warmbier, a student who was detained for 15 months and died days after his release, and Lim Hyeon-Soo, a pastor who was detained for two years and suffered major health conditions. US detainees were released in May 2018, a precursor to the improvement in US-North Korea relations, but multiple South Koreans are still in detention.¹⁴ Women’s rights are also still an issue in North Korea. Women suffer gender-based discrimination when it comes to their role in society, jobs and how they are treated by officials.¹⁵ Women can be subjected to rape as punishment for their families’ crimes, or forced into marriage.¹⁶

With the election of Moon Jae-in in South Korea, some experts see that change is a possibility as Moon himself was a former student activist and human rights lawyer.¹⁷ Moon has allowed humanitarian groups to engage with North Korean groups, however the administration has not stated an official policy towards its northern neighbour.¹⁸ Japan also continues to demand for the return of at least 12 citizens who were abducted in the 1970s and 1980s and then used to train North Korean spies in Japanese language and customs.¹⁹ Although the U.S. has previously been a major actor in the imposing of sanctions against North Korea in the past, this may change with the recent efflorescence of relations between the two nations. Delegates should look into how U.S. policy and public discourse changes as the nation may focus less on human rights as they choose to pursue the issues of nuclear disarmament and improved foreign relations.

¹⁰ “North Korea 2017/2018.” Amnesty International, n.d. <https://www.amnesty.org/en/countries/asia-and-the-pacific/north-korea/report-korea-democratic-peoples-republic-of/>.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ “World Report 2018: Rights Trends in North Korea.” Human Rights Watch, December 20, 2017. <https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2018/country-chapters/north-korea>.

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Ibid.

KOREAN REUNIFICATION

Korean Reunification refers to the potential restoration of political unity to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Republic of Korea, and the Korean Demilitarized Zone. On April 27, 2018,²⁰ the two nations agreed to work together towards the end of Korean Conflict at the Inter-Korean Summit held at the South Korean side of the Peace House. For the first time in their hostile history, King Jong-Un and Moon Jae-In, the Supreme Leader of North Korea and the President of South Korea, jointly adopted the Panmunjom Declaration for Peace, Prosperity and Unification of the Korean Peninsula, signifying a new will to merge.

1945 saw the end of the Second World War and the division of the Korean Peninsula into two zones, with the South occupied by US troops, and the North settled by Soviet militaries. Five years later in 1950, North Korea invaded the South, with the support of Soviet Union and China, sparking the three-year Korean War, which resulted in the two nations being divided at the 38th parallel.²¹ Conflicts and tensions continued to rise as military attacks constantly occurred over decades, and it was not until 2000, when the North-South Joint Declaration was adopted,²² when the term "reunification" was first brought to the table.



Figure 3 - <https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2018/apr/27/donald-trump-effect-kim-jong-un-crosses-dmz-hugs-m/>

²⁰ Joshua Berlinger, "Kim Jong Un hugs Moon Jae-in," *CNN News*, Sep.18, 2018, <https://www.cnn.com/2018/09/17/asia/north-korea-south-korea-summit-intl/index.html>

²¹ CNN Library, "Korean War Fast Facts," *CNN News*, Apr.30, 2018, <https://www.cnn.com/2013/06/28/world/asia/korean-war-fast-facts/index.html>

²² UN Peacemaker, "South North Joint Declaration," *United Nations*, June.15, 2000, <https://peacemaker.un.org/koreadprk-southnorthdeclaration>

Territorial disputes over sea borders broke the temporary peace brought by the adoption of the Joint Declaration, and plans towards reunification did not see progress until 2018 due to constant nuclear testing by North Korea. The Inter-Korean Summit was soon followed up by the Singapore Summit²³ held a month after, with the presence of Donald J. Trump and Kim Jong-un. Immediately following the Summit, President Trump claimed that the US will stop military exercises in South Korea, in the hope of bringing soldiers back to the US. This announcement continued to encourage the collaboration of North and South Korea, however without an exact date of actualization of the policies, doubts arose among media presses that President Trump's North Korea diplomacy have been quietly postponed.²⁴



Figure 4 - <https://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/interactive/2017/08/north-korea-explained-graphics-170810121538674.html>

Before reunification can become a reality, logistics and middle grounds must be established between the historically similar but altogether very different nations. While the North has a 'democratic' label in its formal national title, the nation has altogether rejected

²³ Joshua Berlinger, "Singapore Summit," *CNN News*, June.12, 2018, <https://www.cnn.com/2018/06/12/asia/singapore-summit-intl/index.html>

²⁴ Adam Taylor, "Trump's North Korea Diplomacy," *The Washington Post*, Nov.7, 2018, https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2018/11/07/trumps-north-korean-diplomacy-quietly-stalls/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.53466d85d1db

liberal values that are otherwise embraced by the South and its allies.²⁵ Currently proposed by South Korean President Moon Jae-in is a 20 year period to dissolve borders while maintaining the current governance model of a separated north and south dynamic while infrastructure is expanded to physically bond the two nations and allow cultures to interact and blend.²⁶ Further talks on denuclearization and demilitarization are surrounded in controversy, with the United States voicing disagreement with the prospect of entirely removing their troops from South Korea in the name of improving relations, although President Trump has agreed to reduce the size of local forces to achieve that same goal.²⁷ Moon Jae-in also has plans to allow “relevant countries” to aid in the drafting of a peace treaty, which will likely permit allies of North Korea, such as Russia and China, to be present alongside the United States; this poses a concern over the structure of governance, economic relations, and military mandate a reunified Korea will adopt.²⁸

In the hope of continuing the progress towards a peaceful and secured status in the Asia-Pacific area at the 2019 United Nations Security Council Meeting, delegates would also want to take a look at past examples of successful reunifications in Germany and Vietnam. The situation in Korea is comparable to that of East and West Germany by the end of Cold War. However, both sides of Germany retained a basic working and trading relationship after the war, allowing the two sides to merge more easily. For this reason, some view the case of Vietnam more similar to the situation in Korea. The Vietnam War spanned over a longer time period, lasting over 19 years, and spilled over to neighbouring countries including Laos and Cambodia.²⁹ That war resulted in China and Soviet Union competing to influence political developments in all three countries, and encouraging revolutionary Communist movements therein. Could the same happen to a unified Korea?

NORTH KOREA DENUCLEARIZATION

Since 2003, North Korea has been actively supporting its domestic military weapons program, which specifically targets weapons of mass destruction, including chemical and biological weapons, hydrogen bombs, as well as nuclear weapons. The country has been ignoring international laws on limitations of nuclear tests, and has stepped out of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as of 2003.³⁰

²⁵ Gordon Chang, “A Big Mistake: South Korea’s Moon Jae-in Rushes to Unify Country,” *The National Interest*, 22 August 2018, <https://nationalinterest.org/feature/big-mistake-south-korea%E2%80%99s-moon-jae-rushes-unify-country-29487>

²⁶ Ruediger Frank, “President Moon’s North Korea Strategy,” *The Diplomat*, 13 July 2017, <https://thediplomat.com/2017/07/president-moons-north-korea-strategy/>

²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ Ibid.

²⁹ Christian G. Appy, “What was the Vietnam War About,” *The New York Times*, Mar.26, 2018, <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/03/26/opinion/what-was-the-vietnam-war-about.html>

³⁰ The Guardian Staff, “North Korea withdraws from nuclear treaty,” *The Guardian*, Jan.10, 2003, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2003/jan/10/northkorea1>

As of today, seven nuclear tests have been completed by North Korea, in the years of 2006, 2009, 2013, 2016 and 2017 respectively. In August 2017, China announced its plan to implement UN sanctions against North Korea, banning imports of oil, coal, minerals and seafood, which seems to have brought about a turning point in the denuclearization of North Korea.³¹ The dramatic decrease in trade heaped pressure on North Korean officials, leading to a meeting between the North and the South in January 2018. Soon after the Summit Conference in April, Kim Jong-Un personally met with Donald J. Trump two months after, at the Singapore Summit, seeking to end the decades-old tension and work towards the denuclearization of the Peninsula.



Figure 5 - <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/05/14/us-pressure-north-korea-ship-nuclear-weapons-overseas-sanctions/>

North Korea, by conducting its series of missile and nuclear tests, has clearly demonstrated the country's capability to launch ballistic missiles beyond the immediate region. It is suggested by the US intelligence community that North Korea's nuclear program has been developing at a faster rate than originally assessed.³²

³¹ Eric Talmadge, "China goes beyond UN Sanctions to apply its own," *Chicago Tribune*, Apr.7, 2018, <https://www.chicagotribune.com/news/nationworld/ct-china-pressure-north-korea-20180406-story.html>

³² Joby Warrick, Ellen Nakashima, and Anna Fifield, "North Korea now making missile-ready nuclear weapons," *The Washington Post*, Aug.8, 2017, https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/north-korea-now-making-missile-ready-nuclear-weapons-us-analysts-say/2017/08/08/e14b882a-7b6b-11e7-9d08-b79f191668ed_story.html?utm_term=.9c85e4bbdcd0

The United Nations Security Council has been calling on North Korea to cease its illicit nuclear activities by adopting nine major sanctions resolutions since 2006.³³ The country has been banned from exports of basic goods and services, imports of machineries, equipment, transportation vehicles, and is a given limit on annual crude oil imports. Previous UN resolutions have promoted the realization of Korean Peninsular Denuclearization. However, further efforts are still needed by the Security Council to maintain peace and stability, and to determine the regional balance of power in today's shifting diplomatic paradigm.

BLOC POSITIONS

The notion of a newly reunified Korea, and the form it will take, opens opportunity for new trade relations with a potentially key ally in future global developments. The form the new country will take, and what fellow nations it will consider to be allies, are of great importance to the international community. Of particular concern are three of the permanent five members of the security council: China, Russia, and the United States. Considered influential international powers, most certainly within the context of the security council due to their permanent membership, these states hold different goals and opinions on the outcome of Korean reunification.

Both China and Russia have voiced their support for North Korea, pushing against US-backed sanctions implemented by Security Council member nations, in an attempt to broker peace while simultaneously removing US influence over the future of the country.³⁴ Russia in particular seeks to increase economic relations with North Korea, both in a current and future state of potential reunification, while China seeks simply to maintain their current trade agreements.³⁵ The government of China sees reunification as a possible challenge to their international political and military power, with a new Korea potentially making strides as an Asian-state great power.³⁶ This insecurity is bundled with China's currently significant influence over North Korea's political decision-making as their primary partner, a position they do not wish to lose following reunification.³⁷ Russia currently does not hold such power at North Korea's table, and is eager to obtain further control over the region through any partnerships or agreements they can broker.³⁸ Speculation that North Korean denuclearization will take place

³³ Kelsey Davenport, "UN Security Council Resolutions," *Arms Control Association*, Jan.3, 2018, <https://www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/UN-Security-Council-Resolutions-on-North-Korea>

³⁴ Lee Jeong-Ho, "North Korea looks to get China, Russia on side before denuclearization talks with U.S.," *Politico*, 10 May 2018, <https://www.politico.com/story/2018/10/05/north-korea-russia-china-nukes-873642>

³⁵ Ibid.

³⁶ Subhash Kapila, "China is the single most impediment to Korean Reunification," *Indian Defence Review*, 20 February 2018, <http://www.indiandefencereview.com/spotlights/china-is-the-single-most-impediment-to-korean-reunification/>

³⁷ Ibid.

³⁸ Ibid.

through a transfer of their nuclear weapons to either China or Russia has arisen due to the 'no-term' peace agreement sought after by the South Korean president.³⁹

The United States has been a longtime ally of South Korea, with its considerable military presence in the region serving as an ongoing demonstration of both friendship and influence.⁴⁰ While the US has agreed to lower its troop count in attempts to appear peaceful to reunification efforts, they still desire a seat at the table to determine the future system of governance in the region.⁴¹ The presence of Russia and China have presented potential political opposition to the US' influence in the area, due to their currently delicate trade and military relations.⁴²



³⁹ Gordon Chang, "A Big Mistake," *The National Interest*, <https://nationalinterest.org/feature/big-mistake-south-korea%E2%80%99s-moon-jae-rushes-unify-country-29487>

⁴⁰ Ruediger Frank, "President Moon's North Korea Strategy," *The Diplomat*, 13 July 2017, <https://thediplomat.com/2017/07/president-moons-north-korea-strategy/>

⁴¹ Ibid.

⁴² Nicole Gaouette, "US runs into opposition from Russia, China, on North Korea sanctions," *CNN Politics*, 27 September 2018, <https://www.cnn.com/2018/09/27/politics/us-north-korea-meeting-unga-russia-china/index.html>

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. How will other nations across the globe move forward in their interactions with the United States and North Korea? What strategy will be required to ensure universal collaboration amidst so many different political agendas?
2. Does having North Korea brought onto the world stage benefit the international community or does it reduce the legitimacy of these institutions?
3. What stance will differing nations take in response to North Korea's new image? Although there are nations that are closer with North Korea, how will other small nuclear powers or economically-affected nations respond?
4. Should military forces of any other countries remain in South Korea or even, a unified Korea? Does removing troops cause feelings of insecurity? Insecurity for who?
5. With the US removing troops from South Korea, would China and Russia take over the US's role as principal ally of South Korea? How do these new developments affect regional relations?
6. How would a unified Korea balance its economic development, considering the current struggle in North Korea? Would the South really want to take in and care for their impoverished neighbours?
7. What further actions should the United Nations Security Council take, in promoting denuclearization in the Korean Peninsula?



TOPIC B: THE FUTURE OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

WHAT IS THE SECURITY COUNCIL?

The Security Council is a branch of the United Nations that met for the first time in 1946, following the conclusion of World War 2 in an attempt to foster peace in a world shattered by conflict. Under the Charter of the United Nations, it holds "primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security."⁴³ It is structured to have 5 permanent members and 10 rotating members elected by the General Assembly on 2 year terms in accordance with ongoing international conflicts.⁴⁴ Permanent members hold individual veto power to strike down any working paper, designed to prevent the adoption of any resolution that would aggravate what are considered the modern nuclear powers. The 5 current permanent members of the council are the United States of America, the United Kingdom, France, China, and Russia.⁴⁵ The Security Council is also the only body of the United Nations with the power to take military action or recommend sanctions, giving those with a seat at the table potential global influence.⁴⁶

CRITIQUES AND FLAWS

The coveted veto power, alongside permanent membership on the council, is a topic with considerable debate among the international community. While 9 of 15 members are required to pass a motion, any one of the permanent members holds the power to veto that motion.⁴⁷ This balance of power has been criticized as favouring 'western' nations who are not directly affected by global crises, but instead exert their influence on the situation through their permanent position in order to pass motions favourable to their goals.⁴⁸ Furthermore, due to the rotating nature of the 10 non-permanent seats, some countries feel their voice is either not represented on the council or is simply made irrelevant by nature of the veto power.⁴⁹

MOVING FORWARD

In order to address these criticisms, many solutions have been proposed since the council's inception. One predominant proposal has been to add members to the council as

⁴³ "UNSC: Mandate," United Nations, <http://www.un.org/en/sc/about/>

⁴⁴ Ibid.

⁴⁵ "UNSC: Members", United Nations, <http://www.un.org/en/sc/members/>

⁴⁶ "UNSC: Functions and Powers," United Nations, <http://www.un.org/en/sc/about/functions.shtml>

⁴⁷ Julian Borger, and Bastien Inzaurrealde, Cath Levett, Chris Newell, Finbarr Sheehy and Phil Maynard, "Vetoed! What's wrong with the UN security council - and how it can do better," *The Guardian*, 23 September 2015, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/ng-interactive/2015/sep/23/un-security-council-failing-70-years>

⁴⁸ Ibid.

⁴⁹ Ibid.

permanent members to diversify the ‘western’ portfolio.⁵⁰ The G4 group of countries, namely Germany, Japan, India and Brazil, are requesting their appointment to the council permanently, but whether they should be given the right to veto is still up for debate.⁵¹ These four particular nations are considered due to their population size, comparable GDP and military spending to current permanent council members.⁵²

A secondary opinion on restructuring the council argues that the flaw does not lie in the opinions presented, but in the lack of diversity through such a small number of represented nations.⁵³ This proposal notes that having more nations present on the council, even as non-permanent members, would greatly increase the insight and diversity of approach to international matters.⁵⁴ It should be noted that the danger of such an approach is to have too many voices in the room for any one to be seen as the clearer course of action.

COUNTRY PROFILES:

This section will present the reasons for consideration of each of the G4 nations mentioned above, as well as Canada, as possible additions to the council as permanent members. Delegates are encouraged to engage in further research on each country to further make a case for any nation(s) they may wish to see added in attempt to reform the council.

GERMANY

Germany is a central European country, actively involved in the promotion of globalization, a continued advocacy for the European Union, conflict disarmament, and humanitarian initiatives.⁵⁵ Most recently, with the conflict erupting in Syria close to European borders, Germany has demonstrated its commitment to humanitarian efforts and peace by providing asylum to 10,000 refugees.⁵⁶

Germany’s bid for the council is backed by France and Russia, two of the current permanent members on the council, while being opposed by Italy and the Netherlands who would rather see a European Union seat at the table rather than independently picked

⁵⁰“Brazil, Germany, Japan, India call for UN Security Council overhaul,” *Agencia Brasil*, 9 September 2018, <http://agenciabrasil.ebc.com.br/en/internacional/noticia/2018-09/brazil-germany-japan-india-call-un-security-council-overhaul>.

⁵¹ Ibid.

⁵² Ibid.

⁵³ Brian Lai, “U.N. Security Council Nonpermanent Membership: Equitable Distribution For Equitable Representation?,” *University of Iowa*, <http://myweb.uiowa.edu/bhlai/workshop/lailefler.pdf>.

⁵⁴ Ibid.,

⁵⁵ Shehab Khan, “Germany agrees to take in 10,000 more migrants selected by UN refugee agency,” *Independent*, 23 April 2018, <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/germany-migrants-angela-merkel-refugees-un-a8318646.html>

⁵⁶ Federal Foreign Office, “Germany as an active partner for global disarmament and arms control,” *Germany’s Federal Foreign Office*, 30 August 2018, <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/ausussenpolitik/themen/abruestung/-/218358>

European powers.⁵⁷ In addition to its links in the UN, Germany is a leading partner in the European Union, the G4, G7(G8), G20, NATO, OECD, and many more.⁵⁸ The German economy is one of the strongest in the world, considered among the top 5 economies globally.⁵⁹

Due to its past shrouded in conflict during the World Wars, Germany has embarked on a demilitarization campaign, which has greatly decreased its independent military capability compared to its neighbours. It currently houses NATO bases and missile sites, but hold to itself only a small air force and navy, and a moderately sized army; it instead holds to its globalist principles and relies on military strength from allies and international partners.⁶⁰

JAPAN

Japan, similar to Germany, is a member of influential international organizations such as the G4, G7(G8) and G20, but focuses mostly on East Asian partnerships such as the EAS, and ASEAN, though it maintains very close relations with the U.S.⁶¹ Japan is investing heavily in African and Latin American economic relations with countries such as Angola, Nigeria and Argentina; these Latin American countries alongside many Asian trade partners have supported Japan's bid to the council.⁶²

Japan is currently the second largest economic contributor to the United Nations, next to the United States, and has demonstrated a commitment towards the Sustainable Development Goals by contributing to the Official Development Assistance fund to aid countries who are unable to provide for their citizens.⁶³

Following the atrocities of World War 2, Japan's constitution now prevents it from declaring war against another nation unless in self-defense.⁶⁴ This has been seen as both a reason for Japanese permanent membership through the nation's continued attempts to broker peace, as well as a hindrance due to a lack of ability to decisively act upon a foreign opponent.⁶⁵

⁵⁷ "Chirac pushes two-speed Europe," *BBC News*, 27 June 2000, <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/807923.stm>

⁵⁸ "Field Listings: International Organization Participation," *CIA World Factbook*, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/fields/2107.html>

⁵⁹ "Country Listing: Germany," *CIA World Factbook*, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/gm.html>

⁶⁰ "Germany Is Quietly Building a European Army Under Its Command" *Foreign Policy*, May 22, 2017, <https://foreignpolicy.com/2017/05/22/germany-is-quietly-building-a-european-army-under-its-command/>

⁶¹ "Field Listings: International Organization Participation," *CIA World Factbook*, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/fields/2107.html>

⁶² Jane Perlez, "Territorial Disputes Involving Japan" *New York Times*, November 27, 2013, <https://archive.nytimes.com/www.nytimes.com/interactive/2012/09/20/world/asia/Territorial-Disputes-Involving-Japan.html>

⁶³ "The United Nations Budget: Assessed Contributions of Member States to the Regular Budget," *Nations Encyclopedia*, <https://www.nationsencyclopedia.com/United-Nations/The-United-Nations-Budget-ASSESSED-CONTRIBUTIONS-OF-MEMBER-STATES-TO-THE-REGULAR-BUDGET.html>

⁶⁴ Asahi Shimbun, "No Shift in Article 9," *Global Policy Forum*, 25 August 2004, <https://www.globalpolicy.org/component/content/article/200/41183.html>

⁶⁵ Ibid.

INDIA

India has been one of the largest contributors to UN peacekeeping missions over the past 50 years, with over 100,000 citizens having served and 8,500 currently active - more than all the permanent members combined.⁶⁶ Former US President Barack Obama cited India as a “leading contributor to the UN peacekeeping mission,” acknowledging their commitment to resolving international conflicts through peaceful arbitration rather than exerting influence over a torn region.⁶⁷ It has been elected to the security council seven times, in 2011 receiving 188 of the 190 potential votes from the General Assembly in favour of its non-permanent seat.⁶⁸

India is the second most populous country, with the fifth largest economy and officially recognized as the world’s largest liberal democracy. It maintains the world’s second largest active armed force and is also known to be a nuclear-weapon holding state, putting its profile in line with other permanent members already on the council. India’s bid is supported by many nations, by virtue of its status as a G4 nation, but is otherwise also expressly supported by France, the US, the UK, and Russia.⁶⁹

BRAZIL

Brazil represents the largest Latin American country by population, GDP and physical size - it represents the 5th largest population globally, 7th largest GDP, 11th largest defence budget, and is the 5th largest nation by pure land mass.⁷⁰ It has been elected ten times to the Security Council, having contributed troops to peacekeeping efforts across the Middle East and in Africa.⁷¹ Today, its peacekeepers are being used primarily to maintain conservation and deforestation laws in the Amazon, as well as passive ongoing aid in Haiti.⁷² Due to its size, economic influence and international connections, Brazil is considered the voice of Latin America in many international associations, such as the WTO.⁷³

⁶⁶ Colum Lynch, “India threatens to pull plug on peacekeeping,” *Foreign Policy*, 14 June 2011, <https://foreignpolicy.com/2011/06/14/india-threatens-to-pull-plug-on-peacekeeping/>

⁶⁷ Ibid.

⁶⁸ “India wins UNSC seat with highest votes in 5 years,” *Zee News*, 13 October 2010, http://zeenews.india.com/news/nation/india-wins-uns-c-seat-with-highest-votes-in-5-ys_661197.html

⁶⁹ Sheryl Stolberg and Jim Yardley, “Countering China, Obama backs India for UN Council,” *The New York Times*, 8 November 2010, https://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/09/world/asia/09prexy.html?_r=1&src=mv

⁷⁰ “Country Profile: Brazil,” *CIA World Factbook*, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/br.html>

⁷¹ “Brazil and the United Nations Security Council,” *Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs*, November 1, 2016, <http://www.itamaraty.gov.br/en/politica-externa/paz-e-seguranca-internacionais/6279-brazil-and-the-united-nations-security-council>

⁷² “Is Brazil heading towards military dictatorship” *Al Jazeera*, Accessed on November 8, 2018, <https://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/brazil-heading-military-dictatorship-181003112927172.html>

⁷³ Rian Lloyd, “Brazil is unpredictable right now. Here are 3 possible scenarios for incoming president Jair Bolsonaro.” *The Washington Post*, November 7, 2018, https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2018/11/07/a-lot-about-brazil-is-unpredictable-right-now-3-scenarios-for-incoming-president-jair-bolsonaro/?utm_term=.bfd5defcd02f

Brazil has received the support of France, Russia and the UK, alongside the majority of fellow Latin American countries both through its position as a G4 nation and by the Community of Portuguese Language Countries.⁷⁴

CANADA

Canada is an active member of the G8, G20, NATO, NAFTA, and many more organizations; it has been well recognized internationally due to its contributions to international peacekeeping efforts, the like of which was pioneered by Canadian Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson.⁷⁵ Thanks to these contributions, Canada has been an elected member of the council at least once per decade from the inception of the UN to 2000.⁷⁶ In modern day, Canada's role at the security council has been in question largely due to its more passive and lackluster role in peacekeeping, with countries like Ireland and Norway outshining Canada in both troops and donations to UN efforts overseas.⁷⁷ Furthermore, Canada's treatment of the Indigenous population through the residential school program has come to light at the international stage, an image that Canada must shake before being properly considered as a powerful permanent member.⁷⁸

Canada is primarily known for its high ranking on the Human Development Index, in which it placed 12th in 2017.⁷⁹ This index rates the quality of living, happiness and freedom of its people, which are considered the basic elements of a prosperous liberal democracy for the UN.⁸⁰ Canada is supported by its largest trading partner, the United States, but holds deep connections across the world both through its international aid and peacekeeping missions, and through its participation as a member of the Commonwealth of formerly colonized nations.⁸¹

⁷⁴ Deutsche Welle, "G4 Nations Bid for Permanent Security Council Seat," *Global Policy Forum*, 22 September 2004,

<https://www.globalpolicy.org/component/content/article/200/41186.html>

⁷⁵ "Peacekeeping," *Canada History*,

<http://www.canadahistory.com/sections/war/Peace%20Keepers/peacekeeping.html>

⁷⁶ Evan Dyer, "Canada faces steep odds in battle to join UN Security Council," *CBC News*, 24 September 2018, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/canada-un-security-council-bid-1.4835666>

⁷⁷ Ibid.

⁷⁸ Eugene Lang and David Perry, "Remind us, why does Canada want a seat on the UN Security Council?," *The Globe and Mail*, 7 May 2018, <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/opinion/article-remind-us-why-does-canada-want-a-seat-on-the-un-security-council>

⁷⁹ "Table 1: Human Development Index and its components," *United Nations Development Programme*, <http://hdr.undp.org/en/composite/HDI>

⁸⁰ Ibid.

⁸¹ "Country Profile: Canada," *CIA World Factbook*, 24 October 2018, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ca.html>

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. What, if any, countries on the list would you like to see as a new permanent or non-permanent member of the council? How will this benefit your country?
2. What are the flaws of the council that impact your country? Will restructuring the council solve these concerns?
3. What parts of the world are being over or under-represented by the council in its current form? Does this provide some nations with an advantage over others?
4. Is the veto an effective tool in our modern world? If it were removed, would it be advantageous to the future of the council?
5. During the Cold War, the UN Security Council - and by extension the UN - were often gridlocked and rendered ineffective due to the Soviet Union's and the United States' frequent use of the veto power against one another. With the addition of more permanent members comes a higher chance that solvent proposals might get vetoed. Is a more robust Security Council worth the possibility of reduced effectiveness in dealing with major international issues?



ADVICE FOR RESEARCH AND PREPARATION

This background guide is designed to establish a base of information required to set the stage on a particular topic matter. It is your duty as a delegate to perform your own research beyond the scope of this document and become an expert on your assigned nation. Your foreign policy, and how you implement it, will serve as the basis for your contributions to committee. We expect you to consistently behave and perform within acceptable limits of this foreign policy, which is dictated by **past agreements, statements and relations** made and maintained by your respective nation. Research into these elements will be fruitful to you in understanding your country's stance on the issues, as well as your allies at the table versus those who do not share similar positions.

It is important to note that the Security Council has 5 permanent members with **veto** ability: China, Russia, the United States, the United Kingdom, and France. For any motion, resolution, or other procedural vote, 9 of 15 members are required to vote in favour for it to pass. However, on these same votes, if one of the permanent 5 members votes against it, it is considered a veto, and the resolution will not pass. This is not designed to be used frivolously or excessively - such use will be noted by the dias and will harm your legitimacy as a delegate. It is meant only to be used when your foreign policy is threatened in some way, or if your nation would genuinely oppose the motion about to pass. To clarify, the *veto is not designed to put you as a delegate ahead of the committee, but to protect your national interests.*

To get a better grasp on your country and its position on these matters, you would do well to take simply to the news. Perform generic searches such as “*country* North Korea”, and it will often yield at least some information where a political leader may have spoken about the matter, an article clarifying trade relations with the nation may appear, or something similar with which you can begin your research. From there, it's important to be creative - look at nations with trade relations to your country, and their stance on the matter. Examine the relationship both current and past between your country and the United States, North Korea, and the other Security Council members who will be present. Ultimately, you should walk into committee understanding your country's goal as far as what points you want to see debated for each topic and perhaps presented on a resolution.

For your convenience, we have included some useful links below sorted by topic. You are strongly encouraged to conduct your own independent research on your own nation as well, as it will be vital to understanding your foreign policy. Additionally, please make use of the bibliography of this document should you wish to delve deeper into the general topic matter.

TOPIC A KEY RESOURCES

“Report Released on the Future of U.S.-Korea Relations | KEI | Korea Economic Institute.”

<http://www.keia.org/newsstory/report-released-future-us-korea-relations>.

This page contains important information summarizing a report on current U.S and South Korean relations. As the U.S and South Korea will continue to work together closely to monitor the situation in North Korea, the findings of this report contains relevant views and relations. Please note that this page contains a broken link, but you may download the full report from here: <https://www.thechicagocouncil.org/publication/report-us-rok-alliance>

Albert, Eleanor. “What to Know About the Sanctions on North Korea.” Council on Foreign Relations, January 3, 2018. <https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/what-know-about-sanctions-north-korea>.

Consult this article for a very comprehensive report on the history of sanctions on North Korea in the Security Council, the impacts of such sanctions, and strategies that the Security Council may consider for the future.

“NORTH KOREA CRISIS.” Gallup International. <http://www.gallup-international.com/surveys/north-korea-fears-still-dont-provoke-a-desire-for-war/>.

This Gallup Poll report features views that citizens of different nations hold towards what should be done with North Korea. This will be helpful to form your nation’s platform.

“North Korea.” Amnesty International. <https://www.amnesty.org/en/countries/asia-and-the-pacific/north-korea/>.

This Amnesty International webpage contains multiple useful resources that build a comprehensive image of the state of human rights in North Korea.

TOPIC B KEY RESOURCES

“World Factbook,” Central Intelligence Agency, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>.

This resource gives lots of great information about varying aspects of any country that the CIA recognizes. You may use this resource to build profiles for other countries, but do not limit yourself to this resource.

“The Security Council,” *The United Nations*, <http://www.un.org/en/sc/>

The best source is often the source itself, use the site to familiarize yourself with the structure of the council, its mandate, and its history of passed resolutions that may be of interest to the topics at hand.

CFR Staff, “The UN Security Council,” *The Council on Foreign Relations*, 24 September 2018, <https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/un-security-council>

An in-depth and easy to read explanation of the structure, purpose and brief history of the Security Council. This will provide an excellent background to the committee and possibly a starting research point for developing a clearer picture of your foreign policy.

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