



PRESIDIUM *for* CHANGE

FOR A BETTER WORLD

PRESIDIUM MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE 2024

CCC

BACKGROUND GUIDE



**CONTINUOUS
CRISIS COMMITTEE**



AGENDA:
Outset of World War III
(Iran-Israel Tensions)

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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Greetings!

We would like to tell you that it gives us immense pleasure to serve as your Executive Board for the simulation of the CCC at Presidium MUN 2024!

We have made a background guide to help you kick start your research. The background guide has been written with the thought that it will serve as a map for you to navigate through the mass of information which you may cross in your preparation for the conference. It will guide you to understand the different angles to the forthcoming discussion, a sort of a reflection of what is in store for you. Thus, as the name “map” may be hinting, it will not provide you with all the information or analysis on the agenda at hand but a path for you to carry out your research. For doing that, your research has to be comprehensive and non-exhaustive. More importantly, you have to understand your research and be able to use it. In other words, your research documents are not your arguments. You use your research to form your argument; your research cannot be your only argument. That is where analysis steps in.

It is extremely important for you to listen to everything other delegates talk about in the committee, so don't keep yourself too occupied writing your own speeches, but truly listen to what other delegates speak in the committee. It will help you give direction to the debate happening in the committee and also some point to elaborate on or rebuttal.

With regards to that, try not to read from documents without really understanding what they mean and try forming your own arguments based on what you read in those documents. The trick here is to make sure you make notes of the documents that you have read and formulate arguments from the same.

To start, you can briefly read about the agenda and break down the agenda in various subtopics that exist within that agenda, now these topics that you have written are also the topics that will be discussed in the committee as the moderated caucus topics. All that you have to do now is to research the subtopics of the agenda that we have written. Now when you research on particular subtopics, you don't just jot down information that you have collected through various articles, but rather try to make an argument for that subtopic while researching or simply provide your countries viewpoint on the given sub topic. Logic and foreign policy combined with in-depth research and knowledge are necessary to be a successful delegate. As delegates, you are expected to promote the interests of your nation and as delegates of representing different nations, you are required to know your foreign policy on the agenda and the issues related to the same. Try to highlight the same during the three days of the conference. Having said that, if you have any questions or doubts pertaining to any matters concerning this committee, please feel free to contact us. We shall be happy to help!

Regards,

Executive Board

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About United Nations

The United Nations was established on October 24, 1945. The United Nations (UN) was the second multipurpose international organisation established in the 20th century that was worldwide in scope and membership. Its predecessor, the League of Nations, was created by the Treaty of Versailles in 1919 and disbanded in 1946. Headquartered in New York City, the UN also has regional offices in Geneva, Vienna, and Nairobi. Its official languages are Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish. For a list of UN member countries and secretaries-general. In addition to maintaining peace and security, other important objectives include developing friendly relations among countries based on respect for the principles of equal rights and self-determination of peoples; achieving worldwide cooperation to solve international economic, social, cultural, and humanitarian problems; respecting and promoting human rights; and serving as a centre where countries can coordinate their actions and activities toward these various ends.

Changes in the nature of international relations resulted in modifications in the responsibilities of the UN and its decision-making apparatus. Cold War tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union deeply affected the UN's security functions during its first 45 years. Extensive post-World War II decolonization in Africa, Asia, and the Middle East increased the volume and nature of political, economic, and social issues that confronted the organisation. The Cold War's end in 1991 brought renewed attention and appeals to the UN. Amid an increasingly volatile geopolitical climate, there were new challenges to established practices and functions, especially in the areas of conflict resolution and humanitarian assistance. At the beginning of the 21st century, the UN and its programs and affiliated agencies struggled to address humanitarian crises and civil wars.

INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMITTEE

A crisis committee is a decision making body that has more power than a traditional committee. Whilst General Assemblies recommend and build consensus, focusing on creating and refining frameworks for the nations party to align their actions, crisis committees produce action. This means that the body has power unto itself that does not need to be granted by the obedience of its members. Groups that look like this include a cabinet, a royal court, a board of directors of a company, a rebel group, or really any small group which possesses political power. Crisis is also more dynamic and fast-paced than traditional committees, so each delegate is incredibly influential. In your preparation, it is helpful to understand the committee's basic history and scope of power, as found in the background guide.

A crisis committee covers about 3-6 years of history over the course of the weekend. Crisis committees usually take place during a critical point in history. However, the committee is not guaranteed to happen, so don't spend too much time trying to predict the future. The committee begins similarly to what happened in real life, but as delegates adopt new paths, the world spins into alternate realities. Focus on making history how you see fit.

Your general goal for the weekend should be to change the world to fit your agenda. This can be done in a number of ways. Frontroom directives depend on the entire committee, and effect stable, long-lasting change. You can also independently create change on a smaller scale by using personal powers, done through note writing. Over time, personal powers can grow and become as influential as the directives from committee.

Introduction to the the Agenda

Recap on World War I:

Cause:- World War I, an international conflict that in 1914–18 embroiled most of the nations of Europe along with Russia, the United States, the Middle East, and other regions. The war pitted the Central Powers—mainly Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Turkey—against the Allies—mainly France, Great Britain, Russia, Italy, Japan, and, from 1917, the United States. It ended with the defeat of the Central Powers. The war was virtually unprecedented in the slaughter, carnage, and destruction it caused. World War I was one of the great watersheds of 20th-century geo-political history. It led to the fall of four great imperial dynasties (in Germany, Russia, Austria-Hungary, and Turkey), resulted in the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia, and, in its destabilisation of European society, laid the groundwork for World War II.

The last surviving veterans of World War I were American serviceman Frank Buckles (died in February 2011), British-born Australian serviceman Claude Choules (died in May 2011), and British servicewoman Florence Green (died in February 2012), the last surviving veteran of the war.

At 11:15 am on June 28, 1914, in the Bosnian capital, Sarajevo, Franz Ferdinand and his morganatic wife, Sophie, duchess of Hohenberg, were shot dead by a Bosnian Serb, Gavrilo Princip. The chief of the Austro-Hungarian general staff, Franz, Graf (count) Conrad von Hötzendorf, and the foreign minister, Leopold, Graf von Berchtold, saw the crime as the occasion for measures to humiliate Serbia and so to enhance Austria-Hungary's prestige in the Balkans. Conrad had already (October 1913) been assured by William II of Germany's support if Austria-Hungary should start a preventive war against Serbia. This assurance was confirmed in the week following the assassination, before William, on July 6, set off upon his annual cruise to the North Cape, off Norway.

The Austrians decided to present an unacceptable ultimatum to Serbia and then to declare war, relying on Germany to deter Russia from intervention. Though the terms of the ultimatum were finally approved on July 19, its delivery was postponed to the evening of July 23, since by that time the French president, Raymond Poincaré, and his premier, René Viviani, who had set off on a state visit to Russia on July 15, would be on their way home and therefore unable to concert an immediate reaction with their Russian allies. When the delivery was announced, on July 24, Russia declared that Austria-Hungary must not be allowed to crush Serbia.

Effects:-

The war led to the collapse of the Russian, German, and Austria-Hungary empires, and the formation of new independent states. The victorious Western powers imposed harsh treaties on the defeated nations, requiring them to give up territory and pay reparations. The war left the economy weak, and a combination of a sudden increase in paper money and a general strike led to hyperinflation.

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The war displaced families and destroyed cities and towns, resulting in around 20 million deaths and 21 million more wounded. Women's roles in society changed as they entered the workforce, and they gained the right to vote.

Recap on World War II:

Cause:- World War II began in Europe on September 1, 1939, when Germany invaded Poland. Great Britain and France responded by declaring war on Germany on September 3. The war between the U.S.S.R. and Germany began on June 22, 1941, with Operation Barbarossa, the German invasion of the Soviet Union. The war in the Pacific began on December 7/8, 1941, when Japan attacked the American naval base at Pearl Harbor and other American, Dutch, and British military installations throughout Asia.

The Treaty of Versailles

The Treaty of Versailles signed on 28 June 1919 brought an official end to World War I. But at the very outset, it became evident that a harsh peace would be imposed upon the defeated. France, in order to protect itself from a future German attack, put forth the demands of reparations, demilitarisation of the Rhineland region and the 'War Guilt Clause' which put the blame of starting the war squarely on Germany's shoulders.

It was French revenge, nursed from the days of its defeat during the Franco Prussian War of 1871, that led to the imposition of such harsh terms. The resulting war had also led to the unification of Germany, which was proclaimed in the very halls of the Versailles, which added insult to injury.

The German people were outraged that they were to be held responsible for the conflict. Instead of working out an agreement that would bring peace, the victors were only content with humiliating them. The demilitarisation of the military, the loss of territory and the preposterous amount of reparation to be paid were akin to rubbing salt on an open wound.

Rise of Nazism

The wave of resentment over the perceived injustices of the Treaty of Versailles was fully exploited by Hitler and his Nazi Party. Capitalising on the dent made towards German pride. Hitler promised to undo wrongs of the Versailles Treaty. Added to this was the "us versus them" rhetoric. In this case, the 'us' were the Aryan race, while the 'them' were the Slavic Eastern Europeans.

The list of 'them' also included Jews, Communist, Gypsies and others who did not fit the Nazi definition of an Aryan. The Jews were blamed by the Nazis for the defeat in World War I and all the economic hardship that followed was a 'conspiracy' that had

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weakened Germany.

Effects:-

The first effects of World War 2 included the decline of colonial empires around the world. The Allied forces, the United Kingdom, the United States, the Soviet Union, and China were pitted against the Axis powers, Germany, Italy, and Japan. World War 2 lasted nearly six years and was the world's greatest conflict. Here is an overview of the effects of World War 2.

The Second World War led to the end of imperialism and colonialism. It led to the emergence of two distinct power centres, the US and the USSR.

World War 2 effects included the emergence of third-world nations after the end of colonialism. It led to the establishment of the United Nations Organization to maintain peace globally.

Current status on Israel-Iran tension:

A regional war is no longer imminent – it is here. The conflict that began in Gaza nearly a year ago has expanded across the Middle East, with Israel fighting countries and groups far from its borders. It also has global implications. As this week's Iranian strike demonstrates, the conflict has become a direct confrontation between Israel and its Western allies on one side, and Iran and its proxies, backed by Russia and China, on the other.

Washington has played a key role in supplying Israel with military aid and diplomatic cover, while Moscow has pledged to send Iran fighter jets and air defence technology. It is also purchasing Iranian weapons for its own war in Ukraine, providing Tehran with much-needed cash. Moreover, Israel is currently engaged on multiple fronts.

First, its war continues in Gaza, where more than 40,000 Palestinians have been killed. Hamas has been reduced to a low-functioning guerrilla organisation but still retains some control over the displaced Palestinian population. In the West Bank, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) are conducting military operations to counter a rise in terrorist attacks, fuelled by Iranian weapons and funds directed to local militants.

Meanwhile, Iran's other proxy groups, the Shi'a militias in Iraq and Syria and Houthi rebels in Yemen, are still launching missile and drone attacks against Israel. Both Israel and the US have struck back at the Houthis in Yemen. The most significant battle, however, is in Lebanon. On October 8 2023, a day after Hamas' rampage through southern Israel that resulted in 1,200 deaths and more than 200 Israelis abducted into Gaza, Hezbollah began firing rockets and other weapons at Israel, without provocation, in solidarity with Hamas. This has forced more than 60,000 Israelis near the border to flee their homes.

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Sources for Research

1. <https://www.un.org/en/>
2. [The long-feared Middle East war is here. This is how Israel could now hit back at Iran](#)
3. [Are we heading for World War Three? Experts give their verdicts](#)
4. <https://www.britannica.com/event/World-War-I>
5. [World War II | Facts, Summary, History, Dates, Combatants, & Causes | Britannica](#)

NOTE: Kindly note that this Background Guide is not exhaustive in nature and is merely a vessel to guide your research procedures by hinting at a few of many key focus areas and the degree of the technicality and analysis that is expected out of every one of you. Research should not be limited to the background guide and the links provided here, delegates are encouraged to go beyond and research about all relevant topics.

With this, we wish you all the best and anticipate two days of exemplary academic deliberations!