UTMUN

Special Political and Decolonization Committee

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Contents

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> **This guide contains material that may be disturbing to some delegates. Due to the nature of the destabilization of Mali, it is unavoidable that topics of violence, Islamophobia, and death may arise in debate. The dais expects that delegates treat all topics with respect and seriousness.**

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4. Opt for diplomatic, respectful, and tactful speech and phrasing of ideas, including notes (e.g., no foul language, suggestive remarks, or obscene body language)
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A Letter from Your Director

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to UTMUN 2020! This is your opportunity to break out of your comfort zone in order to represent a nation's interest in pressing and complex issues. Although that may sound intimidating, with the right preparation, each one of you will be up to the task. This year's topics offer a peek into the near future; as space exploration continues to advance and climate change becomes a more frequent topic of discussion, these issues will also become more important to governments all over the world. It is now your job to navigate the world of diplomacy through these pressing issues.

This year is packed with some exciting topics! From Mali, to climate to even outer space, we are going to discuss very interesting policies. The destabilization of Mali is a critical issue because it impacts the stability of the entire region in Africa. As we head to the future, cooperation in outer space initiatives will become more and more important. Finally, the impact of climate on nations' security is also a relevant and intersectional issue. We certainly cannot wait to have these topics represented and contentiously debated by the delegates this year!

These topics even touch on some of what I study as a first year social sciences student here at the University of Toronto. I have participated in MUN at the local level - representing China twice in a row. I have also been a delegate at the UN Youth Assembly in New York, and the Forum for Young Canadians. Although politics is my passion, it does not need to be yours in order to do well and have a good time at MUN. I have brought along plenty of friends who initially did not have a clue about MUN, leaving the conference wishing it was longer. Whether you are a political nerd, tagging along with friends, or trying to gain an educational experience, Model UN is a place where people of many walks of life fit right in.

Having been in your shoes just last year, I understand the nervousness and excitement that can come with MUN. It may seem that the topics or the common terms used are too complicated or unknown, but it gets much easier the more you research!. Additionally, asking moderators for clarification on the topics, your nation's foreign policy, or for advice on what action to take, is absolutely encouraged.   It is far better to ask for advice if you are unsure than to stay silent out of fear of being wrong. Lastly, make sure to enjoy the conference! The beauty of the United Nations is its ability to bring together people from all walks of life in the hopes of working together for a better future. So in the spirit of the UN, meet new people and make new connections (just remember to get their actual names at the end).

Wishing everyone the best of luck,

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Topic A: The Destabilization of Mali

The destabilization of Mali has had ripple effects on multiple areas of life in Mali and has also affected the surrounding region. Mali has struggled to maintain a safe and peaceful environment in recent decades, and the latest separatist and extremist movements in the North have had further significant impact. The destabilization serves to also empower other extremist groups because of the lack of government control.

The separatists and extremist groups have caused significant chaos and violence. Unsatisfied with the government response, a military coup occurred. The struggle to carry out free and fair elections and enforce the law fairly has continued to ensue since. Although the Peace Agreement was signed in recent years, it has not been strongly implemented, resulting in further chaos for civilians.

Many civilians (including children) have been caught in the crossfire, and schools have closed down. There is a subsequent out pour of refugees to neighbouring countries. Humanitarian agencies have been targets of theft and violence, making aid more difficult to deliver. A wave of human rights abuses have occurred but have gone without justice served in the absence of the implementation of the law.

The nation of Mali is reliant on foreign aid and two primary industries, gold and agriculture. The lack of rain in recent years has harmed the agricultural industry. The violence also makes it more difficult for people to access work. The dire conditions also promote illegal trades.

Considered as one of the United Nation's most dangerous missions, the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) aims at promoting stability and supporting security processes as well as helping to protect civilians. The mission seeks to restore the ability of the government in maintaining peace, however further support from the international community is needed.

Historical Background

The current destabilization of Mali has roots which extend into its colonial history. During the 19th century, many theocratic states were created in the region.[1]   Al-Hajj (Leader) Umar Tal, led a series of religious wars throughout the 19th century, conquering kingdoms and empires in the region which is now known as Mali.[2] However, following his death, his eldest son attempted unsuccessfully to consolidate power over the conquered regions, resulting in frequent uprisings. French colonial expansion also occurred during this

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1 https://www.britannica.com/place/Mali/Precolonial-history
A theocracy is a system of governance based on a religion.
2 ibid

time.[3]   Following the establishment of a French fort in the west of Mali in 1855, the French engaged in expansion efforts towards the east diplomatically and militarily.[4] Eventually, the expansion resulted in the establishment of the region of French Sudan or French West Africa. The borders for which has undergone changes during the twentieth century, particularly with expansion towards the north. Many soldiers from French Sudan were recruited or drafted to fight for the French forces for the first and second World Wars. The region of Mali was not a primary concern of the French throughout the colonial era, in comparison to the attention paid to Cote D'Ivoire and Senegal. Although there were attempted revolts against French rule, they did not have a significant impact.

Mali gained semi-political autonomy through the creation of a territorial assembly with political parties in 1946. By 1958, the region, named the Sudanese Republic, became autonomous under the French organization called the French Community. The Sudanese Republic unsuccessfully attempted to create the Mali federation with Senegal in 1959. However, in 1960 the reigning political party, the Sudanese Union-African Democratic Party declared the independence of the Republic of Mali. (without Senegal). Mali was permitted to remain a member of the French Community while maintaining sovereignty.[5]

Since independence, Mali has experienced instability. In northern Mali, the Tureg and Arab groups have attempted to rebel by declaring a separate government for the region of Azawad. Their most disruptive rebellions occurred in 1963, 1990, and 2006. The inability of the government to consolidate and exert power over the region has further empowered other rebel and militant groups.[6]

Security Concerns

Armed rebellion groups have sprouted in Mali since 2012, calling for separation for a region in northern Mali called Azwad.[7] Dissatisfied with the government's response to the rebellion, in March of the same year the Malian army led a coup forcibly removing President Amadou Toumani Toure from power. Following the coup, the separatist groups gained significant territory in the North, as the government lost control. The group which led the 2012 rebellion, the National Movement for the Liberation of Azawad(NMLA), had ties to other extremist groups as well. However, the separatist and extremist groups shortly thereafter began to rival one another for territory and control, severing the ties.[8] Eventually, in 2013, as the groups began to encroach closer into the centre of the country, French forces intervened

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3 Ibid.

4 Ibid.

5"Mali - History," Encyclopedia of the Nations, accessed October 29, 2019, https://www.nationsencyclopedia.com/Africa/Mali-HISTORY.html.

6"Destabilization of Mali | Global Conflict Tracker," Council on Foreign Relations (Council on Foreign Relations), accessed October 29, 2019, https://www.cfr.org/interactive/global-conflict-tracker/conflict/destabilization-mali.

7Fabien Offner, "Shifting Relationships, Growing Threats: Who's Who of Insurgent Groups in the Sahel," The New Humanitarian, April 16, 2019, https://www.thenewhumanitarian.org/analysis/2018/02/19/shifting-relationships-growing-threats-who-s-who-insurgent-groups-sahel.

8"Destabilization of Mali | Global Conflict Tracker,"

(upon request of the local government). France continues to play a role in the region through military deployment.[9] As the strength of the armed groups has increased, this has paved the way for other destabilizing groups such as the Al-Qaeda group in El-maghreb.[10] Furthermore, the lack of control by the local police and military has allowed for an increase in the illegal trade of drugs and humans.[11]

In addition to destabilizing Mali itself, the rebellion groups have threatened to disturb Mali's borderline neighbors. Because of the ripple effect of the destabilization of Mali on the Sahel region, the main countries impacted - Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Burkina Faso, and Chad- have formed the G5 Sahel Force (along with France) in 2017.[12] The G5 Sahel force is a military counter-terrorism effort.[13] The Sahel Alliance has also been formed in 2017, in order to support the G5 Sahel force and the stability of the region; the alliance is comprised of a number of different countries as well as international organizations such as the World Bank.[14] Weakened security in the region is concerning to countries outside of the Sahel region because it provides transnational extremist groups such as Al-Qaeda with ripe conditions to expand.[15]

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Map_of_the_Sahel.png#/media/File:Map_of_the_Sahel.png

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9Ibid.

10Ibid.

11Susanna D. Wing, "Analysis | What's behind the Escalating Ethnic Violence in Mali? Here's What You Need to Know.," The Washington Post (WP Company, June 12, 2019), https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2019/06/12/whats-behind-escalating-ethnic-violence-mali-heres-what-you-need-know/.

12"Destabilization of Mali | Global Conflict Tracker,"

13"Destabilization of Mali | Global Conflict Tracker,"

14"Overview," World Bank, accessed October 31, 2019, https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/mali/overview.

15 "Understanding the G5 Sahel Joint Force: Fighting Terror, Building Regional Security?," Understanding the G5 Sahel Joint Force: Fighting Terror, Building Regional Security? | Center for Strategic and International Studies, June 6, 2018, https://www.csis.org/analysis/understanding-g5-sahel-joint-force-fighting-terror-building-regional-security)

Humanitarian Impact

With the lack of the rule of law, victims are unable to attempt to seek justice through a formal system. [16] This is particularly concerning because there has been an increase in the number of civilian casualties and subsequent chaos. According to the Human Rights Watch, Malian soldiers have engaged in human rights violations, however the Maliese government has begun to open investigations.[17]

Humanitarian organizations stationed in Mali have also been targeted by robbers, undermining the humanitarian effort.[18] The instability has also led to more than 735 schools closing.[19] Schools have been threatened or overtaken by militias despite the Safe Schools Declaration, which stated that schools are not to be targeted.[20] Refugees have fled from Mali to neighboring countries, namely Burkina Faso.[21] Food supply has also impacted Mali and the wider Sahel region because of the lack of rain reaching crops.[22] The lack of food supply has made people more vulnerable to joining the militias, because those groups are able to provide food as an incentive.[23] Current humanitarian efforts aim at helping 2.3 million people in need.[24]

Economic Effects

The lack of investments in the country have further exacerbated the instability in the country. Investment by the government has fallen because of the decreased income coming to the government. [25] Tax revenue to the government has decreased due to weakened security and tax evasion. The main exports of Mali rely on the gold and agricultural industry. [26] However, the 2011 drought and the lack of rainfall afterwards have strained the agricultural industry. The crippling economy has also encouraged illegal trade (of weapons, drugs, etc). Additionally, the violence in Mali impacts the access to one's work, as the fear of being caught

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16Kenneth Roth, "World Report 2019: Rights Trends in Mali," Human Rights Watch, January 17, 2019, https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2019/country-chapters/mali.

17Ibid.

18Ibid.

19Ibid.

20Ibid.

21United Nations, "Mali Violence Drives Thousands to Burkina Faso," UNHCR, accessed October 31, 2019, https://www.unhcr.org/news/briefing/2018/4/5ad5c2094/mali-violence-drives-thousands-burkina-faso.html.

22Ibid.

23Chris Arsenault, "Climate Change, Food Shortages, and Conflict in Mali," Poverty & Development | Al Jazeera (Al Jazeera, April 27, 2015), https://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/2015/04/climate-change-food-shortages-conflict-mali-150426105617725.html.

24"Amid Continuing Violence, Efforts to Implement Mali Peace Agreement Must Be Intensified, Assistant Secretary-General Tells Security Council | Meetings Coverage and Press Releases," United Nations (United Nations), accessed October 31, 2019, https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc13665.doc.htm.

25"Overview", World Bank.

26"The World Factbook: Mali," Central Intelligence Agency (Central Intelligence Agency, February 1, 2018), https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ml.html.

in the crossfire remains imminent.. Mali is one of the 25 poorest countries and relies on foregin aid.[27] Ultimately, extreme poverty grows when security is Mali is weak, therefore it is also important economically to stabilize Mali.[28]

U.N Involvement and Next Steps

In recent years the United Nations has furthered its direct involvement in Mali. In 2012, Resolution 2085 established the first United Nations Office in Mali.[29] In 2013 the Security Council passed resolution 2100 establishing the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali, taking over the United Nations Office in Mali.[30] The goal of this mission is to help carry out the political processes of the country so as to aid the stabilization. [31] The mission also has a role in supporting security missions.[32] Protecting civilians and supporting stability remains the primary focus of the mission. [33] Operations are concentrated in the northern region of Mali of Azwad.[34] The mission is known to be one of the most dangerous under current operations because of the high number of attacks on the peacekeepers.[35]

In 2015, the Bamako Peace Agreement was signed with Azwad and Tuareg ethnic groups, with promise of greater autonomy to the northern region, support for development, as well as integration into the security forces.[36] However, various vital components of the agreement have not been fulfilled yet.[37] Stronger implementation of the peace agreement and involvement of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali are both critical to stabilizing the region. One of the aims of the mission is to help establish free and fair elections; trends of more open dialogue in a previously polarized society is an encouraging sign.[38] Solidarity from the international community is vital for the government of Mali to be able to consolidate power and restore the rule of law, in order to implement free and fair elections and institute economic reform.[39] Ultimately, the United Nations aims to support the government in re-establishing power over the region in order to

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27Ibid.

28 "Overview", World Bank.

29"History," MINUSMA, July 23, 2018, https://minusma.unmissions.org/en/history.

30"MINUSMA Peacekeeping," United Nations (United Nations), accessed October 31, 2019, https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/minusma.

31Ibid.

32Ibid.

33Ibid.

34"History," MINUSMA

35"Destabilization of Mali | Global Conflict Tracker."

36Ibid.

37Ibid.

38"Amid Continuing Violence, Efforts to Implement Mali Peace Agreement Must Be Intensified, Assistant Secretary-General Tells Security Council | Meetings Coverage and Press Releases," United Nations.

39Ibid.

deter other militant groups from expanding.[40]

Questions to Consider

1. What strategic interests does your country have in the region? How does the destabilization of Mali impact those interests?
2. Does your country have a humanitarian organization operating in the region, impacted by the conflict?
3. Has your country had any historical ties to Mali or countries in the Sahel region?
4. What is your country's position on providing foreign aid?
5. Is your country a contributing nation to the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali? If so, how?
6. Has your country released any statements about Mali following council meetings, such as the Security Council? (hint: this can be through statements expressed by ambassadors and recorded by journalists)

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[40]"Destabilization of Mali | Global Conflict Tracker," Council on Foreign Relations (Council on Foreign Relations), accessed October 29, 2019, https://www.cfr.org/interactive/global-conflict-tracker/conflict/destabilization-mali.

Topic B: Outer Space Cooperation

Outer space activity has helped this world transition from one era to another. The moon landing in 1969, for example, was groundbreaking news. It was a whole new realm to discover. It comes as no surprise that politics have played a major role in space exploration. In 1959, ten years before the US moon landing, the UN General Assembly appointed The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) in order to make sure that space exploration was being used for the common good of all humanity[41].

Space cooperation is a way in which nations facing space exploration may divide the costs and burdens amongst each other[42]. It allows for nations to save money, generate diplomatic prestige amongst each other, and increase political sustainability; cooperation also enables workforce stability[43]. So far, in the COPUOS, there are 77 members, including the United States, Russia, Japan, China, Canada, Brazil, Australia, and the member states of the European Space Agency[44].

Historical Background

Although the exploration of space may seem like a relatively new frontier, it has accumulated an exciting history. It has brought about new fields of technology and law, which have been developed over the past decades.

Space law is a set of rules agreed upon by the member states of the COPUOS[45]. Much like international law, space law is comprised of international agreements, treaties, conventions as well as UNGA resolutions, in order to create a sustainable and productive environment for space exploration[46]. In order to reinforce the common goal of all member states of the COPUOS, which is to use space exploration for the common good of humanity, the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) "is tasked with promoting international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space"[47].

The Space Race consisted of a series of important events during the Cold War, and

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41 Robert.wickramatunga, "United NationsOffice for Outer Space Affairs," COPUOS, accessed November 2 2019, http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/copuos/index.html.

42 Broniatowski, D.A., et al, "The case for Managed International Cooperation in Space Exploration," accessed November 2 2019, https://web.mit.edu/adamross/www/BRONIATOWSKI_ISU07.pdf

43 Ibid.

44 Elizabeth Howell, "Who Owns the Moon?: Space Law & Outer Space Treaties," Space.com (Space, October 27, 2017), https://www.space.com/33440-space-law.html.

45 Daniel.garcia-Yarnoz, "United NationsOffice for Outer Space Affairs," Space Law, accessed November 2, 2019, https://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/spacelaw/index.html.

46 Ibid.

47 "What You Need to Know about the Laws of Space." Engadget. Accessed November 2, 2019. https://www.engadget.com/2015/05/11/what-you-need-to-know-about-the-laws-of-space/.

has become a cornerstone of space exploration. It involved the USA and the USSR[48]. It was essentially comprised of the Americans and the Soviets pursuing a series of 'firsts' in terms of space exploration[49]. It all started in 1957, with the launch of the satellite 'Sputnik 1' by the Soviets[50]. They continued their triumphant run at space exploration through many other achievements such as the launch of a second satellite, 'Sputnik 2' carrying the first dog to go into space, as well as the first two missions to leave the earth's orbit, 'Luna 1' and 'Luna 2'[51]. The US tried to retaliate through many other space exploration achievements, however, the most notable one began as a bold statement, wherein the US announced they were to send the first people to the moon before the end of 1960s[52]. The question of who won the space race is not an easy one to answer. However, the political instability that it caused further reiterated the importance that space cooperation holds in the issue of space exploration.

The *International Space Station (ISS)* is a research laboratory situated in outer space, orbiting the earth[53]. The ISS exemplifies space cooperation; it is a spacecraft that has been built by 16 countries (the USA, Canada, Japan, Russia, Brazil, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the UK) looking to have means for space exploration[54]. The ISS is described to be one of the greatest human and technological accomplishments[55]. The ISS program has brought together many "international flight crews, multiple launch vehicles, globally distributed launch, operations, training, engineering, and development facilities; communications networks, and the international scientific research community"[56].

Economic Effects

Space is known to have a million or more times the amount of resources as the Earth[57]. It is for this reason that multi-billion dollar companies, such as Amazon, have started looking to the future concerning space exploitation and have begun investing in the idea of space mining[58]. As multi-billion dollar corporations began their expansion into space, this prompted the question: can companies make money off areas in outer space? The quick answer to this is yes. Companies have the potential, with the right resources and technology, to expand into space and start mining for resources, which

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48 History.com Editors, "The Space Race," History.com (A&E Television Networks, February 22, 2010), https://www.history.com/topics/cold-war/space-race.

49 Adam Mann, "What Was the Space Race?," Space.com (Space, August 7, 2019), https://www.space.com/space-race.html.

50 Ibid.

51 Ibid.

52 Ibid.

53 "About the International Space Station," Canada.ca, May 17, 2019, https://asc-csa.gc.ca/eng/iss/about.asp.

54 "International Space Station Fast Facts," CNN (Cable News Network, September 13, 2019), https://www.cnn.com/2013/10/22/world/international-space-station-fast-facts/index.html.

55 Mark Garcia, "International Cooperation," NASA (NASA, March 25, 2015), https://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/station/cooperation/index.html.

56 Ibid

57 Heidi Vella, "Should We Be Protecting the 'Space Wilderness' from Mining?," Mining Technology | Mining News and Views Updated Daily, August 16, 2019, https://www.mining-technology.com/features/should-we-be-protecting-the-space-wilderness-from-mining/.

58 Ibid

may become crucial as the Earth runs out of them[59]. However, it may take years for companies to reach that goal, and there are a lot of ethical barriers to get through before this could become a possibility[60].

Before space mining could become a reality, there should be parties involved in the legislation of this activity in order to avoid disputes and conflict. The parties should be well aware and knowledgeable of the limitations this activity may have, and should also come up with a set of guidelines to reiterate the importance of conserving the wilderness, as to not plunge into the same mistakes that have been done while exploiting resources here on Earth[61]. Evidently, there are many difficulties in creating such international treaties[62]. Although countries like the US and Luxembourg have already begun developing space mining legislation, it is going to have to be accepted on an international level before it can be solidified as part of space law[63].

Unfortunately, with the surge of new uses for space, there have been many questions raised on the exploitation of space, and if that entails future concerns. There are many reasons for which nations and multi-billion companies are seeking space mining: "[t]he argument in favor of asteroid mining is simple... [W]ithin the Solar System, there are countless bodies that contain a wealth of minerals, ores, and volatile elements that are essential to Earth's economy"[64]. With that being said, the Earth is also running out of non-renewable resources, such as oil and precious metals, due to overexploitation, and in some extreme cases, illegal extractions. The Earth is expected to run out of them in 50 to 60 years[65]. Furthermore, the products of space mining could increase the Earth's economy and make it a thousand times bigger than it is today[66]. However, the question on whether this practice would be ethical or not is still being debated among scientists, as the results of exploiting resources have had predominantly negative consequences on the Earth. This raises the question of whether it would be sustainable, and if so, the ways in which measures could be taken for it to remain sustainable.

Social and Political Effects

What does space cooperation mean for civilians wanting to travel to outer space? In terms of space tourism, NASA has already started working on the makings of this project[67].

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59 Ibid.

60 Ibid.

61 Ibid.

62 Ibid.

63 Ibid.

64 Matthew S. Williams, "Asteroid Mining Could Become a Reality in the Next Coming Years," Interesting Engineering (Interesting Engineering, August 5, 2019), https://interestingengineering.com/asteroid-mining-what-will-it-involve-and-is-this-the-future-of-wealth.

65 Ibid

66 Heidi Vella, "Should We Be Protecting the 'Space Wilderness' from Mining?," Mining Technology | Mining News and Views Updated Daily, August 16, 2019, https://www.mining-technology.com/features/should-we-be-protecting-the-space-wilderness-from-mining/.

67 Manuel Carrillo III, "Civilians Will Soon Be Green-Lighted to Rocket to the International Space Station," Roadshow (CNET, June 7, 2019), https://www.cnet.com/roadshow/news/international-space-station-tourism-nasa-spacex/)

This could potentially open up a whole new sector in the market of tourism, as this project could generate more than 200 million dollars each year[68]. Although this seems to be a high number, it is actually revenue from only two individuals per year[69] The reason for this is because NASA has projected that the costs per individual would amount to more than 100 million each, and could only allow two amateur astronauts aboard this program per year[70]. Although this sounds like a very futuristic project, it is estimated to be possible in the near future, which means that tourism will expand into space possibly before the end of this century[71]. This entire project essentially means that space exploration may further develop into a tourism industry, which might generate a lot of profit. The potential profit may cause countries to further engage and invest in productive measures to expand space cooperation. The money could be put into developing and advancing space technology.

As mentioned previously, space cooperation generates diplomatic stature as well as increasing political sustainability[72]. Space exploration has been one of the most important as well as prestigious programs for decades; being part of such projects comes with great honor. One way in which this space tourism project may increase diplomatic ties is by encouraging countries to cooperate for positive outcomes on both sides; if one country were to cooperate on this project with the US, it would suggest that both parties have good ties and relations with each other[73]. Furthermore, it would suggest that the country working with the US showcases a lot of recognizable technological advancements[74]. Politically, no party will find it sustainable or wise to work against international agreements on the ISS or space exploration because this project may bring many benefits and prestige to the member country[75]. This reinforces political ties and security for the countries collectively working on the ISS project.

Case Study: Legal Jurisdictions in Outer Space

As space exploration becomes more of a reality, there are different things to think about in terms of legal implications. This has come to light through a recent event that happened aboard the ISS. The first ever crime was been committed in outer space in 2019, which sparked controversy on how crime should be managed in space and what role earthly jurisdiction should have in such matters[76]. US astronaut Anne McClain was accused of illegally accessing her wife's bank account

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68 Ibid.

69 Ibid.

70 Ibid.

71 Ibid.

72 Broniatowski, D.A., et al, "The case for Managed International Cooperation in Space Exploration," accessed November 2 2019, https://web.mit.edu/adamross/www/BRONIATOWSKI_ISU07.pdf

73 Ibid.

74 Ibid.

75 Ibid.

76 Loren Grush, "The First Alleged Crime Committed in Space Raises Questions about Jurisdiction in Orbit," The Verge (The Verge, August 27, 2019), https://www.theverge.com/2019/8/27/20833761/nasa-iss-international-space-station-alleged-crime-anne-mcclain-jurisdicition-framework)

from space[77]. This started a stream of debates on how matters like these should be handled; there is no particular country that owns space, and therefore, there is no set of laws from one country that governs the principles in which individuals should abide by in outer space[78]. However, as previously stated, there are some space laws and treaties put in place through the many committees that have been established for space cooperation. "Article VIII of the 1967 Outer Space Treaty states, "A State Party to the Treaty on whose registry an object launched into outer space is carried shall retain jurisdiction and control over such object, and over any personnel thereof, while in outer space or on a celestial body.""[79]. This can roughly be understood as "any crime committed in space would be under the jurisdiction of the country of origin of the astronaut concerned". Furthermore, there is an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) that was established in 1998 which outlines the guidelines in which nations taking part in space exploration must abide by in order to coexist in the station[80]. The IGA was signed by Canada, all the European states taking part in space exploration, as well as Japan, Russia, and the US. The IGA outlines that all countries taking part in space exploration are "expected to exercise criminal jurisdiction over personnel from its respective nation"[81]. This would mean that the crime that has been committed in space by Anne McClain would have to be investigated by the US via normal criminal proceedings, as she is a US citizen astronaut affiliated with NASA.

Current U.N Involvement and Next Steps

Space exploration and space cooperation have mainly been taken care of by the UN's Fourth General Assembly (SPECPOL), as well as the established branches COPUOS and UNOOSA; these bodies ensure that diplomacy and peace is kept between all nations partaking in space projects[82]. Furthermore, the UN has been involved in passing resolutions in order to "encourage stronger international cooperation for peacefully using outer space to drive sustainable development"[83].

SPECPOL has vastly contributed to space cooperation by reiterating the importance of outer space exploration serving for the benefit for all humanity[84]. The General Assembly adopted draft resolution A/73/L.6, titled "Fiftieth anniversary of the first United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space: space as a driver of sustainable development"[85]. This document's function was to reiterate how space exploration tools should be used in order to achieve the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable

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77 Ibid.

78Chelsea Gohd, "Who Investigates a Crime in Space?," Space.com (Space, August 29, 2019), https://www.space.com/who-investigates-space-crime.html).

79 Ibid.

80 Ibid.

81 Ibid.

82 "General Assembly Adopts Resolution Encouraging Stronger International Cooperation for Peacefully Using Outer Space to Drive Sustainable Development | Meetings Coverage and Press Releases," United Nations (United Nations), accessed November 5, 2019, https://www.un.org/press/en/2018/ga12083.doc.htm)

83 Ibid.

84 Ibid.

85 Ibid.

Development[86]. This proposed draft had positive statements from the delegates representing Paraguay, the United Arab Emirates, the Russian Federation, the United States, Iran and Canada[87]. Space cooperation can be seen through those countries who may not have the closest diplomatic ties, but who come together in order to create a safe, sustainable, and politically cooperative environment in order to work for better space exploration to benefit humanity.

Although there is an ever growing presence of peaceful outer space usage fueled by space cooperation of present member nations, there are some growing fears that a larger number of participants may lead to political unrest[88]. This is also followed by the fear that it may lead to security related issues between countries which may manifest into an arms race[89]. Such concerns were thoroughly expressed by the representatives of Sweden as well as Pakistan in the fourth General Assembly[90]. The Debate was a prominent one with multiple actors involved, including COPUOS and UNOOSA in the debate for whether an increasing number of participants in space exploration may lead to risk the security of space assets as well as create limitations in the scope of peaceful uses of outer space[91].

The next steps in space exploration will mainly be focused on resource extraction. As many countries begin to enter the realm of outer space, many issues may arise. There will be responsibility allocated to the UN and the branches founded for the purpose of space cooperation, however, there might come a day when it simply will not be enough to continue with space affairs. This could mean that there might be new bureaucracies put in place for the benefit of humanity for space exploration. On a political scale, this might mean new space colonies, or space legislature. On a social scale, this might mean people immigrating to outer-space, which creates an entire new generation of people, with possible implications on many social aspects such as health and education. In order to not fall into a viable fate of chaos, humanity will have to work together through international diplomacy as well as with the help of the UN, to coexist with the unprecedented future of an outer-space world.

Questions to Consider

1. How do countries who do not take part in space exploration and therefore space cooperation, cooperate with countries taking part in those projects? And how do they benefit from those projects?
2. How does ethics play a role in space mining?
3. Who should be in charge of limitations and setting guidelines for companies

86 Ibid.

87 Ibid.

88 "Debating Outer Space Cooperation, Fourth Committee Hears Growing Number of Actors in Outer Space Could Risk Security of Space Assets, Limit Scope of Peaceful Uses | Meetings Coverage and Press Releases," United Nations (United Nations), accessed November 5, 2019, https://www.un.org/press/en/2009/gaspd433.doc.htm)

89 Ibid

90 Ibid

91 Ibid.

looking to exploit resources from space?

4. Will space cooperation be tampered with if space mining for companies become a reality?

5. Does an increasing number of actors in space exploration create potential security concerns?

6. Will the ongoing space race between companies affect space cooperation between nations?

7. How could the UN work to prevent arms races in outer space, and continue to manage the activities in space exploration for the benefit of humans?

Topic C: Climate Security

Climate change will affect all aspects of human life. For instance, people will have to leave their homes due to changes in climate and weather that make their homes inhabitable. This is evident in natural disasters like hurricanes, which leave widespread damage and humanitarian crises in their wake. Such disasters will only become more frequent as the climate becomes warmer, and we will see more and more climate refugees and environmental migrants[92]. Typically after a natural disaster, there is a mass exodus because the conditions are simply unlivable. These changes in migration patterns and influxes of climate migrants can pose a security threat for some countries.

Moreover, climate change is shaping societies' functions and their norms[93]. Countries who have once relied on geographical patterns for border placement are having to re-establish borders to prevent confusion on where the border actually lies; one example of such an occurrence is at the Swiss-Italian border, was previously marked by a glacier in the Alps[94]. A lack of established borders may lead to situations in which not only territory, but access to natural resources may be disputed[95]. Climate security is therefore an ever-increasing issue that should be addressed by SPECPOL in order to be able to ensure the security of member countries as the changing climate threatens their nations.

Humanitarian Effects

In the next few years, the number of people seeking refuge due to changing climates will likely increase. The humanitarian impacts pose an extreme threat to the countries where migration of immigrants seeking refuge will be greatest. Usually, migration primarily occurs between countries that are located within the same world region[96]. In 2017, the majority of the international migrants originating from Europe (67 percent), Asia (60 percent), Oceania (60 percent) and Africa (53 percent) resided in a country located in their region of birth (figure 5). By contrast, international migrants from Latin America and the Caribbean (84 percent) and Northern America (72 percent) resided primarily outside their region of birth[97].

One must understand that not all of these immigrants and emigrants are moving because of climate change, and that there are many other factors that can influence change. However, displacement due to climate change is a rising cause of people seeking refuge,

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92 Ibid.

93 Hofmann, Charles-Antoine, Laura Hudson, and Sophie Mannie December. "Military Responses to Natural Disasters: Last Resort or Inevitable Trend?" Humanitarian Practice Network. Accessed November 7, 2019. https://odihpn.org/magazine/military-responses-to-natural-disasters-last-resort-or-inevitable-trend/.

94 "Melting Glaciers Force Italy, Swiss to Redraw Border." CNN. Cable News Network. Accessed November 7, 2019. https://www.cnn.com/2009/WORLD/europe/03/25/italy.swtizerland.alps.border/index.html.

95 Illing, Sean. "How Climate Change Could Lead to More Wars in the 21st Century." Vox. Vox, November 14, 2017. https://www.vox.com/world/2017/11/14/16589878/global-climate-change-conflict-environment.

96 Ibid.

97 Ibid.

creating *climate refugees*. Climate change is likely to cause the largest refugee crisis in history.[98] Climate change is already showing impacts in the weather cycles, intensifying extreme weather; hotter heat waves, longer droughts, bigger storm surges and greater snowfall are all a result of climate change.[99] With all of these changes in climate, environmental migrants have been on the rise. Evident in instances like Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria in 2017, an estimated 130,000 people - almost 4% of the population - left the island of Puerto Rico in the aftermath of the hurricane, and more than 530,000 people have left Puerto Rico since 2010, according to the agency[100].

In other instances, climate change has caused countries to redefine their borders, such as the situation with Italy and Switzerland. According to the agreement reached in 1941, the border was established to run along the glacier. Due to climate change, in 2009, they had to propose new criteria that coincide with the newly exposed rock resulting from the melting of the glacier[101]. Furthermore, in Africa, Chad, Nigeria, and Cameroon meet on the tripoint of Lake Chad. The borders have become unclear due in part to climate change; droughts have drastically reduced the size and volume of the lake, which can also fluctuate throughout the changes of the seasons. This change in geographical size leads to shifting borders and resource disputes[102].

The latter of the two instances has resulted in violence, but the agreement between the Swiss and the Italians was mutual and required no transfer of citizenship as the area was uninhabited[103].

Military Involvement

While the involvement of the military in relief operations is not new (for example, the 1948-49 Berlin airlift, where the allies avoided the Soviet blockade by airlifting supplies to the people of West Berlin), military engagement in relief activities has grown since the early 1990s. Military resources were used in response to the 1991 cyclone in Bangladesh, and after Hurricane Mitch in Central America in 1998. More recently, the US military supported the response to Hurricane Katrina in 2005, the UK military was brought in to help tackle floods in Britain in 2007, and huge numbers of Chinese troops were deployed in the aftermath

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98 Illing, Sean. "How Climate Change Could Lead to More Wars in the 21st Century." Vox. Vox, November 14, 2017. https://www.vox.com/world/2017/11/14/16589878/global-climate-change-conflict-environment.

99"Extreme Weather Gets a Boost from Climate Change." Environmental Defense Fund. Accessed November 6, 2019. https://www.edf.org/climate/climate-change-and-extreme-weather.

100 Sutter, John D. "130,000 Left Puerto Rico after Maria." CNN. Cable News Network, December 19, 2018. https://www.cnn.com/2018/12/19/health/sutter-puerto-rico-census-update/index.html.

101 "Melting Glaciers Force Italy, Swiss to Redraw Border." CNN. Cable News Network. Accessed November 7, 2019. https://www.cnn.com/2009/WORLD/europe/03/25/italy.swtizerland.alps.border/index.html.

102 "Changing Climate, Changing Borders." International Water Law Project Blog, April 15, 2009. https://www.internationalwaterlaw.org/blog/2009/04/15/changing-climate-changing-borders/.

103 "Melting Glaciers Force Italy, Swiss to Redraw Border." CNN. Cable News Network. Accessed November 7, 2019. https://www.cnn.com/2009/WORLD/europe/03/25/italy.swtizerland.alps.border/index.html.

of the earthquake in Sichuan province in 2008[104]. Following the October 2005 earthquake in Pakistan, domestic and international military actors mounted the largest humanitarian helicopter airlift ever seen. Regional alliances, too, are paying growing attention to the role of the military; NATO , for instance, is playing a growing humanitarian role in disaster response.[105]

Assisting in humanitarian disasters can improve the military's image and diversify their role[106]. As climate change trends are showing that storms are getting stronger and natural disasters are getting worse, more help will be needed to aid in emergency relief. The military often plays crucial roles in evacuations, rescue mission, and preventative actions, such as putting sandbags around houses before hurricanes, or mass flooding[107]. The United States, for example, dispatches their military to assist with natural disaster relief both before it occurs as well as after.

The military is a very diversifiable resource that can be utilized in situations that risk mass human casualties. When it comes to climate refugees, in past situations, military intervention regarding refugees has arguably been one of the most valuable things, as they can provide protection, resources, and assistance to the masses. When there have been shortfalls of military intervention in the management and displacement of climate refugees, these people are often left stranded[108].

Water Disputes

Only approximately 3% of the earth's water is freshwater and 69% of that freshwater is in glaciers[109]. This water is evidently not evenly spread out throughout the globe, which can make clean, fresh drinking water difficult to access in some regions. Some countries, such as Saudi Arabia, are trying to come up with ideas to rectify their growing crisis. They have proposed the idea to tow glacier ice from Antarctica to their shores for a fresh water supply[110].

Uneven water distribution can lead to droughts and shortages, which can have impacts in agriculture. Loss of crop was a large part of the Syrian civil war, for example, because it created unrest within the population. Meat production consumes even more fresh water;

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104 Hofmann, Charles-Antoine, Laura Hudson, and Sophie Mannie December. "Military Responses to Natural Disasters: Last Resort or Inevitable Trend?" Humanitarian Practice Network. Accessed November 7, 2019. https://odihpn.org/magazine/military-responses-to-natural-disasters-last-resort-or-inevitable-trend/.

105 Ibid.

106 Ibid.

107 Stevenson, Jack. "World Could See Many Water Conflicts in Coming Years." Fayette Tribune, August 9, 2019. https://www.fayettetribune.com/opinion/world-could-see-many-water-conflicts-in-coming-years/article_badd434a-bac5-11e9-97fe-0b0fd41801c6.html.

108 Hofmann, Charles-Antoine, Laura Hudson, and Sophie Mannie December. "Military Responses to Natural Disasters: Last Resort or Inevitable Trend?" Humanitarian Practice Network. Accessed November 7, 2019. https://odihpn.org/magazine/military-responses-to-natural-disasters-last-resort-or-inevitable-trend/.
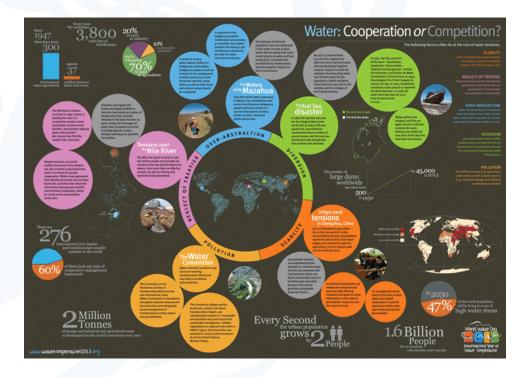
109 Ibid.

110 Ibid.

for every ⅓ hamburger made, it takes 660 gallons of water to raise the cow and process the meat into the patty[111]. Evidently, without access to water, food supplies can run out; this causes conflict in communities, as civilians may fight amongst themselves for the scarce resources available. Water scarcity also makes it difficult for people who depend on profits yielded from agriculture. A lack of accessibility (or the belief of inequality of accessibility) of human necessities frequently causes violent outbreaks.

Population is highly correlated with public water supply, about 56 percent of which is allocated for household purposes[112]. The amount of water used directly by individuals is related to various human attributes, such as age, education, cultural background, religious beliefs, and financial status[113]. In general, more people use more water, even if individual use is reduced by education, the implementation of conservation practices, or technological improvements in water supply systems. According to the U.S. Geological Survey, the average per capita public water use in the United States in 1995 was about 179 gallons per capita per day (gpcd) and that for domestic water use was about 101 gpcd. An average per capita figure for all water uses in the United States in 1995 (municipal, industrial, agricultural, etc.) was estimated to be about 1,280 gpcd.[114] The per capita use would be much less in countries where water is harder to come by.

https://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/water_cooperation.shtml

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111 Hallock, Betty. "To Make a Burger, First You Need 660 Gallons of Water …" Los Angeles Times. Los Angeles Times, January 27, 2014. https://www.latimes.com/food/dailydish/la-dd-gallons-of-water-to-make-a-burger-20140124-story.html.

112 "Population and Water Resources." Water Encyclopedia. Accessed November 7, 2019. http://www.waterencyclopedia.com/Po-Re/Population-and-Water-Resources.html.

113 Ibid.

114 Ibid.

Current U.N Involvement and Expectations

The UN has established 3 key areas in which they will focus:[115]

1. Developing a stronger analytical capacity with integrated risk assessment frameworks,
2. Collecting a stronger evidence base so good practices on climate risk prevention and management can be replicated in the field,
3. Building and reinforcing partnerships to leverage existing capacities within and outside the UN system.

The Pacific has called upon the appointment of a Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) on the topic of climate change and security[116]. The SRSG should have three initial responsibilities: the first would be to provide an update to the Secretary-General's 2009 report on the security implications of climate change based on the latest research findings. This would include an assessment of the capacity of the United Nations system to respond to the security implications of climate change. Secondly, the representative should produce a new report, in cooperation with relevant scientific bodies, that identifies and analyses potentially dangerous tipping points within the nexus of climate and security, along with recommendations for improving our monitoring and response. Finally, the SRSG should provide support to interested vulnerable countries for developing preliminary climate-security risk assessments[117].

Questions to Consider

1. What actions is your country taking to counter climate change?
2. What does your country believe the UN should be doing to counter climate change?
3. How is climate change affecting migration in your country?
4. If applicable, how has your country utilized the military in response to natural disasters?
5. In your country, is water scarce, or is it plentiful? How will the water distribution be affected by climate change, and how can your country prepare for this change?
6. Has your country adapted to any climate changes and benefitted? Alternatively, has your country faced some sort of detriment?
7. Has your country participated in any international relief efforts following or during a climate crisis (such as hurricanes, typhoons, forest fires, etc.)?

115"Climate Change Recognized as 'Threat Multiplier', UN Security Council Debates Its Impact on Peace | UN News." United Nations. United Nations. Accessed November 7, 2019. https://news.un.org/en/story/2019/01/1031322.

116 Link, Anna Maria, Adriana Erthal Abdenur, Robert Muggah, Renata Bolotova, Samir Ashraf, Caitlin Werrell, Francesco Femia, et al. "A Pacific Perspective on Climate Security Risks and the UN Security Council ." IPI Global Observatory, September 11, 2019. https://theglobalobservatory.org/2019/09/a-pacific-perspective-on-climate-security-risks-and-the-un-security-council/.

117 Ibid.

Advice for Research and Preparation

To prepare for UTMUN it is important to read through the background guide, and supplement this information with additional research from other sources. The sources listed in the background guide provided a good starting point, from there it is recommended to diversify your knowledge.

When researching, be to focus your attention on your own country's stance on the topics and also note other countries with aligning views, they can be your allies in the general assembly and can work with you to draft and potentially pass resolutions.

In researching it can be very useful to search up some of the security council resolutions cited, the U.N typically releases an article summarizing the discussion in the Security Council meeting as well as comments from ambassadors from afterwards - your country's ambassador may have specifically commented on the issue. It is also useful to go through the sources cited in the background guide section in order to gain a more thorough understanding of the topic. It can be beneficial to approach your research by starting off with your country's general policies towards the topic (Africa, Space exploration, Climate change) and then from there understanding the more specific niches.

When trying to draft a resolution it can be very helpful to read through recent Security Council resolutions which address the issue, and any news articles with comments on resolution. However, always be cautious about the potential biases of sources, and remember that your aim is to pass a resolution which represents the interests of your country and not necessarily your own beliefs.

Lastly, be sure to make yourself familiarize yourself with the common terminology used in Model U.N and the general procedures. With adequate research and a positive attitude, UTMUN 2020 will be an amazing experience!

Best of luck!

Key Resources

Topic A Key Resources

Global Conflict Tracker. "Destabilization of Mali." Accessed November 1, 2019. https://cfr.org/
interactive/global-conflict-tracker/conflict/destabilization-mali.

This source provides a brief overview of the destabilization of Mali itself, although in terms of concerns it focuses more on American interests. .

Wing, Susanna D. "Analysis | What's behind the Escalating Ethnic Violence in Mali? Here's What You Need to Know." Washington Post. Accessed November 1, 2019. https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2019/06/12/whats-behind-escalating-ethnic-violence-mali-heres-what-you-need-know/.

This resource analyzes the root causes of the destabilization and can be especially useful when trying to write (and pass) a resolution to help stabilize Mali.

"Amid Continuing Violence, Efforts to Implement Mali Peace Agreement Must Be Intensified, Assistant Secretary-General Tells Security Council | Meetings Coverage and Press Releases." Accessed November 1, 2019. https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc13665.doc.htm.

This resource provides insight towards the progress of Security Council meetings and summarizes the comments of ambassadors about the destabilization of Mali. It is useful to understand the view of the secretary-general of the UN as well as the views of other countries which may not coincide with your country's views.

United Nations Peacekeeping. "MINUSMA." Accessed November 1, 2019. https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/minusma.

This resource outlines the specific mandate (responsibilities) of the United Nations Multidimensional Integration Stabilization Mission to Mali. It is useful if you intend on referencing the mission in your resolution or speech(es).

Topic B Key Resources

Daniel.garcia-Yarnoz. "United NationsOffice for Outer Space Affairs." Space Law. Accessed November 2, 2019. https://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/spacelaw/index.html.

This is a good resource in order to get good background knowledge on the space branches founded by the UN for space cooperation.

Broniatowski, D.A., et al, "The case for Managed International Cooperation in Space Exploration," Center for Strategoc and International Studies", accessed November 2 2019, https://web. mit.edu/adamross/www/BRONIATOWSKI_ISU07.pdf

Good background guide to understand the meaning of space cooperation as well as its implication on different scales.

Grush, Loren. "The First Alleged Crime Committed in Space Raises Questions about Jurisdiction in Orbit." The Verge. The Verge, August 27, 2019. https://www.theverge. com/2019/8/27/20833761/nasa-iss-international-space-station-alleged-crime-anne-mcclain-jurisdicition-framework.

Good article that addresses space legislation.

Vella, Heidi. "Should We Be Protecting the 'Space Wilderness' from Mining?" Mining Technology | Mining News and Views Updated Daily, August 16, 2019. https://www.mining-technology. com/features/should-we-be-protecting-the-space-wilderness-from-mining/.

Environmental implications of space exploration.

Topic C Key Resources

Hofmann, Charles-Antoine, Laura Hudson, and Sophie Mannie December. "Military Responses to Natural Disasters: Last Resort or Inevitable Trend?" Humanitarian Practice Network. Accessed November 7, 2019. https://odihpn.org/magazine/ military-responses-to-natural-disasters-last-resort-or-inevitable-trend/.

Good overview on military intervention.

Illing, Sean. "How Climate Change Could Lead to More Wars in the 21st Century." Vox. Vox, November 14, 2017. https://www.vox.com/world/2017/11/14/16589878/ global-climate-change-conflict-environment.

How climate change in applying stress on our geopolitical relationships.

Kobler, Barbara, and Pablo Lattes. "International Migration Report." Edited by Bela Hovy. International Migration Report, 2018, 1–38. https://www.un.org/en/development/ desa/population/migration/publications/migrationreport/docs/MigrationReport2017_ Highlights.pdf.

Climate change influencing migration and migration comparisons.

Link, Anna Maria, Adriana Erthal Abdenur, Robert Muggah, Renata Bolotova, Samir Ashraf, Caitlin Werrell, Francesco Femia, et al. "A Pacific Perspective on Climate Security Risks and the UN Security Council ." IPI Global Observatory, September 11, 2019. https://theglobalobservatory.org/2019/09/a-pacific-perspective-on-climate-security-risks-and-the-un-security-council/.

How the Pacific is pressuring the UN regarding climate change action.

"Population and Water Resources." Water Encyclopedia. Accessed November 7, 2019. http://www.waterencyclopedia.com/Po-Re/Population-and-Water-Resources.html.

Good information regarding population and water resources (who could've seen that coming).

Stevenson, Jack. "World Could See Many Water Conflicts in Coming Years." Fayette Tribune, August 9, 2019. https://www.fayettetribune.com/opinion/world-could-see-many-water-conflicts-in-coming-years/article_badd434a-bac5-11e9-97fe-0b0fd41801c6.html.

Water disputes and social impacts.

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Topic B

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