THE FUTURISTIC SECURITY COUNCIL

BACKGROUND GUIDE

AGENDA – PROLIFERATION OF GLOBAL SECURITY CHALLENGES AND THE PRACTICES TO BE IMPLEMENTED TO RESTRAIN SUCH CHALLENGES IN THE FUTURE.

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Distinguished Delegates,

We warmly welcome you all to SXMUN'23. It's lovely having you here. The following guide, as its name suggests, is merely a tool to provide you with the background of the agenda and cannot serve as a credible source of information. Your real research lies beyond the contents of this guide and we hope to see some strong content and debate coming our way. In the committee, delegates will have the power to take their own decisions on behalf of their country in line with how the debate progresses. This calls for a very detailed research and understanding of the matter at hand. The situations being stimulated will test your understanding and application of your country's ideology, your research, negotiation skills and foremost your application of mind.

The executive board is here to moderate the committee and will be taking part in substantive debate only via updates and queries directed at you. We will refrain from giving our opinions on matters unless ruling on factual inconsistencies.

This will be a fast-paced committee where going through a bunch of reports and reading out your observations and drawn conclusions is not going to work. What the executive board asks of the delegates is to express an analysis of the information that they have and not to indulge in monologues born out of reading out already published articles/speeches.

In the session, the executive board will encourage you to speak as much as possible, as fluency, diction or oratory skills have very little importance as opposed to the content you deliver. So, just research well and speak, and you are bound to make a lot of sense. The committee being simulated would be unlike most other simulations you must have heard of or been a part of; focus on logical intellect, analytical application of thoughts and strategic application of mind, in addressing the issue at hand. We are certain that we will be learning from you immensely and we also hope that you all will have an equally enriching experience. In case of any queries, kindly do not hesitate to mail me or Ramnique. We will try our best to answer the questions with the best of our abilities.

Regards,
Rashmi Kayat: rashmikayat84@gmail.com
Ramnique Sandhu: ramniqueaulakh79@gmail.com

INTRODUCTION OF THE COMMITTEE

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) was founded on January 17th, 1946, in Westminster, London and oversees all aspects of international peace and security. Its primary responsibility is to determine the existence of an international threat to world peace and security, and terminate it. The Security Council consists of 15 members, five of which are permanent: France, China, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America. The permanent five are given an exclusive voting right called the Veto power. The Veto power allows any of the permanent five to "Veto" or prevent a resolution from passing in the Security Council. Any Neighboring member that does not abide by resolutions put into place will be sanctioned. Like the UN as a whole, the Security Council was formed right after World War II, where peace failed to be maintained and a new promise to world security was made.

As per the Charter of the United Nations, the Security Council's primary function is to maintain international peace and security in accordance with the principles and purposes of the United Nations. It also plays a crucial role in investigating any dispute or situation which might lead to international friction, a threat to peace, or an act of aggression and recommend methods of reconciling or consequential actions thereof. Among the options that the UNSC can adopt for consequential actions is the placement of economic sanctions and other peaceful means or military aggression against an actor in certain cases. In addition, the Security Council has the right to recommend the appointment of the General Assembly's Secretary-General as well as to elect the judges of the International Court of Justice.

TOPIC-A: PROLIFERATION OF GLOBAL SECURITY CHALLENGES

❖ **_Statement of the Problem:_** As the new millennium starts to unfold, we see before us an area of security that has been radically reshaped since the end of the cold war and the end bipolar division of the world. Deepening globalization brings not only a lot of positives, but also a lot of negatives appearing mainly in the form of new asymmetric security threats or risks, so we understand that a real effort will now be required to reappraise the 21st century. Simultaneously, it is clear that, if we want to stabilize security environment, we must look beyond our traditional military philosophy and deal very seriously with new global security challenges.

The proliferation of global security challenges has become a pressing issue in today's interconnected world. With advancements in technology, the threats and risks faced by nations and communities have become more complex and diverse than ever before. From cyber attacks to terrorism, pandemic outbreaks to climate change, addressing these challenges requires the collaboration and coordination of various governments, organizations, and stakeholders but it is a lot more crucial to have a comprehensive understanding of these challenges and their implications in order to contribute effectively to global security.

One significant aspect of the proliferation of global security challenges is the rise of cyber threats. The increasing reliance on technology and interconnected systems has made nations vulnerable to cyber attacks from both state and non-state actors. Cyber espionage, data breaches, and ransom ware attacks are just a few examples of how the digital landscape has become a breeding ground for malicious activities. Hence, in the first place, we need to deepen our understanding of cyber vulnerabilities, develop defenses against evolving threats, and work towards establishing robust international norms and legal frameworks to combat cyber attacks.

Moreover, the issue of terrorism remains a persistent global security challenge. The world has witnessed the devastating consequences of terrorist attacks in recent years. Terrorist organizations, such as ISIS and Al-Qaeda, continue to pose a threat to global security by orchestrating attacks and recruiting individuals from various parts of the world. Thereby, it remains essential to comprehend the root causes and drivers of terrorism, explore strategies for countering violent extremism, and analyze the role of intelligence agencies in preventing and mitigating terrorist activities.

Furthermore, global security challenges in countries like Taiwan, Ukraine, Serbia, and Palestine present complex issues that demand effective and nuanced solutions. Taiwan's challenge lies in navigating China's growing influence while striving to maintain its sovereignty. Ukraine grapples with Russian aggression, hindering its efforts for stability and territorial integrity. Serbia, still dealing with the aftermath of the Balkan conflicts, faces ethnic divides and political instability. Palestine, marked by the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, suffers from ongoing violence, territorial disputes, and the struggle for self-determination. Addressing these challenges requires an extensive and succinct discernment of the historical, political, and cultural dynamics, as well as a collaborative and diplomatic approach to ensure regional and global stability.

Lastly, the proliferation of global security challenges is closely intertwined with environmental and health crises. Climate change, for instance, not only poses environmental risks but also contributes to conflicts over resources and displacement of populations. Additionally, the recent COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated the profound impact that health-based crises can have on global security. That being the case, we should focus on multidisciplinary approaches that integrate environmental and health considerations into security policies, as well as study the long-term consequences of these challenges on international relations and stability.

At the very beginning, it is necessary to point out that the current security challenges and risks in global security environment are of a military and non-military nature; however, most of them are of a non-military nature. These security challenges and risks are closely interconnected; consequently, the situation in one area can seriously affect the situation in other areas. Simultaneously, most of the current challenges and risks in one region of the world are also common to the adjacent regions, or we could even say that also in many outlying areas. This merely underlines the complexity of the contemporary international security environment. Therefore, a lead item is the notion of "comprehensive security", which takes into account the full range of direct and indirect security challenges and threats to societies, nations and the international system as a whole. Among today's most significant global security challenges belong mainly terrorism, organized crime, weapons of mass destruction, and proliferation and arms control.

In conclusion, coming to grips with these challenges requires a multidimensional approach that incorporates intelligence analysis, policy formulation, and collaboration among nations. As future experts and leaders in the field of global security, it is our responsibility to engage in rigorous research, stay updated on emerging threats, and work towards developing innovative solutions to ensure a safer and more stable world.

In this background guide, for the benefit of the committee, the plight of some of the world's most perturbing circumstances has been discussed. A light on these dismaying global security challenges may further direct the course of the committee, for delegates may choose as they please.

A.1) Russia-Ukraine Hostilities

{A.1.1} Summary & History: Over the past years, Russia has militarily intervened in Ukraine and has been criticized by other countries for its hostility and violence towards Ukraine. This conflict began early in 2014, when the Russian army took control of the then Ukrainian-owned territory of Crimea. In 2021, the conflict was once again reignited after Russia placed hundreds of thousands of troops, as well as military equipment, near the Ukrainian border. With tensions higher than ever, fears of a Russian invasion of Ukraine became true when Russia ordered a "special military operation" in Ukraine on 24 February, 2022. Ukraine sits amid Europe on the West and Russia on the East. Ukraine's geographical location has set up general distinctions in how Ukrainians recognize themselves. While Western Ukrainian parts have shared their attitudes about developing closer allies with the European Union and NATO, the Russian-speaking Ukrainian parts of the country, mostly living in the East, see Russia as their nearest ally. The continual drift of diplomatic opinions, the significance of Ukraine to Russia, Ukraine's economy, Ukraine's desire to join the EU and NATO, and its complex past have all been reasons that have produced tensions in the region. One example of this is Crimea, a peninsula once belonging to Ukraine that became part of Russia in 2014 through a referendum in which the people voted either to continue as part of Ukraine or Russia. However, after the takeover, the UN found that the outcome of this referendum was invalid. One month later, a Russian-backed separatist movement started in the cities of Donetsk and Luhansk. A group of unmarked soldiers took the cities and declared them independent. In 2015, a peace agreement was made called Minsk II, and it termed for a cease-fire, the removal of tanks, mortars, and other heavy artillery, the drawing of foreign armed groups and weapons from Ukraine, recognized Luhansk and Donetsk as independent states and established that they could rejoin Ukraine if they wanted. This peace agreement has not been respected and fighting in the area continues.

The origins of the conflict between Ukraine and Russia goes back to the Vikings, but the significant history of the current conflict is traced back to Catherine the Great's expansion of the Russian Empire in the 18th century and the Russian Revolution in the early 20th century. Russian leaders have considered Ukraine like a "little brother" that can be shaped into a compliant vassal state that may be used to further expand Russia's power across Eastern Europe. Ukraine has shown

resistance to the advances of Russia/USSR several times throughout the development of their common history and has only remained resisting into the present day. Ukraine resisted Russian occupation after the fall of the Russian empire and the rise of the USSR, during the Second World War, when a Russian-backed President refused to join the European Union. Acknowledging the origins of Russian and Ukrainian relations is vital to grasping the intentions behind President Putin's current decision to occupy the state of Ukraine.

Russian drones and missiles have showered down on numerous cities, including the capital, Kyiv, reported by Ms. DiCarlo, damaging or destroying homes and relentlessly interrupting essential services. In response the UN Security Council has provided more than 185,000 people with essential basic winter supplies. Although humanitarian access has returned in Kherson and other regions, currently back in Ukrainian Government control, it is still exceptionally challenging to reach people in zones of the east and south taken by the Russian military and across the front line.

{A.1.2} Discourse on the Issue:
The Russian invasion of Ukraine has harmed transport infrastructure, affected major transport through disruptions and led to a heavy surge of refugees going into the EU and bordering countries. The conflict has resulted in adverse impact on the region and accordingly this dispute was required to be discussed as a topic in the UNSC- effective in resolving disputes. The EU has presented actions to aid traffic flows and supply chains, ensuring the rapid and safe transfer of people caught in war zones and the transfer of crucial goods and commodities. On March 4, the United Nations Human Rights Council adopted a resolution that called for the rapid and certified removal of Russian troops and Russian-backed armed units from Ukraine.

The US, EU and other members of the G7 have imposed debilitating sanctions on Russian businesses, individuals and financial institutions. The US, EU, UK and others have put a prohibition on exportation of goods to Russia; these exports include goods used by both its citizen and the military. Additionally, the G7 has withdrawn Russia from the Most Favored Nation list, depriving it of various trading benefits. All Russian departures have also been forbidden by the US, UK, EU, and Canadian airspace. The US, UK and EU have also frozen international assets and enforced travel sanctions on Russian oligarchs along with members of the Russian parliament.

{A.1.3} INTL. Organization Actions & Latest Developments:

After the Russian invasion, the United Nations General Assembly on 2nd March implemented a resolution condemning the "aggression" executed by Russia against Ukraine resulting in 141 votes in favor, 5 against, and 35 abstentions. The UN Human Rights Council implemented on 4th March a resolution calling for the rapid and certifiable removal of Russian troops and Russian-backed armed units from the complete country of Ukraine. The UN Human Rights Council agreed on 5th March to immediately form an independent international commission of investigation in the wake of Russia's aggression against Ukraine.

The five permanent members of the Security Council were called on to justify the use of the veto in an adopted resolution from the UN General Assembly. The UN Security Council approved a report on 6th May 2022 which firmly backs the Secretary-General's efforts to accomplish a peaceful resolution for Ukraine. The Secretary-General appreciated the fact that for the first time the Security Council is talking with one voice for peace in Ukraine. On 30 September, Russia used its veto power on the Security Council's resolution condemning the attempted aggression towards Ukrainian regions. The UN's political affairs chief, Rosemary DiCarlo, informed the Security Council along with the Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Ukraine, Denise Brown on 21st October. Russia's armed escalation in Ukraine will lead to further distress worldwide and must be overturned.

{A.1.4} Timeline:

- 10th November, 2021- The United States of America reported the unusual movement of Russian troops near the border with Ukraine.

- 28th November, 2021- Ukraine reported a build-up of Russian troops.

- 7th December, 2021- US President Joe Biden warned the President of Russia, Vladimir Putin of "strong economic and other measures", if Russia attacked Ukraine.

- 17th December, 2021- President Putin proposed a prohibition on Ukraine from ever joining NATO, which Ukraine rejected.

- 17th January, 2022- Russian troops began arriving in Belarus.

- 19th January, 2022- The US gave Ukraine security aid in the form of $200 million. Biden states "Russia will be held accountable if it invades. And it depends on what it does."

- 24th January, 2022- NATO troops were put on standby.

- 25th January, 2022- Russia begins involving 6,000 troops and 60 jets near Ukraine and Crimea.

- 24th February, 2022- Russia Invades Ukraine under the pretext of a "Special Military Operation".

{A.1.5} Guiding Questions:

★ Does history merit invasion?
★ In what way can the Security Council successfully confront the matter?
★ What can other countries do to resolve the conflict?
★ Which countries are involved other than Russia and Ukraine and how are they affected?
★ NATO's stance on Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

A.2) Peace in the Middle East (Turkey & Iraq)

{A.2.1} Summary & History: Following the events of the first World War, both Iraq and Turkey came out as relatively stable states, with Iraq operating under the British mandate and Turkey emerging fresh from the fallen Ottoman Empire. On October 30, 1918, the Ottoman Empire was made to sign an armistice agreeing that its South border remained ambiguous and that all Ottoman military activity must cease in specific surrounding Arab countries, one of them being Iraq.

The region of Mosul was one of the first areas of dispute between Turkey and Iraq. Britain was a leading actor in the issue as well, using Iraq as a means to gain land from Turkey. In 1923, a conference was held in Switzerland that called for an end to Turkey's Independence War. The question of Mosul was a critical one in this conference. Mosul belonging to Iraq was something Britain favored, as Iraq was operating under a British mandate at the time. Turkey on the other hand claimed that most inhabitants of the region were Turks and Kurds (an ethnic group found in Iraq, Iran, Syria, and Turkey), so Mosul rightfully belonged to them. No agreement was settled on for the conference and the issue was postponed and handed over to the previously established League of Nations, which later developed into what is now known as the United Nations.

In 1925 the League of Nations handed over Mosul to Iraq, leaving many to speculate that Britain and France had a strong impact on the decision due to their influential roles in the organization. Turkey's sociopolitical status was weakening simultaneously, as Islamist and Kurdish groups were rebelling against the state. This further deteriorated Turkey's chances of obtaining Mosul since the Kurds, the country's primary excuse for reclaiming the land, were disassociating themselves from Turkey as much as possible.

Despite the entire Mosul dispute, the League of Nations promised Turkey that they would receive a portion of the land's petrol for the next quarter of a century. Turkey fought back from the 1950s till late 1980s due to the fact that they were not getting their money's worth of petrol, which was eventually disregarded all together.

Under the British mandate, Iraq's relations with Turkey were wholly controlled by Britain whose interests were the main focus of the relations. When Iraq sought and gained independence in 1932, several pacts (Saadabad Pact and Baghdad Pact) took place that were consequential for military activity in the Middle East, especially in regard to Turkey and Iraq. These pacts brought the two nations closer together, as Iraq was the only Arab country involved in these military agreements relating to the Middle East.
The Saadabad Pact (1937) was one where Turkey, Iraq, and Iran agreed to not support any Kurds located in any of the three countries, however, this pact ceased to be significant following World War II.

{A.2.2} Discourse on the Issue: Iraq had previously complained to the
United Nations Security Council committee regarding Turkey and their militia strikes which have effectively killed and wounded a significant number of people in the Kurdish areas of Iraq. In addition, Iraq had also launched rockets aimed towards a Turkish consulate based in the city of Mosul. The issue is believed to be escalating rapidly and tensions are rising as attacks continue to increase and spread within both nations under the guise of 'fighting back against terrorism and terrorist groups and agendas'.

Another rising issue regarding the topic is that Iraq's repeated suffering of Turkish attacks may as well leave it open to the same treatment from Iran. The Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps in Iran have previously admitted to launching strikes towards Iraqi cities before, and international criticism towards the actions was underwhelming in comparison to previous Turkish attacks.

On the 20th of July, 2022, Turkey launched a deadly strike on Dohuk, Iraq, a Kurdish hub which resulted in nine dead victims, three of which were children. An

investigation was launched under committee supervision and the Security Council was requested to draft a resolution so that Turkey may withdraw from all Iraqi land completely. The United Nations Security Council committee did in fact strongly condemn the instance in Dohuk, however avoided pointing the blame at any participating party.

Turkey repeatedly uses Article 51 of the UN Charter as defense of their apparently deadly attacks on the PKK and the Kurdish people. As it stands, Article 51 of the UN Charter effectively gives a nation-state its right to defend itself against threats. Therefore, the Turkish government does not see it fit to seek Iraq's permission before launching strikes in its land.

{A.2.3} INTL. Organization Actions & Latest Developments: A
separate point of contention between Iraq and Turkey is Turkey's building of 22 dams on the Tigris and Euphrates as part of their GAP project for water. Turkey faced more of an issue with Syria in regard to their dams; however, Iraq also found it to be a problem. This increased tensions between Iraq and Turkey which further worsened after the Gulf War when Turkey sided with the United Nations embargo on Iraq. In 2017, relations between both countries were relatively positive. Iraq gave explicit permission for Turkey to militarily operate in the North against the PKK but only after discussing it with the Iraqi government. In addition, liaison offices were opened up in both capitals for the exchange of intelligence.

Despite the positive relations, Iraq and Turkey still often argued over military operations against the Kurds in Northern Iraq. In 2012, Iraq held a cabinet where representatives voiced their concerns about sovereignty violations occurring in the country due to Turkey's role. In 2017, Turkey's attack on Sinjar, Iraq left 5 Peshmerga fighters dead. Turkey claimed this to be a victory against terrorists, while Iraq once again claimed it to be a sovereignty violation

Early this year in April, Turkey carried out Operation Claw-Lock, once again attacking the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) in Northern Iraq. Iraq responded in the same way, condemning Turkey's violation of sovereignty. In 2019, Iraqi President Barham Salih commented on Turkey's military intervention in Syria, stating that "Turkey's military incursion into Syria is a grave escalation; will cause untold humanitarian suffering, empower terrorist groups. The world must unite to avert a catastrophe, and promote a political resolution to the rights of all Syrians, including Kurds, to peace, dignity and security."

{A.2.4} Timeline:

- 1918 – Ottoman Empire signs the Moudros Armistice declaring its Southern border ambiguous. Britain occupies Mosul.

- 1923 – Conference held to discuss the end of the Turkish War of Independence as well as the issue of Mosul.

- 1925 – League of Nations hands Mosul over to Iraq.

- 1932-1958 – Saadabad and Baghdad Pacts signed.

- 1948 – Turkey recognizes Israel.

- 1952 – Turkey joins NATO.

- 1958 – Iraq withdraws from Baghdad Pact. Turkey eventually recognizes the new Iraqi government.

- 1960's – Iraq and Turkey dispute over GAP project and dams in Tigris and Euphrates.

- 1990 – Iraq-Turkey relations shift following Gulf War.

- 2003 – Turkey rejects joining the US-led coalition in Iraq.

- 2008 – Turkey, Iraq, and Syria reestablish the Joint Trilateral Committee for better management of water resources.

- 2011 – Iraq and Turkey begin to face strong strain on their relations.

- 2017 – Turkey and Iraq signed an agreement for Turkey to fight PKK in North Iraq. 5 Peshmerga fighters die in a Turkish attack and Iraq condemns Turkey.

- 2019 – Turkey launches Operation Claw-3.

- 2022 – Turkey begins Operation Claw-Lock; Iraqi foreign minister calls them out for sovereignty violation.

{A.2.5} Guiding Questions:

- ★ How do Iraq-Turkey relations play a role in the Middle East's political stability?

- ★ Is Turkey's military involvement in Northern Iraq valid? Shall it cease, continue with more restrictions, or continue as it is?
- ★ What actions shall nations and/or international organizations take to deescalate the tensions between Middle Eastern countries and Turkey?
- ★ Middle East stance on Turkey's military intervention.
- ★ How the Security Council can effectively tackle the issue within its abilities and powers?
- ★ Which countries other than Iraq and Turkey are involved in the issue, and how they've affected it?

A.3) <u>The Insurgency Issue in Nigeria</u>

The insurgency issue in Nigeria remains one of the greatest unresolved issues on the African continent. Historically, it can be traced back to colonial times and since then has cost tens of thousands lives. The multitude of facades is characteristic to the conflict and has led several attempts to resolve the issue to demise, reaching from the SARS or the MNJTF. As so often, civilians suffer most under the conflict with Boko Haram, but it should also be noted that it undermines the political and economic stability of the entire region. Therefore, we invite you to carefully familiarize yourself with the background of the conflict and the attempts that failed so far so that you can jointly develop an avenue to resolve the countless issues that come with the insurgency in Nigeria. In order to understand and resolve it, one needs to have a more detailed understanding of where the conflict can be traced back to historically, but also which dimensions the conflict touches on. The following guide offers a basis of information necessary to conduct further research which we more than encourage you to do.

{A.3.1} Summary & History: To get a deeper sense of where the insurgency issue in Nigeria has its origin, one has to go back to the time when Nigeria gained independence in the year 1960. Since then, deep-rooted inequalities and differences have developed in the country which can be understood as the key reasons for the outbreak of the insurgence, but also the government reaction.

[i] Before 2002: When Nigeria gained independence from the United Kingdom in 1960 and formed the First Republic of Nigeria, it already was dominated by three different ethnic groups: the Hausa in the north, the Yoruba in the west, and the Igbo in the east. The first government was led by the Muslim Hausa, which created the first imbalance in the political system of Nigeria. The

year 1966 saw two military coups: one led by the Yoruba and a counter-coup led by the Hausa again. These coups sparked the escalation of ethnical conflicts in the country and led up to a civil war which would last three years and cost over a million lives. In the following years of stabilization, Nigeria experienced a boom powered by major oil discoveries. However, this boom did not facilitate the expected rise of living standards and fueled multiple more coups during the year 1975, which mostly failed. During this time, a second imbalance developed in the country which was of economical nature: the southern part of Nigeria profited significantly more from the oil boom and developed wealthy elite which sent their children abroad to receive Western education. On the other hand, the conservative north remained deeply skeptical of such developments and thus developed a different set of values and a different education system. After several coups in 1977, 1983, and 1985 the country slowly edged towards democracy again. In 1993, democratic elections were held again, only to be declared null and void. The road to democracy ended abruptly with a coup d'état by General Sani Abacha which led to a six year dictatorship. When he died in 1998, his successor administered the drafting of a new constitution and allowed free elections again. Under elected president Olusegun Obasanjo the Fourth Republic now made meaningful steps towards democracy again.

[ii] 2002 and the Formation of Boko Haram:
After the return of democracy to Nigeria based on a federal system, the northern states made use of their newly gained power to introduce Sharia law to their criminal code. Since the northern regions were more conservative, the changes did not go far enough for some, however. The Islamic scholar Mohammed Yusuf opposed democratic elections and western education and managed to gain significant support in the northern countryside, leading to the founding of Boko Haram in 2002. Initially, the group was active in a very limited area and constrained its actions to minor clashes with security forces until they were requested to leave the area by the Christian federal institutions and several other religious institutions in 2004, sparking violent attacks on police stations. Still, the conflict was mainly limited to clashes with police and military forces. After the elections 2007, which were condemned as non-democratic, Umaru Ya´Ádua came to power but died in 2010, giving rise to Vice President Goodluck Jonathan. In 2009, security forces attempted a crackdown of the group in Northern provinces which resulted in broader terror attacks in the region and riots in cities in the northern border region. 780 deaths were reported after the clashes in the cities and the group leader Yusuf was killed by police forces under dubious circumstances. This date is widely considered the beginning of insurgency in the north since in the following years, the group became increasingly violent and a growing number of civilians became the target of the attacks. In 2010, Boko Haram attacked several police stations and a prison, freeing over 700 inmates. Moreover, during the presidential

elections held in 2011, several car bombings were reported, as well as four political murders and attacks on churches, which Boko Haram claimed. For the year 2011 alone, Boko Haram has been made responsible for 510 deaths. In the following years, attacks saw an increasing intensity and various targets with western influence, reaching from universities to newspapers, not only in Nigeria itself, but also in neighboring countries.

[iii] Developments after the government response in 2015: At the beginning of 2015, an alliance of Nigeria, Chad, Cameroon and Niger raised a military campaign against Boko Haram. The advances by the Chad army neutralizing hundreds of insurgents were answered by Boko Haram with suicide bombings and several massacres carried out in the northern border region. Within the first three months of the year, 700 civilians are estimated to have lost their lives. This peak of violence was accompanied by an alliance between Boko Haram and the Islamic State. In March, the Nigerian Army announced it had regained control over 11 of 14 districts. In light of these clashes the 2015 elections were held, in which Muhammadu Buhari came to power and introduced a Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) tasked especially with responding to crimes related to insurgency, such as kidnapping or robbery. In December, the government claimed to have defeated Boko Haram, whose fighters were believed to have fled towards the Nigeria-Cameroon border. However, Boko Haram forces were never fully defeated and regained control over a few strongholds and continued to commit suicide attacks almost on a daily basis throughout the years 2016 to 2020, despite never amounting to the previous scale. In recent years, the SARS has gained significant attention due to claims of corruption, police violence, and human rights abuse. Despite being intended to remain in their camps until called upon, they were found acting at their own discretion. Several NGOs have accused SARS of arbitrary roadblocks, beatings, and shooting civilians and of unsustainable suspicions of terrorism. Since 2019, more people have fallen victim to the SARS than to terrorist attacks. These allegations of human rights violations lead to the end SARS-movement. The government however claims this organization to be the only effective weapon against insurgency in the north.

{A.3.2} Discourse on the Issue: As of now, insurgent groups still hold several strongholds in the north of Nigeria and the Lake Chad Basin (LCB). The civil society is torn between the north-south tensions, as well as the tensions between Boko Haram and SARS, with severe consequences for politics, the economy, and humanitarian situation in the region.

[i] Political Situation: The division of the country is also mirrored by the political system, in which the Congress is dominated by the northern All

Progressive Party (APC) and the southern People's Democratic Party (PDP). The insurgency issue has kindled political polarization among the parties and an increasing militarization, leading to concerns over accountability. Due to the SARS-controversy, Nigeria has fallen in several political rankings, including the corruption ranking and fragile state index. In 2022, Nigeria was demoted to an autocratic regime following the postponing of elections and increased influence of the executive on the judiciary. The government claims these measures to be necessary in order to act against Boko Haram. Moreover, Boko Haram attacks during elections have resulted in significantly lower election turnout and a loss of trust in the government.

[ii] Socio-Economic Situation: Despite its wealth in natural resources making Nigeria the richest country of the African continent, it has one of the lowest per-capita incomes. Scholars trace this phenomenon back to high corruption and an increasing gap between the super-wealthy elites and the poorer general population. Economically, the country is split into an industrial and wealthy south, and a rural and poor north. During the 1990s, a significant flow of people could be observed towards the south since the north was lacking working opportunities. Some scholars claim that the lack of working opportunities is a major driver of the influx of fighters in Boko Haram because of a lack of job and career perspectives. During the attacks throughout the 2000s, over 30% of the northern infrastructure and up to 50% of the industrial capacity of the north were destroyed, leading to a fall in trade volume, both inland and foreign. Not only has industrial productivity fallen, however, but also agricultural productivity has dropped by half because farmers were forced to give up their land. This has been accompanied by a rapid outflow of capital, resulting in an economic breakdown of the weak economy in the north, further contributing to the above mentioned trend. The steady flow of inland migration towards the south continues and threatens to overwhelm the Nigerian government.

[iii] Humanitarian Situation: The civilian population has suffered greatly under the insurgency and the following government response. It is estimated that over 12 million people are displaced, of which 3.2 million have fled abroad to Cameroon or Chad. This issue is amplified by a shortage of shelter, food, and medical treatment. The WHO laments several issues in the health sector: a significant brain drain of medical professionals and a lack of medical supplies contribute to the death rate among infants around 10%. Moreover not even one out of two citizens has access to clean drinking water. It is estimated that one third of the Nigerian population suffers malnutrition. Another effect of the insurgency is a grave endangerment of the youth. Not only are children subject to attacks on schools and universities, they are often also abducted to serve as child soldiers, both leading to severe psychological consequences. Because

education institutions have to close down frequently in the face of the imminent threat of terror attacks, education standards in Nigeria are among the worst in Africa, especially in the north. It is also reported that Boko Haram and even SARS make use of gender-based violence. Sexual abuse is a common crime against women and girls during terror attacks and also SARS-soldiers have been reported to have committed sexual abuse.

{A.3.3} INTL. Organization Actions & Latest Developments:

During its 469th meeting in 2014, the African Union first addressed the issue and agreed on a joint humanitarian aid project with a volume of $150 million. Moreover, within the framework of the fight against terrorism, the AU set up a fund accessible to countries such as Nigeria and Cameroon and authorized the implementation of the MNJTF. The AU is not only the most important fundraiser of the taskforce but also supports it with a strategic support cell. In 2018, the AU also adopted a Regional Strategy for Stabilization, Recovery and Resilience (RS-SRR), which includes political cooperation, governance, socioeconomic recovery and environmental sustainability, preventing violent extremism and peace building, demobilization, repatriation, reintegration and resettlement. However, in recent years, calls have become louder for increased support in tackling root causes such as economic development and education measures. In 2016, the AU launched the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT), which is based in Algeria and serves as a center of excellence for counterterrorism efforts across the continent. It provides training, capacity building, and research on terrorism-related issues to AU member states. Several UN-organizations have addressed the issue so far. The UNHRC addressed the violations and abuses of human rights and atrocities in 2018 and has since then consistently supported Nigeria and other countries on the LCB in providing humanitarian aid such as shelters and medical aid. The Security Council (UNSC) adopted its first resolution addressing Boko Haram´s presence in the LCB in SC/Res 2349. In it, the SC expressed its concern about civilian security, especially torture and abuse. Moreover, it condemned the terrorist attacks and neglect of human right conventions. Also, it urged the implementation of military measures against Boko Haram, human rights measures and for tackling root causes. Other committees such as the UNOWAS have echoed the resolution frequently and work together closely with the AU in providing humanitarian aid but demand more emphasis on tackling the root causes of the conflict.

{A.3.4} Bloc Positions: The conflict breaks down to two different levels. On a regional level, the conflict is fought between the Nigerian government, assisted by its neighboring countries Chad, Cameroon and Nigeria, and Boko

Haram. On a supranational level, Nigeria is supported by several western powers, such as the United States. Russia and China play a limited role in the conflict. Whereas they both have provided training and financial aid to Nigeria, both were careful not to get involved in the fight against insurgency.

[i] Nigeria:
The country visibly crumbles under the insurgency issue in its north. As already pointed out, the economy of the north is severely weakened because of the insurgency. The political system is losing the trust in its system in a twofold way: whereas the government has not yet found a way to reasonably ensure the security of its citizens in the north, its response with SARS troops is alleged of committing grave human right violations. Despite increasing its investment in security measures by 120%, the situation has not improved since 2015. The interest of the government is thus first to regain the monopoly of force in the short term to revive the economy and political support and then to find a long term solution for addressing the division of the country on multiple levels. The main issue the government thus faces is how to give security forces the freedom they need to operate effectively against the insurgents and at the same time hold them accountable for possible power abuse.

[ii] Boko Haram:
The aim of Boko Haram is to introduce the Sharia law to the entire state and prohibit Western influence, such as Western education, democracy or capitalism. During the peak of their influence, they held 15 provinces in the north of the country but were pushed back by a military coalition to hold only 4 provinces to this day. In these provinces they are still deeply rooted and enjoy support of a reasonable amount of people, mostly young people without work, as Amnesty International notes. In 2015, the group officially joined the Islamic State to gain more legitimacy. Since then, they have managed to hold their territory, probably supported by weapons reaching them from Chad and Libya.

[iii] Chad, Cameroon and Niger:
Since Boko Haram operates around Lake Chad, the neighboring states fear that the insurgency issue might spill over to their territory. After 2015, all three countries witnessed attacks on civilians as well as military targets. The major victim was Chad whose soldiers are frequently subject to attack. Additionally, Cameroon receives a significant influx of Nigerian refugees fleeing the violence of either Boko Haram or the Nigerian military. Because the countries are naturally involved in the conflict in multiple ways, they contributed to the military offensive in 2015 and supported the Nigerian military with 60% of soldiers and 50% of the budget. Additionally, Chad and Nigeria maintain a joint military force against Boko Haram and all four countries continuously collaborate to prevent a spread of insurgents. However, the

humanitarian situation with displaced people especially has received little to no attention during this collaboration.

[iv] Europe and the United States: Europe has frequently expressed its concern about the insurgency, but primarily about the humanitarian situation. Whereas Germany, Sweden and Italy have criticized the Human Rights violations of both Boko Haram and SARS and limited their financial aid to humanitarian goods, France, the United Kingdom, and the United States have been involved in military operations as well. However, a significant amount of the aid is estimated to be lost due to extensive corruption. In 2015, the United States deployed 300 troops in Chad to assist the government in training operations. In 2014, France delivered a shipment of weapons and ammunition to Nigeria's security forces, including rocket launchers, assault rifles, and anti-tank mines. France has also provided intelligence support and training to Nigerian forces in their efforts to combat the insurgency. The UK has also provided significant support to Nigeria's security forces. In 2015, the UK government signed a deal to provide Nigeria with military training and equipment worth £5 million, including body armor, helmets, and communication devices. It has also provided intelligence support and training to Nigerian forces and has deployed a small number of military advisors to the country. France and the UK promised to continuously support the military efforts against Boko Haram.

[v] Supranational Organizations: Both the United Nations (UN) and the African Union (AU) have been involved in the fight against Boko Haram. The AU established a Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) in 2015 consisting of troops from Nigeria, Niger, Chad, Cameroon, and Benin, with the mandate to combat Boko Haram and other terrorist groups in the region. The AU provides political and logistical support to the MNJTF and has pledged to assist in funding its operations. The AU has also provided humanitarian assistance to the victims of Boko Haram's violence, particularly in northeastern Nigeria, where the group has displaced millions of people and caused widespread food insecurity. The AU's Peace and Security Council has repeatedly called for increased international support for the MNJTF and for efforts to address the root causes of extremism in the region, including poverty and marginalization.

The UN does not only support the MNJTF logistically, but also addressed the issue repeatedly in multiple councils. The UN Security Council has passed several resolutions calling for increased support for the affected countries, including through the provision of military and logistical assistance. The UN has also worked with the African Union and the Lake Chad Basin Commission to promote a coordinated response to the crisis. Moreover, the UN supported humanitarian aid with $5 billion of financial aid and hundreds of UN workers to provide shelter,

food and education. The UN is also convinced that combating the root cause of the issue, i.e. poverty, will help to resolve the issue and thus is engaged in providing economic opportunities and access to education in the area, especially to marginalized groups.

{A.3.5} Guiding Questions:

★ What are the root causes of the issue that can be identified?
★ What could short term solutions to ensure the security of civilians in endangered regions look like?
★ Which role should supranational organizations play in providing humanitarian aid, combating the insurgency issue and resolving the political tensions within Nigeria?
★ How should the actions of Nigeria to combat insurgency be constrained?
★ How can the issue of violence be addressed in the long term, considering possibilities in the economic, educational, and humanitarian dimension?

A.4) Political Unrest in Iran

{A.4.1} Summary & History: In order to understand the context of the current political unrest, we have to take a brief look at the recent history of Iran. After the 1953 Iranian coup d'état, the monarchical government under Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi aligned Iran with the Western Bloc and cultivated a close relationship with the United States in order to consolidate Pahlavi's power as an authoritarian ruler. Relying heavily on American support amidst the Cold War, he remained the Shah of Iran for 26 years after the coup, effectively keeping the country from swaying towards the influence of the Eastern Bloc and the Soviet Union. Beginning in 1963, Pahlavi implemented a number of reforms aimed at modernizing Iranian society, in what is known as the White Revolution. The Iranian religious leader Ruhollah Khomeini's continued vocal opposition to the modernization campaign led to his exile from Iran in 1964. However, as major ideological tensions persisted between Pahlavi and Khomeini, anti-government demonstrations began in October 1977, eventually developing into a campaign of civil resistance that included elements of secularism and Islamism. In August 1978, the deaths of between 377 and 470 people in the Cinema Rex fire came to serve as a catalyst for a popular revolutionary movement across all of Iran, and large-scale strikes and demonstrations paralyzed the entire country for the remainder of that year. On 16 January 1979, Pahlavi left the country and went into exile as the last Iranian monarch, leaving behind his duties to Iran's Regency Council and the opposition-based Iranian prime minister. On 1 February 1979,

Khomeini returned to Iran, following an invitation by the government. Following the March 1979 Islamic Republic referendum, in which, according to official figures at least, 98% of Iranian voters approved the country's shift to an Islamic republic, the new government began efforts to draft the present-day Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

On March 8, 1979, less than a month after the Islamic Revolution consolidated its control, thousands of women poured into the streets of Tehran to protest the new government's proposed policies, which went beyond the compulsory Hijab or clothing covering a woman's entire body. The laws introduced after the revolution "basically established institutionalized discrimination. Here, women's lives [were] valued at half of that of a man, their testimony [was] valued half of that of a man, and they [had] lost the right to divorce, the right to the custody of their children" (McGrath, 2022). Government and Islamic leaders attempted to calm the protests. The Ayatollah's aides reacted to the protests by saying that he had merely called for the wearing of "modest dress". This statement by Mahmoud Taleghani from the government, assuring the public that the Hijab would not be enforced, only encouraged, resulted in calming the protests.

The protests resulted in a temporary retraction of the decree of mandatory veiling. When the left and the liberals were eliminated, and the conservatives secured solitary control, however, veiling was enforced on all women. This began with the "Islamification of offices" in July 1980, when unveiled women were refused entry to government offices and public buildings, and banned from appearing unveiled at their workplace, under risk of being fired. On the streets, unveiled women were attacked by revolutionaries. In July 1981, an edict of mandatory veiling in public was introduced, which was followed in 1983 by an Islamic Punishment Law introducing corporal punishment on unveiled women: "Women who appear in public without Hijab will be sentenced to whipping up to 74 lashes." The law was enforced by members of the Islamic Revolution Committees patrolling the streets, and later by the Guidance Patrols, also called the Morality Police. The next notable protests arose in 2009, after the hardliner incumbent President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad was re-elected in a disputed vote. After the polls closed, the regime began shutting down campaign offices of reformist opposition candidates and met any opposition activists with truncheons and tear gas. Millions of citizens responded to calls to action and took to the streets of Tehran, Isfahan, Shiraz, and other cities. The 2009 protests, much like today, were arranged on a cellular level, street by street, from the bottom up.

In the past five years, there have been a number of smaller protests and strikes concerned with poverty and economic mismanagement. Iran's economy is reliant on the oil industry but the revenues from it have been severely curtailed

because of crippling U.S. sanctions, contributing to high levels of inflation, inequality, and unemployment. One particularly fatal movement protesting an overnight fuel price hike in November 2019 was labeled "Bloody November," as Iranian authorities killed as many as 1,500 protesters.

{A.4.2} Discourse on the Issue:

[i] Political and Economic Situation: The former head of Iran's judiciary, Ebrahim Raisi, rose to the presidency in June instead of being investigated for crimes against humanity related to the mass enforced disappearances and extrajudicial executions of 1988, reflecting systemic impunity in Iran. Presidential elections were held in a repressive environment with a markedly low turnout. Authorities barred women, members of religious minorities and critics from running, and threatened to prosecute anyone encouraging election boycotts. Ongoing US sanctions, Covid-19 and corruption deepened Iran's economic crisis, characterized by high inflation, job losses and low or unpaid wages. Strikes and rallies punctuated the year as authorities failed to prioritize adequate wages, housing, healthcare, food security and education in public budgets.

[ii] Human Rights & Freedoms: Iran continues to be one of the world's most consistent implementers of the death penalty. According to rights groups, in 2021 Iran had executed at least 254 people as of November 8, including at least seven people on alleged terrorism-related charges. The judiciary also executed at least one individual sentenced to death for crimes they allegedly committed as a child. Under Iran's current penal code, judges can use their discretion to spare individuals who committed their alleged crime as children from the death penalty. However, several individuals who were retried under the penal code for crimes they allegedly committed as children have then been sentenced to death again.

Iranian law considers acts such as "insulting the prophet," "apostasy," same-sex relations, adultery, drinking alcohol, and certain non-violent drug-related offenses as crimes punishable by death. The law also prescribes the inhumane punishment of flogging for more than 100 offenses, including "disrupting public order," a charge that has been used to sentence individuals to flogging for their participation in protests. Iranian authorities severely restricted freedoms of assembly and expression. Over the past three years, security forces have responded to widespread protests stemming from economic rights issues with excessive and unlawful force, including lethal force, and arrested thousands of protestors. Scores of human rights defenders remain behind bars while authorities continue to harass, arrest, and prosecute those seeking accountability and

justice, including human rights lawyers Nasrin Sotoudeh, Mohamad Najafi, and Amirsalar Davoudi.

Iran's parliament has been working on a draft bill that seeks to impose further restrictions on internet access for people in Iran. The bill includes a provision requiring international technology companies to have a legal representative in Iran to comply with Iranian law and cooperate with authorities. Iranian authorities have long surveilled users and prosecuted them for views they expressed online and censored online spaces. The bill also seeks to criminalize the production and distribution of censorship circumvention tools (VPNs) commonly used in Iran to access a wide range of websites that are blocked by authorities. Women face discrimination in personal status matters related to marriage, divorce, inheritance, and decisions relating to children. Under the Passports Law, a married woman may not obtain a passport or travel outside the country without the written permission of her husband who can revoke such permission at any time. Under the civil code, a husband is accorded the right to choose the place of living and can prevent his wife from having certain occupations if he deems them against "family values." Iranian law allows girls to marry at 13 and boys at age 15, as well as at younger ages if authorized by a judge.

{A.4.3} INTL. Organization Actions & Latest Developments:

[i] UN & Security Council Involvement: On 24 March 2011, the Human Rights Council adopted a resolution re-establishing the mandate of a Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran. Resolution 37/30 requests the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran to submit a report on the implementation of the mandate to the Human Rights Council at its fortieth session and to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session and calls upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur, to permit access to visit the country, and to provide all information necessary to allow the fulfillment of the mandate. On 6 July 2018, Mr. Javaid Rehman was appointed as the third Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran since re-establishment of the mandate. He has since written several reports on the situation and shared his expertise with several UN bodies looking to alleviate the situation.

On December 14, 2022, United Nations member states voted to oust Iran from the UN Commission on the Status of Women (UN Women), the foremost intergovernmental body tasked with protecting women's rights and promoting gender equality. Iran was in the midst of a four-year elected term on the

Commission. The United States introduced the resolution, which received 29 votes in favor and eight against, with 16 countries abstaining. This was the first time a member state had ever been ousted from the body. The Security Council has largely remained silent on the issue so far, leaving it in the hands of the Human Rights Council. Accordingly, there have been no sessions, resolutions, or press releases dedicated to discussing Iran. However, there has been some symbolic and informal action to address the protests. On November 2, the United States and Albania co-hosted a Security Council Arria formula meeting to highlight the ongoing repression of women and girls and members of religious and ethnic minority groups in Iran and underscore ongoing unlawful use of force against peaceful protesters. Arria formula meetings are informal gatherings of interested members of the Security Council on topics for which the Council cannot gather consensus to address formally. They "provide interested Council members an opportunity to engage in a direct dialogue with high representatives of Governments and international organizations—often at the latter's request—as well as non-State parties, on matters with which they are concerned, and which fall within the purview of responsibility of the Security Council" (Security Council Report, 2020). The meeting was intended to "identify opportunities to promote credible, international, independent investigations into the Iranian government's human rights violations and abuses" (UN Media, 2022). Three experts briefed the Security Council at the Arria formula meeting: Javaid Rehman (Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran); Shirin Ebadi, (Iranian Human Rights Defender and Nobel Peace Prize Winner), and Nazanin Boniadi (Activist). As it was an informal gathering, there were no formal outcomes or records. However, the meeting was recorded on video and can be watched online in its entirety.

[ii] Collective and Unilateral Member State Action: The protests and subsequent violent repercussions have triggered waves of symbolic and material responses from several states. In December, the 27 EU member states jointly condemned Iran's actions in what is the most strongly worded EU statement on Iran in recent years. The European Union also adopted a series of sanctions packages targeting individuals and entities responsible for the crackdown. Several other European countries, such as Switzerland, followed suit and imposed sanctions accordingly. Similarly, the United States imposed sanctions in a total of nine rounds, increasing in severity. In addition, many countries have unilaterally issued statements and symbols of support for the protesters.

The UN Special Rapporteur has warned that this is not enough, and that an effective response needs to be formulated urgently. "I would stress the international community has a responsibility to take action, to address impunity for rights violations", he said, saying it was "really important" that the UN and other international bodies "take concrete action" (United Nations, 2022).

{A.4.4} Possible Avenues for Action: The political and social situation in Iran is very convoluted and there are several possible avenues for action. However, the following list of suggestions is by no means exhaustive, so you are entirely free and even encouraged to pursue additional avenues for contributing to the debate around the issue in hand.

[i] UNHRC Fact-Finding Mission: On November 24, 2022, the UN Human Rights Council voted overwhelmingly to set up a fact-finding investigation into human rights abuses in Iran. At a special session convened by Germany in Geneva the UNHRC voted by 25 to six to set up the inquiry, with 15 abstaining. The vote is regarded as a significant victory for human rights defenders, since a mechanism now exists to file evidence of abuses by the state, making the possibility of prosecutions in international courts more likely. The resolution calls for the UN to set up an inquiry to "collect, consolidate and analyze evidence of … violation" (Wintour, 2022). However, the Iranian authorities have so far not agreed to host this mission, and it cannot be sent without the consent of the host state. One possible approach for the Council is to get Iran to cooperate with such a mission on behalf of the UNHRC.

[ii] Collective Economic Measures: Several countries have imposed sanctions on Iran unilaterally. Most recently, on March 20 Britain sanctioned senior officials from the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), including those who it said were responsible for managing the group's financial investments. The European Union and the United States have imposed similar sanctions on individuals and organizations in the Iranian government. They include asset freezes and travel bans. The Council could expand the scope of these sanctions or formalize a collective system of sanctions that would extend to all member states of the Council.

[iii] Other Measures: The Council also has a very important symbolic role of commenting on the actions of member states. You can consider releasing a statement condemning the police violence and government inaction to stop the protests. In a similar fashion, you can propose to host more Arria formula meetings or consult the UN Special Rapporteur for Iran to signal that the Council is invested in this issue.

A.5) Deliberation over the Taiwan Crises

In order to understand the crisis pertaining in Taiwan we need to holistically understand the ongoing situation, the problems, the root of the problems, the consequences, attempted solutions, the reasons they failed, and what to keep

in mind while further deliberating more solutions to the issue at hand. It is a very clear disclaimer to all the delegates that the background guide is just the start of your research and only gives you briefings about certain aspects of the situation that are crucial to be aware of and shall consist of links and info from the internet alongside certain key messages wherever necessary from the side of the executive board. You all are requested to go beyond the background guide and upon understanding the base of the agenda, conduct your own research to get an upper hand in the committee.

{A.5.1} Summary & History:
Tensions between the Mainland China and the Island of Taiwan have been high ever since the Chinese Civil War that began in 1927, where Republican forces fought the Communists for control over the country. By 1935 and later the Japanese War efforts had begun and in the wake of this, the Communist party began to gain the support of the peasantry and prepare them for the continued civil war after the Japanese were defeated. By 1949, republican forces under the leadership of the Kuomintang President Chiang Kai Shek, were defeated, and forced out of the mainland. They were left with no other option but to reside on the island of Taiwan. Since the retreat to the Island, there have been 3 crises that have nearly led to war. The first crisis began in 1954, when the Mainland Communist Forces began bombardment of the Island as a measure to liberate Taiwan. However, with the news that USA was considering the use of Nuclear Weapons on the Mainland, the PRC had to halt its measures. Shortly after 4 years, Communist forces once again began invading islands through the use of amphibious landings and bombardment. This also came to an end after a mutual stalemate. In 1994, I response to the U.S government inviting President Lee Teng-hui of Taiwan to speak at Cornell, the Chinese Communist party operated missile tests and naval exercises in an attempt to intimidate both Taiwan and the United States. In response, the United States sent 2 carrier battle groups, ultimately forcing China to step down. Since then, the United States and Taiwan have held strong military ties, alongside Japan. The United States has been selling its military technology and weapons to Taiwan for decades now, which angers the Communist Party. Despite the United States officially recognizing the Communist Party in 1979, both Taiwan and the US have kept close ties since then.

The US has backed the defense of Taiwan since its creation, hindering China's ability to invade and ultimately take over the island. While the United States has acted as a deterrent against a Chinese invasion, China has become increasingly aggressive over the years. While the past crisis between China and Taiwan was nearly 20 years ago, tensions are still incredibly high between the 2 nations. Under Xi Jingping, the Communist party has been making more and more bold moves in order to counter both Taiwanese and American interests.

The People's Republic of China has seen extensive military growth under the new President's leadership. Multiple amphibious training exercises have been held, mimicking a potential invasion of Taiwan. While the island does have the backing of the United States and her forces, Taiwan's military has been criticized as "ill-prepared" for a defense against China.

The military currently relies on a large amount of dated technology, with 2 of Taiwan's submarines being constructed in the 1980s. Meanwhile, the Chinese government has been investing heavily in expanding its military potential. Its military technology is quickly improving, and combined with its massive size, China's military proves a real threat to both Taiwan and the United States. Historical sources suggest that the island first came under full Chinese control in the 17th Century when the Qing dynasty began administering it. Then, in 1895, they gave up the island to Japan after losing the first Sino Japanese war. China took the island again in 1945 after Japan lost World War Two. But a civil war erupted in mainland China between nationalist government forces led by Chiang Kai-shek and Mao Zedong's Communist Party.

The communists won in 1949 and took control in Beijing. Chiang Kai-shek and what was left of the nationalist party - known as the Kuomintang - fled to Taiwan, where they ruled for the next several decades. China points to this history to say that Taiwan was originally a Chinese province. But the Taiwanese point to the same history to argue that they were never part of the modern Chinese state that was first formed after the revolution in 1911 - or the People's Republic of China that was established under Mao in 1949. The Kuomintang has been one of Taiwan's most prominent political parties ever since - ruling the island for a significant part of its history. Currently, only 13 countries (plus the Vatican) recognize Taiwan as a sovereign country. China exerts considerable diplomatic pressure on other countries not to recognize Taiwan or to do anything which implies recognition.

{A.5.2} Discourse on the Issue:
Beijing asserts that there is only "one China" and that Taiwan is part of it. It views the PRC as the only legitimate government of China, an approach it calls the One-China principle, and seeks Taiwan's eventual "unification" with the mainland. Beijing claims that Taiwan is bound by an understanding known as the 1992 Consensus, which was reached between representatives of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and the Kuomintang (KMT) party that then ruled Taiwan. However, the two sides don't agree on the content of this so-called consensus, and it was never intended to address the question of Taiwan's legal status. For the PRC, as Chinese President Xi Jinping has stated, the 1992 Consensus reflects an agreement that "the two sides of the strait belong to one China and would work together to seek national

reunification." For the KMT, it means "one China, different interpretations," with the ROC standing as the "one China."

Taiwan's KMT-drafted constitution continues to recognize China, Mongolia, Taiwan, Tibet, and the South China Sea as part of the ROC. The KMT does not support Taiwan's independence and has consistently called for closer ties with Beijing. But in the face of recent election losses, KMT leaders have discussed whether to change the party's stance on the 1992 Consensus. Taiwan's KMT-drafted constitution continues to recognize China, Mongolia, Taiwan, Tibet, and the South China Sea as part of the ROC. The KMT does not support Taiwan's independence and has consistently called for closer ties with Beijing. But in the face of recent election losses, KMT leaders have discussed whether to change the party's stance on the 1992 Consensus.

{A.5.3} US-Taiwan Relations: In 1979, the United States established formal diplomatic relations with the PRC. At the same time, it severed its diplomatic ties and abrogated its mutual defense treaty with the ROC. But the United States maintains a robust unofficial relationship with the island and continues to sell defense equipment to its military. Beijing has repeatedly urged Washington to stop selling weapons to and cease contact with Taipei. The U.S. approach is governed by its One-China policy. It is based on several documents, such as three U.S.-China communiqués reached in 1972, 1978, and 1982; the Taiwan Relations Act, passed by the U.S. Congress in 1979; and the recently declassified "Six Assurances", which President Ronald Reagan conveyed to Taiwan in 1982. These documents lay out that the United States:

- ✓ "acknowledges the Chinese position that there is but one China and Taiwan is part of China" and that the PRC is the "sole legal government of China" (some U.S. officials have emphasized that the use of the word "acknowledge" implies that the United States doesn't necessarily accept the Chinese position);
- ✓ rejects any use of force to settle the dispute;
- ✓ maintains cultural, commercial, and other ties with Taiwan, carried out through the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT);
- ✓ commits to selling arms to Taiwan for self-defense; and
- ✓ Will maintain the ability to come to Taiwan's defense, while not actually committing to doing so—a policy known as strategic ambiguity.

The United States' chief goal is to maintain peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait, and it has implored both Beijing and Taipei to maintain the status quo. It says it does not support Taiwanese independence. Through its policy of strategic ambiguity, the United States has for decades attempted to maintain a delicate

balance between supporting Taiwan and preventing a war with China. But President Joe Biden has seemingly rejected the policy, stating several times that the United States would come to Taiwan's defense if China attacked. White House officials have walked back his comments, saying the policy has not changed, but ultimately, the president gets to decide how to respond.

Under President Donald Trump, the United States deepened ties with Taiwan over Chinese objections, including by selling more than $18 billion worth of arms to the military and unveiling a $250 million complex for its de facto embassy in Taipei. Trump spoke with Tsai by telephone ahead of his inauguration, the highest level of contact between the two sides since 1979. He also sent several senior administration officials—including a cabinet member—to Taipei, and during his last days in office, the State Department eliminated long-held restrictions governing where and how U.S. officials can meet with their Taiwanese counterparts. The Biden administration has taken a similar approach, continuing arms sales and affirming the Trump administration's decision to allow U.S. officials to meet more freely with Taiwanese officials. Biden was the first U.S. president to invite Taiwanese representatives to attend the presidential inauguration. The United States participates in military training and dialogues with Taiwan, regularly sails ships through the Taiwan Strait to demonstrate its military presence in the region, and has encouraged Taiwan to increase its defense spending. Also, Taiwan has received bipartisan support in Congress over the years, with lawmakers proposing and passing legislation to boost U.S.-Taiwan relations, bolster the island's defenses, and encourage its participation in international organizations. The latest proposed legislation, the Taiwan Policy Act of 2022, includes designating Taiwan as a major non–North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) ally. In August 2022, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) visited Taipei—the first speaker to do so since Newt Gingrich (R-GA) in 1997—and met with Tsai. Beijing strongly condemned the visit and in response planned military exercises that effectively surround the island and banned imports of some fruit and fish from Taiwan, among other actions.

{A.5.4} Projected State Involvement: Although Taiwan is only recognized by 18 UN member states, it is treated as a de facto political entity by many states including the US. The PRC's One China policy makes Taiwan's independence and self-determination a delicate topic. Beijing's heavy handedness with Hong Kong undermines any propositions of unification based on Taiwanese home rule.

Any attempt to force Taiwan to unify with mainland China through force would almost certainly result in victory for the PRC, despite the US supplying Taiwan with military equipment. However, the US has a vested interest in keeping Taiwan out

of Chinese hands. Control of Taiwan could allow China to project it's power and influence both into the South China Sea, an already hotly contested region, and the wider Pacific.

Taiwan's economy is also a major factor. It dominates the global production of computer chips, which play a vital role in much of the world's electronics – unification would give China control over major industries worldwide. Thus, the US has long adopted a policy of 'strategic ambiguity" towards Taiwan – neither committing to its defense, nor committing not to intervene in case of any incursion by the PRC. Furthermore, it has also formed the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, a semi-formal alliance between the US, Australia, Japan, and India, whose current goal is to prevent Chinese domination of the Indo-Pacific – an alliance that China views as provocative.

{A.5.5} Bloc Formation: All three principal actors – China, America, and Taiwan – appear to be adopting more hard-line stances. Despite the US's official policy of strategic ambiguity and recognition of the One China policy, comments by President Biden committing to the defense of the island and a visit by Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi have aggravated tensions. In response, China has sent military aircraft into Taiwan's Air Defense Zone and increased their military exercises in the waters surrounding the island, and any settlement based on Taiwanese independence would be a tough sell to say the least. Taiwan, meanwhile, continues to advocate for their status as an independent sovereign state, and given Russia's recent invasion of Ukraine are especially security-conscious.

America's European allies would certainly prefer to keep the PRC contained to mainland China, although events closer to home take priority and unlike the Russian invasion NATO has no official say in the matter. However, one key ally for the US in the South China Sea region is Australia, both as a land base in the region, as a member of the Five Eyes Intelligence-sharing initiative, and as taking a leading role in attempting to keep many of the nations in the South China Sea region out of the Chinese sphere of influence.

As for those states, such as the Philippines, Vietnam, and other island states, they are fearful of Chinese dominance but may well reconcile themselves to Beijing's influence with the right combination of carrots and sticks. Furthermore, the other Quad nations (India and Japan) are also wary of China's larger ambitions in the Indo-Pacific and are unwilling to see Taiwan as the first stepping stone for China to project its influence beyond its current maritime borders.

{A.5.6} Trade Disruptions from China-Taiwan Conflict:

International businesses are assessing the implications for global trade following possible intense disruption of trade in the event of an escalation of conflict between Taiwan and China. This comes after the conflict between Russia and Ukraine led to a disruption in the supplies of oil, gas and wheat along with a price surge all across world. Asia-Pacific supply chains is expected to enter a period of intense disruption and reconfiguration if a conflict between China and Taiwan occurs, an article in The Singapore Post said quoting China Neican, a current affairs website.

Even though Taiwan and China's conflict can have many likely scenario, several western and Asian analysts have predicted that the end result would be the same and will "involve an economic or military blockade of Taiwan or its outlying islands". The economic or military blockade will prevent Taiwan from accessing the freight supply routes by sea. These routes will involve the ones passing through the Strait of Malacca, which is a trade chokepoint between the Malay Peninsula and Sumatra, and Luzon Strait, south of Taiwan's main island of Formosa, it added.

The telecommunication and financial services in Taiwan will be disrupted if a blockade occurs in the Luzon Strait as there are several of fibre-optic cables running through the trait which connect China, Japan, Hong Kong and Taiwan with the United States. The economy of Taiwan will weaken if the Strait of Malacca is blocked as it would prevent the island nation from exporting semi-conductor and sporting goods to the United States and Europe causing them to languish in the ports.

"China will likely conduct denial of service cyber-attacks on critical Taiwanese infrastructure as part of a hybrid warfare strategy, compounding logistical difficulties for businesses. As a result, increased freight costs and circuitous supply routes would quickly ramp up inflationary pressure on consumer technology and renewable energy products," the publication said quoting China Neican. Meanwhile, several Japanese industrialists and traders have started noticing "growing risks in China as supply chain disruptions from strict COVID-19 restrictions and mounting tensions over the Taiwan Strait loom large over the supersized market," Nikkei Asia said.

The example of Ukraine and Russia are being used to display the devastating realities of war and to make the people in Taiwan submissive. Consequently, the people of Taiwan have made local efforts to protect themselves from an uncertain future by conducting workshops to teach and empower people to survive in warfare while waiting for government resources. The increasing aggression by China has caused the Taiwanese people to prepare for the unknown even though a peaceful resolution can still be attained.

Taiwan and mainland China have been governed separately since the defeated Nationalists retreated to the island at the end of the Chinese civil war more than 70 years ago. But China's ruling Chinese Communist Party (CCP) views the self-ruled island as part of its territory despite having never controlled it. Beijing has not ruled out military force to take Taiwan and has kept the pressure on the democratic island over the past few years with frequent warplane flights into the island's ADIZ. An ADIZ is unilaterally imposed and distinct from sovereign airspace, which is defined under international law as extending 12 nautical miles from a territory's shoreline.

A.6) Genocide: Addressing the Gross Human Rights Violation in Uyghur and Rohingya

"We can disagree and still love each other unless your disagreement is rooted in my oppression and denial of my humanity and right to exist." - James Baldwin

{A.6.1} Summary & History: Human mass slaughter is a phenomenon older than the 21st century. The popularity of the idea of genocide reflects its continued relevance in today's world. There were at least forty-four state-organized mass slaughters around the world between 1945 to 1989, including the Holocaust and Roma/Sinti Porrajmos, the Armenian Genocide, the Rwandan genocide amongst others. These massacres resulted in an average of 1.6 million to 3.9 million deaths per annum, which is significantly more than the total number of fatalities caused by all wars and natural disasters during that period. But that's not all. In every decade since 1945, another 1.85 million people have died in wars and civil wars. The concept of genocide was brought about after the massacre of Jews and thousands of Gypsies (Roma) by Nazi Germany during World War II. International bodies, scholars and dictionaries have attempted a definition of genocide but none can be said to be all-encompassing. The Genocide Convention of 1948 defines genocide as "acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial or religious group." Consequently, it entails killing, the imposition of stringent living conditions, and the causing of bodily and mental harm through torture. The word genocide originally referred to the killing of people based on race, now, it encompasses ethnicity. Article 2 of the United Nations Charter which came into force on December 9 1948 spells out what is deemed to be genocide and includes: "killing members of the group; causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group; deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part; imposing measures

intended to prevent births within the group; and forcibly transferring children of the group to another group".

The Rohingya minority is an ethnic group living in the Rakhine State of Myanmar. The Myanmar Government implemented a policy that is, in fact, a violation of human rights: The Burma Citizenship Act of 1982 explicitly does not acknowledge the people of the Rohingya as Burmese citizens. About 90 percent of the 50 million population of Myanmar are Buddhist, while the Muslims represent a religious minority of just over 4 percent of the population. The Rohingya are the largest Muslim group in Myanmar, although a fraction of them are Hindu. Likewise, the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR), located in China's northwest, is the only region in China with a majority Muslim population. The Uyghurs, Kazakhs, Kyrgyz, and other communities in the region are ethnically Turkic. Unlike the majority Han Chinese, who are primarily Chinese speakers, the Turkic population is predominantly Muslim and has their own languages. According to the 2010 census, Uyghurs made up 46 percent and Kazakhs 7 percent of the Xinjiang population. The Chinese government has prohibited the Uyghur people who are majorly Turkic Muslims from worshipping and performing religious rituals such as prayers. The Uyghurs have also been banned by the Chinese government from obtaining education and employment. The people of Rohingya have suffered long standing marginalization. They have been denied Myanmar citizenship and have never been legally recognized in Myanmar as an ethnic group. Many people in Myanmar hold the opinion and belief that the Rohingya people are originally from Bangladesh, while many Bangladeshis similarly think that the Rohingyas originate from Myanmar. Neither Bangladesh nor Myanmar is willing to recognize them as citizens.

{A.6.2} INTL. Organization Actions & Latest Developments:

Efforts have been made by international bodies to sufficiently address this issue. The Security Council fosters and ensures adherence to international human rights principles and international humanitarian law principles, such as the right to life under the UNHRC and ICCPR vis-a-vis humanitarian crisis that could occur as a result of genocide. The UN in 2012 established the United Nations Network on Racial Discrimination ("The Network") which provides an avenue for raising awareness, addressing issues of racial discrimination, and providing a means of advocacy whilst protecting the right of national or ethnic, linguistic, and religious minorities.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), an intergovernmental body that promotes intergovernmental cooperation and facilitates economic, political, security, military, educational, and socio-cultural integration between

its members and other countries in Asia and its hesitation to speak on the crisis would also be taken into account. However, it has a principle that provides for the "non-interference in the internal affairs of ASEAN Member States" which has limited their assistance to those who need it. While the Uyghur Human Rights Project (UHRP) promotes and protects the rights of the Uyghurs through research based advocacy which includes publishing reports that defend the civil, cultural, political, and economic rights of the Uyghurs. They also submit recommendations to the United Nations and European Union. Their reports such as the 2019 UHRP report highlighted the demolished mosques in East Turkistan which attracted international media attention.

The Joint Response Plan for Rohingya provides humanitarian assistance to refugees in Bangladesh and their host communities, and states how the United Nations and NGO partners, under the leadership of the Government of Bangladesh, can meet those needs. The Centre for Economic and Social Rights (CESR) is an international human rights organization promoting social justice through human rights. The CESR upholds universal human rights of all people, including the right to education, health, food, water, housing, and work, as well as other economic, social, and cultural rights that are essential to human dignity. This organization helps in exposing violations of human rights and working with civil society groups around the world assisting them to hold all actors involved accountable for these violations.

The Minority Group International (MRG) is an international human rights organization that works on the promotion of the rights of minorities and cooperation between communities. It works in over 60 countries with around 130 partners and campaigns over the world for marginalized ethnic, religious, and linguistic minorities and indigenous people. At the Commonwealth of Nations at CHOGM 2018 in London, leaders of member states in the Commonwealth of Nations addressed the crisis in a joint communiqué, stating that they stand with the people of Rohingya and commended Bangladesh for helping the refugees. It called for peace and the need to stop the human rights abuse carried out against the Rohingyas. Fortify Rights; a nongovernmental organization that aims to defend human rights by investigating human rights violations has been actively involved in collecting information on the crisis in both Uyghur and Rohingya.

{A.6.3} *Forces Fuelling the Crises:* The main reason behind the clash between the government and Rohingya and the clash against the Uyghurs in Myanmar lies in their ethnic and religious differences.

The Rakhine state saw the influx of Muslims during colonization by the British government in Myanmar. During World War II, there was a massive divide within the Rakhine state where the Muslims supported the British, and most of the Buddhists supported the Japanese government. After Myanmar became independent from British rule in 1948, the Muslims in Rakhine state began to clamour for autonomy and equal rights. The government defeated the rebellions made, encouraged the divide between the Muslims and the Buddhists, and denied them a formal identity. In 1982, a new citizenship law denying Rohingya's nationality was passed rendering them stateless. Due to this, tensions between the two groups became worse thereby displacing most Rohingyas. The government of Myanmar does not recognize the Rohingyas as an innocent stateless group of people but rather views them as a separate group adhering to foreign propaganda sponsored by foreign terrorists who are fueled by extreme Islamic beliefs. They believe that if the Rohingyas are formally recognized and granted autonomy due to the 1982 citizenship law, the area would become an area for terrorist groups who might attack the Myanmar government and strip them of their autonomy by the growth of the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army's (ARSA) presence in the region and surrounding areas. Another factor fueling the attack is the silence of the state government these attacks and the restrictions placed by the government on the remaining Rohingya Muslim residents that are effectively restricted in their community. International organisations such as the United Nations have also been denied access to the state while security officers offer no help during the attacks and sometimes join in the violence. Arakanese (same as Rakhine) Buddhist monks and political party officials also berates the Rohingyas publicly and state that there is a threat to Rakhine thereby increasing the tension between the two groups which ultimately results in violence against the Rohingyas. For example, on October 23, 2012 in Yan Thei village where over 70 Rohingya were killed in a massacre; only a few soldiers, rioters, and local police were present during the attack despite the warning given to them by the locals. They also assisted in the attack by disarming the Rohingyas of weapons they carried for defense.

The situation is no different from the one in Rohingya as the Chinese state officials are also worried that Uyghurs also subscribe to separatist and religious extremist ideas. They view the internment camps as a way of eliminating such ideas and promoting national integrity. A major factor to be considered is the presence of the largest coal and natural gas reserve which is situated in Xinjiang. The Chinese government has plans for China's Belt and Road Initiative, which represents a development plan. Any separatist movement can spoil this plan which is one of the reasons they want to eradicate the Uyghurs by transforming them in the camps. Several peaceful protests carried out by Uyghurs for autonomy has been translated into an act of violence and terrorism even when the Chinese officials are responsible for the tensions. Chinese communist political

officials have implemented and formulated several policies to disempower the Uyghurs socio-economically and politically. The policy is widely regarded as Hanification; meaning imposition of language and forced displacement and settlement. The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has continuously promoted the teaching of Putong Hua (Mandarin Chinese) in the Xinjiang region whilst stipulating methods to implement bilingual education in Xinjiang.

The CCP's implementation of discriminatory policies like the one child policy, bilingual policy, and institutionalization of transformation camps as well as its opposition to any trace of political sentiment that promotes the nationalism of the Uyghurs nationalism has further encouraged marginalization and has given the Chinese government more power to control the Uyghurs.

{A.6.4} Impact on Ethnic Minorities & Other Stakeholders: The consequences of the crisis do not only affect the ethnic minorities but also neighbouring states where displaced people seek refuge. The Rohingyas in refugee camps living in extreme conditions under harsh weather conditions with little or no food have no sign of hope. Those who try to escape by sea are mostly met with ill-fated accidents.

The poor infrastructure and unhealthy sanitation in refugee camps increase the risk of water and food borne related diseases for Rohingyas. Though the recommended number of refugees per latrine present to promote healthy living is 20, according to the Minimum Standards in Humanitarian response; the situation in Rohingya refugee camps is worse as one latrine accommodates 37 people which increase the risk of infection. Clean water is also in demand for the Rohingya refugees. The source of water which is mainly from rivers nearby is also contaminated by feces and serves as a dump for refuse thereby increasing the risk of water-borne diseases. Refugees would even be at greater risk during the monsoon, a period characterized by heavy rainfall and flood. During these seasons, harmful pathogens would be circulated easily thereby increasing the risk of diseases. Also, many refugees would either be killed or displaced due to heavy flooding. According to the UNHCR, 63,750 Rohingya refugees suffering from AWD (Acute Water Diarrhea) visited a registered camp's clinic between 25 August and 2 December 2017. There were also 15 reported deaths due to AWD during that time. In March 2021, a catastrophic fire spread in Cox's Bazar camp, causing dozens of deaths and destroying nearly ten thousand shelters. The COVID-19 pandemic has also exacerbated health crises in the camps.
The resurgence of diphtheria is also an effect of the crisis on refugees with the presence of 5,710 reported cases and 35 reported deaths due to the disease. Plans for mass vaccination efforts to stop the spread of diphtheria have been difficult due to cultural barriers and the hesitation of the Rohingya. Another issue for concern of is the increase in sexually transmitted infections due to drug

trafficking and different forms sexual violence present among the Rohingya refugees. The report shows that there are 83 known cases of HIV among refugees, with many more unknown cases likely. The Bangladesh home ministry states that a staggering 90% of female refugees have been victims of rape. Many victims of rape at the hands of soldiers are killed because of their race. Neighboring states like Bangladesh are not left out in suffering the brunt of the crisis; economic dropdown and overcrowding are largely increasing there. Since the beginning of the crisis, Bangladesh has helped Rohingya refugees in many ways which has affected them socially, economically and legally. It is a known fact that Bangladesh is not as prosperous as it is barely managing its resources. The appalling living conditions in the camps set up for Rohingyas in Bangladesh, along with lack of educational and employment opportunities for them, is leading to increased criminal activity. Several refugees have been caught transporting a drug named "Yaba " also known as the madness drugs. The use of these drugs has led to an increase in robbery, sexual violence and other related criminal activities. The U.N. Development Program released an environmental assessment, highlighting factors threatening biodiversity. The settlements built by refugees previously housing national forests and were inhabited by wild elephants are negatively transforming. The Chinese repression of Uyghur has resulted in the loss of freedom for Uyghurs. Those who attempt to escape are faced with serious threats to their liberty and life and if eventually caught are punished severely while those who escape lose contact with their family members. Some children who now live abroad have lost contact with their parents with no hopes of seeing them. Uyghur children in China are placed in boarding houses with bad living conditions and harsh treatments. They are thereby affected psychologically because of the trauma they have faced and are unable to cope in these conditions most times.

Sterilization of women in camps without their knowledge is now a norm that results in mental illness and causes menstruation to stop. Several professionals and intellectuals have reportedly disappeared and are nowhere to be found. In 2019 the Uyghur Human Rights Project identified 386 Uyghur intellectuals who had been imprisoned, detained, or disappeared since early 2017. Textbooks, mosques, religious artefacts have all been destroyed with the government alleging that the textbooks contain dangerous information and that it is not safe for a large group of people to stay in a mosque as they may be concerning some sort of separatist plan. Rape and torture are commonplace and authorities force detainees to take a medicine that left some individuals sterile or cognitively impaired. The cumulative results of these actions are that many children become orphans prematurely; women are sterilized and raped whilst open to the risk of mental illness. The ultimate effect is the erasure of the Uyghur's culture with no reference to their past.

★ What measures can be taken to ensure state compliance on the prevention of genocide?
★ What future efforts can be taken by the international community to protect stateless persons?
★ Would granting asylum to the people of Rohingya and Uyghur improve their situation?
★ Do you think the policies passed by the Rohingya and Chinese governments are for the state's safety or more of an epidemic?
★ Do you believe both groups should assume different approaches on the topic, if so how? What other progressive ways can you come up with to curb these crimes against humanity?

TOPIC-B: THE PRACTICES TO BE IMPLEMENTED TO RESTRAIN SUCH SECURITY CHALLENGES IN THE FUTURE

❖ **Statement of the Problem:** Following are UN Secretary-General António Guterres' remarks to the Munich Security Conference opening segment, in which he points out five major complexities, on the 18th February, 2022: "Firstly, geopolitical divides have continued to grow and deepen. These divides often paralyse the Security Council and create an environment of impunity in which State and non-State actors believe they can do whatever they want.

I am often asked whether we are in a new cold war. My answer is that the threat to global security now is more complex and probably higher than at that time. During much of the cold war, there were mechanisms that enabled the protagonists to calculate risks and use backchannels to prevent crises. Today, many of those systems no longer exist and most of the people trained to use them are no longer here with us. So, miscommunication and miscalculation can make a minor incident between Powers escalate out of control, causing incalculable harm. With a concentration of Russian forces around Ukraine, I am deeply concerned about heightened tensions and increased speculation about a military conflict in Europe. I still think it will not happen. But, if it did, it would be catastrophic. There is no alternative to diplomacy. All issues, including the most

intractable, must be addressed through diplomatic frameworks. And it is high time to seriously de-escalate.

The United Nations Charter, a fundamental pillar of international law, clearly says, and I quote: "All Members shall settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security, and justice, are not endangered. All Members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state, or in any other manner inconsistent with the Purposes of the United Nations." The Charter is clear. And I also urge all parties to be extremely careful with their rhetoric. Public statements should aim to reduce tensions, not to inflame them. And the United Nations system remains fully operational in Ukraine, including our humanitarian work in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, and I would like to express my gratitude for the cooperation we have with the Ukrainian Government in this regard.

Geopolitical divides are rarely solved, but they can and must be managed. The New Agenda for Peace, proposed in my recent *Our Common Agenda* report, should advance efforts towards more effective collective security responses. Respect for international law, trust-building and dialogue are paramount.

Second, crises are proliferating. Conflicts are increasingly internationalized, with the involvement of regional and global Powers. In Yemen and Libya, regional rivalries are firmly embedded in the civil wars. At the same time, crises are more fragmented. Multiple actors operate in loose and rapidly shifting coalitions, with different agendas. A widespread failure by States to deliver essential services and respond to the aspirations of their people is also giving rise to tensions and social unrest. Coups used to happen once every couple of years. In 2022, it's once every couple of weeks. These developments are both a symptom and a cause of the increased unpredictability and fragility of the global landscape.

Third, the threat of global terror looms over the world. In Syria, Da'esh is using children as human shields. Al-Qaida and its affiliates are regaining great power to cause harm. The risks of terrorism spill over out of Afghanistan, as well as the alarming spread of terrorism in some African countries show how adept terrorists are at exploiting power vacuums and subverting fragile States. In the African context, we need robust African peace enforcement and counter-terrorist operations, mandated by the United Nations Security Council under Chapter VII of the Charter, and with stable and predictable funding. The present situation is unsustainable. Extremism and terrorism flourish where there is poverty, hunger, inequality, and injustice. And the Sustainable Development Goals remain our greatest prevention tool.

Fourth, these factors are exacerbated by non-traditional security threats — primarily increased inequality, the climate crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic. Discrimination, exclusion and economic, social and cultural inequalities are exacting a devastating toll and creating an acute risk of violence and conflict. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the inadequacy and moral bankruptcy of our global financial system, which has increased the systemic inequality between North and South. Many countries in the global South have suffered devastating economic losses during the pandemic, and many of them still need vaccines. Governments face debt default and financial ruin, while their people face poverty, unemployment, hunger and despair. Meanwhile, the climate crisis is out of control, causing increased devastation that will lead to record levels of forced displacement. And this could further destabilize entire regions.
I urge all countries to step up support for global solutions to these non-traditional security threats, including the full implementation of the Paris Agreement on climate change to keep 1.5°C alive, and it risks to be dying very soon; the World Health Organization (WHO) global vaccination strategy; and urgent reforms to the global financial system to enable developing countries to access the resources needed to support their people.

Fifth and finally, digital technology is creating ever more dangerous ways for groups of people to harm each other, from cyber attacks to artificial intelligence-assisted weapons. Many wars are hybrid, fought both on the battlefield and online. Digital communications enable propaganda and conspiracy theories to spread like wildfires. Hate speech and racism add fuel to the flames. The proposed Global Digital Compact that I presented aims to find collective solutions that enable the safe development of digital technology and bring its benefits to all. I have also called for a global code of conduct that promotes integrity in public information. Large-scale disinformation that undermines scientifically established facts is a massive security risk. We urgently need better global governance, and this is a key objective of the United Nations Summit of the Future next year.

All these threats put human rights and democracy at serious risk. We need a surge in diplomacy for peace, a surge in political will for peace and a surge in investment for peace. And I count on your leadership to make it happen.

B.1) The COVID-19 pandemic had resulted in thousands of deaths and millions being pushed into poverty globally, it not only laid bare the porous nature of country borders but also the need for global cooperation to overcome the economic calamity threatening every country. Similarly, as world economies have become more integrated, we have seen conflict, crime, and violence crossing country borders hence becoming more international in their

scope, causes, and impact. Domestic political stability and law enforcement capacity have, therefore, become regional and global public goods. A new World Bank Policy Research Report, *Violence without Borders: The Internationalization of Crime and Conflict*, documents how permeable country borders have become, identifies the factors influencing this transition and evaluates the policy toolkit the international community has available to intervene.

In 2017, 40 percent of armed conflicts in the world involved international intervention. Violence from armed conflict now generates larger flows of refugees, who travel greater distances to seek protection and are distributed widely across many more receiving countries. In just 10 years, the number of transnational terrorist attacks has quintupled. The global trade in opium, cocaine, and other illicit drugs has reached a 30-year high, with production concentrated in a handful of countries. Elephant and rhinoceros killings are far above their 2000 levels because of persistent demand for wildlife products, and piracy in international waters is still a significant threat. This increasing transnational nature has intensified geographical spillovers and regional political instability with the impacts flowing both ways: failures of enforcement in one country have dramatic effects on neighboring countries, and events or forces outside influence local stability and security.

However, individual nations often do not have the expertise or the fiscal space to address these challenges entirely on their own, and this warrants assistance from foreign countries or institutions in the form of financial or technical support. Further, given the possibility of regional or global spillovers, the case for foreign assistance is even starker. Moreover, because events and policies adopted in one country can affect the fragility of another, the security challenges a country faces might be best addressed not with any domestic policy instrument at its disposal but with policy coordination.

In a world where individual countries are sovereign, this report examines the two main instruments that the international community has at its disposal; development assistance and military intervention. It finds that each has differing levels of success in fostering stability and security depending on the specific context but work best when deployed in conjunction with each other. There are, however, additional challenges associated with international cooperation: when countries wait on others to act first, global idleness ensues; on the other hand, diverging interests between donor and recipient countries or between two donor countries could result in a stalemate.

B.2)
Multilateral institutions can play an important role in institutionalizing such collective arrangements while recognizing the possibility of competing interests between nations permeating multilateral institutions. The report identifies areas of relevance for multilateral institutions:

1. Generating data and knowledge for better policies:
The systematic collection of data on crime and conflict is a cornerstone of policy and research analysis for evidence-based policymaking. Given the public good nature of data, multilateral organizations have a comparative advantage in collecting data on crime and violence, and in making it available for academic and policy research. Innovation should be encouraged to alleviate the difficulty of data collection in violent or illegal settings.

2. Delivering financial aid and technical expertise:
An individual country's political stability and the ability to enforce laws have positive regional or global spillovers. In such cases, regional or global organizations can be suitable institutions once they are empowered by member states to mitigate the collective action problem. Appropriate financial and knowledge instruments should then be designed to reflect the needs associated with and spillovers stemming from the provision of security and the rule of law. This report also highlights the challenges associated with upholding the "do-no-harm" principle in volatile contexts and underscores the complementarity between aid and security as an important aspect of development assistance in fragile settings.

3. Providing a forum for policy coordination:
In an increasingly interconnected world, policies in one country can have a "beggar-thy-neighbor" effect on other countries with implications for the levels of conflict, crime, and violence, hence giving a transnational dimension to the "do-no-harm" principle. When policies are interdependent, multilateral institutions can provide a platform for coordination and collective bargaining to identify policies that are most desirable from a regional or global standpoint, so that diverging interests between countries find a resolution away from the battlefields.

The benefits of international cooperation and shared global strategies are necessary to help address and mitigate the consequences of global threats from security to health.

<div align="right">

Regards & Happy Researching!

☺☺☺☺☺!

</div>