

UNSC





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Letter from Secretary General

Dearest Delegates, Faculty Advisors, and others,

It is my pleasure and honour to be able to welcome you all into the 21st edition of San Silvestre MUN. To think that after months of work, after observing other conferences over the better part of two years, I can finally say that our own is coming to fruition. For over seven months the Secretariat and I have poured our hearts and efforts into this conference, and hopefully, you may all enjoy the months of work we have put into the two days that are to come, and live SSMUN 2024 to its absolute fullest.

My own ‘first impression’ of MUN was, quite honestly, less than graceful to say the least. Having attended training sessions in 2022 (but having paid attention to nearly none of them), I haphazardly found myself attending SSMUN 2022, this very month two years ago. I did not speak more than once. I was terrified, watching those around me debate with a fervent skill unlike anything I had ever seen before. I had sat in the very back of the room during every session, terrified to raise my placard. After that conference, I honestly did not see the appeal of MUN. My fear of failure and embarrassment overruled my ability to try something new at that moment, and didn’t allow me to enjoy the activity that now, two years later, I have come to cherish so deeply.

Over the next year, I finally got it. I understood why people did MUN. The adrenaline, the energy, the shared passion over what would have elsewhere been a mundane topic. During that year, I found my two ‘specialisations’. Crisis taught me how to love MUN, how to put passion and energy into a speech, how to not fear speaking out. Press taught me what victory felt like, yet it also demonstrated to me firsthand how failure was simply a part of growth. In January HMUN taught me that an award is never the most rewarding part of a conference. I left Boston with a Best Delegate award, yet it was by far not the best part of the experience. The people of that moment are worth more than anything else I could possibly imagine; and the best victories in MUN are those you can cherish with friends, those which you can celebrate with all those who you were in committee with, those which are backed by hours of unforgettable memories and irreplaceable experiences.

For this conference, I hope each and every one of you may find those memories. SSMUN, in my mind, is about the people. It is about diplomacy, argumentation, negotiation and teamwork, yes, but through it all none of this would be able to be accomplished without the willpower and collaboration of people. So I hope you all put in your best effort, both into productive debate and into enjoying every moment you have.

I cannot wait to see you all in September! To get to see how every one of you develops as a delegate through every session, and see the passion and care we’ve placed into the conference pay off in the experience of all those who will get to see our work.

Take advantage of the moment, and most of all, have fun :)

Liyi Xu
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Letter from the Dias

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the United Nations Security Council! It is my great honour to take the role of chair in this riveting committee in the 21st edition of San Silvestre MUN. To tell you a little about myself, my name is Martina Leon, and I'm a second-year IB student looking to study international law in the UK. I have been involved in the world MUN since 2022 where my first conference was Sansilmun as a delegate. Since then, I have found an immense passion and fulfilment in MUN, getting to debate, discuss, and attempt to solve many critical issues worldwide and dress up formally while doing so. I have attended many conferences, two of them being Harvard MUN in 2023 and 2024, making me incredibly grateful for the wonderful opportunities MUN grants you. The ability to learn, grow, and prosper lies in every conference and I hope you delegates will take it this Sansil MUN.

This year, we will focus on the humanitarian crisis in the Democratic Republic of Congo—a pressing issue that highlights the ongoing human rights violations in Africa, the Democratic Republic of Congo being just one of many examples. I hope you enjoy researching and finding out more about a country's situation you might not have been aware of before, as one of the most enriching aspects of MUN is becoming more aware and knowledgeable of what is going on in the rest of the world today.

As you prepare for this conference, I understand the nerves that come with attending the conference, and though it may seem intimidating remember that you don't have to be the loudest in the room or the one bossing everyone around to convey your ideas, you have to be persuasive, well-spoken, and a team player - and please don't forget to have fun. We highly encourage delegates to participate in the discussion and bring your ideas to the table. My co-chair Sofia and I are extremely excited to see you all in the committee in September and if you have any troubles while preparing please don't hesitate to contact us.

See you there!

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History of the Committee

The beginning of the United Nations Security Council dates back to the formulation of the initial United Nations Charter, where it was established as one of the six principal organs. As articulated in Chapter V Article 24 of the Charter, the UNSC is tasked with the “primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security.” This universal mandate serves as the guiding principle informing all approaches undertaken by the council. While individual member states of the UNSC may harbour distinct interests, the collective aim remains the prioritisation of solutions conducive to fostering peace and security in regions such as Afghanistan, Central Asia, and like in this case, Congo.

Containing a total of 15 members, the UNSC outlines between 5 permanent and 10 elected (temporary) members. Referred to as the P5, the permanent members include the United States, the United Kingdom, France, the People’s Republic of China, and the Russian Federation. Ensuring equitable geographical representation, as agreed in the UN Charter, the composition of the UNSC allocated elected seats to different regions. Specifically, African states are granted 3 seats, the Asia-Pacific region 2 (in addition to China), Eastern European states 1 (plus Russia), Latin American and Caribbean states 2, and Western states 2 (including the United States, United Kingdom, and France).

The geographic diversity inherent within the UNSC is pivotal in ensuring a multitude of perspectives are accounted for within possibly one of the most influential organs of the UN. Notably, the UNSC possesses the exclusive authority to issue legally binding resolutions. During deliberations, it is appropriate to consider not only the specific interests of individual nations but also the broader regional concerns being advocated.

In order for significant resolutions to be adopted, the UN Charter mandates the consent of 9 out of the 15 UNSC members, forming three-fifths of the total membership. However, the P5 members handle VETO power, enabling any single permanent member to obstruct the actions of the entire council. The characteristics of veto power will remain the same for this committee.



Committee Dynamics

This committee will be set in the present time and tackle immediate issues. There will be 5 delegates representing the permanent UNSC members, therefore holding veto power; if any of these delegates vote against a directive then the directive will not pass (think carefully about that when forming your blocs), there will also be 10 delegate representing the non-permanent members which are currently members of the Security Council in this moment and time, as well as 10 guest countries.

For this committee **we will not be having secret actions** instead it will operate as a semi-traditional format as we will be having directives and open debates. As this is a specialized agency the dias is expecting at least 1 directive to be presented and voted on per session (except the first). Directives are a key component of this committee, for those of you who might not be aware here is a short explanation: directives are a “small resolution” that must be concise and work to solve a short term issue and implemented immediately, they must be introduced and voted on. For a directive to be passed, all nations with a veto power must vote in favour or abstain, and 19 out of the 25 delegates must vote in favour.



Summary of the Topic

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) faces an urgent humanitarian crisis, currently ranked among the top 10 countries in the 2024 Emergency Watchlist. With 6.9 million Congolese displaced within the country, the highest number in Africa, and 5.6 million in the Eastern provinces of Ituri, Nord-Kivu, and Sud-Kivu.



The main source of the humanitarian crisis is the presence of 120 armed groups that terrorise the population while the government and armed forces lack the resources to respond effectively. These groups have killed thousands, subjected hundreds to sexual violence, conducted extrajudicial executions, and abducted children for use as soldiers. In Nord-Kivu alone, over 38,000 cases of sexual violence were reported in the first quarter of 2023.

The government has been unable to mitigate the crisis. Forced evictions due to mining expansion have violated the rights to adequate housing and freedom from violence. Increasing violence has driven citizens into refugee camps with unstable living conditions and limited access to services. Doctors Without Borders reports that sexual violence in these camps has reached catastrophic levels.

Health services are severely impacted, with diseases such as malaria, cholera, and Ebola spreading unchecked due to the lack of medical infrastructure. The crisis is exacerbated by economic instability, as conflict disrupts agriculture and industry, leading to widespread poverty and unemployment. The education system is in collapse, as the government's initiative to grant free primary schooling for all citizens failed due to insufficient infrastructure, a lack of resources and poor working conditions for teachers.

The lives of the Congolese have also been highly impacted by governmental oppression. Journalists, opposition members and activists, among others, were subjected to arbitrary detention and faced unfair trials, and President Felix Tshisekedi blocked access to information via the media, as well as banned all forms of protests including peaceful demonstrations, overall working to forbid freedom of expression. Prisons in Congo have terrible conditions, such as a lack of water, and medicine and have starved to death. The government's free education programs failed due to: poor infrastructure, lack of funding and poor conditions for teachers.

Overall the prevailing humanitarian crisis within Congo has led its citizens to seek asylum from neighbouring countries. Primary many Congolese have fled to Uganda, Rwanda, and Tanzania. However, the current government is facing rising tension with its neighbour Rwanda, as both accused each other of supporting armed groups.



Timeline of Events

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) gained its independence from Belgium on June 30, 1960. This monumental event marked the end of colonial rule but also ushered in a period characterised by political instability and violence. The newly formed government, led by Prime Minister Patrice Lumumba, struggled to maintain control. Lumumba's assassination in 1961 further destabilised the nascent nation and set the stage for years of turmoil.

In 1965, Joseph Mobutu, who later took the name Mobutu Sese Seko, seized control of Congo through a military coup. His dictatorial regime lasted until 1997 and was notorious for widespread corruption, extensive human rights abuses, and economic mismanagement. Mobutu's government severely restricted political freedoms and systematically suppressed any form of dissent, leading to an era marked by fear and repression.

The First Congo War began in 1996 when Laurent-Désiré Kabila launched a rebellion against Mobutu's government, with substantial support from neighbouring countries such as Rwanda and Uganda. The conflict culminated in Mobutu's overthrow in 1997. This war, however, was marked by horrific human rights violations, including mass killings and widespread sexual violence, leaving a deep scar on the nation's social fabric. Barely a year after the end of the First Congo War, the Second Congo War, often referred to as the "African World War," began in 1998. This conflict involved multiple African nations and numerous armed groups, resulting in the deaths of millions due to violence, famine, and disease. The period was characterized by rampant human rights violations, including the use of child soldiers and pervasive sexual violence. Although the war formally ended in 2003 with a peace agreement, the violence and instability in the region continued unabated. It is crucial to note the publication of the United Nations "Mapping Report" in 2010, documenting the most serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in the DRC between 1993 and 2003.

In December 2002, the Pretoria Accord was signed, officially marking the end of the Second Congo War. This peace agreement aimed to establish a transitional government and address the widespread human rights abuses that had plagued the country. However, the implementation of the accord proved to be slow and inadequate, leaving many of the root causes of the conflict unaddressed. Congo held its first democratic elections in over four decades in 2006, with Joseph Kabila, the son of Laurent-Désiré Kabila, emerging as the winner. Despite this democratic milestone, Congo continued to face severe human rights challenges, including the repression of political opponents and persistent violence, particularly in the eastern regions of the country.

In 2012, the formation of the M23 rebel group by former CNDP fighters led to significant clashes and the brief capture of Goma. By 2013, M23 was defeated by the Congolese army with support from UN forces. Meanwhile, in 2016-2017, the Kasai conflict erupted, characterised by violence between government forces and local militias, resulting in mass atrocities and displacement. In 2017, UN investigators discovered mass graves in the Kasai region amid the conflict, highlighting the severity of ongoing human rights abuses. Furthermore, an Ebola outbreak in the eastern DRC in 2018 exacerbated the humanitarian crisis in conflict zones.

In December 2018, Felix Tshisekedi was declared the winner of the presidential elections, marking Congo's first peaceful transfer of power in its history. While this development was a positive step,



concerns about election irregularities and ongoing human rights abuses tempered the optimism surrounding this transition.

In 2019, the eastern regions of the DRC saw renewed violence with multiple armed groups continuing to commit atrocities against civilians. Efforts by the Congolese army and international forces have been met with limited success, and human rights violations such as kidnappings, sexual violence, and extrajudicial killings remain rampant.

By 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic further complicated the humanitarian situation in the DRC, stretching the already limited healthcare resources and exacerbating the conditions for those displaced by ongoing conflicts. The pandemic also impacted the ability of international organisations to deliver aid and conduct human rights monitoring effectively.

In 2021, the government launched a new initiative to disarm and reintegrate members of armed groups, but the implementation has faced significant obstacles. Reports of continued human rights abuses, including by government forces, have persisted. Efforts to reform the security sector and judiciary have seen some progress, but corruption and inefficiency remain major hurdles.

The year 2022 was marked by an escalation in violence in the Ituri and North Kivu provinces, leading to further displacement of civilians. The United Nations and various human rights organisations have continued to document widespread abuses, calling for greater international intervention and support for peacebuilding efforts.

In 2023, President Tshisekedi's administration made strides in diplomatic efforts to stabilise the region, including negotiations with neighbouring countries to curb the flow of arms and support to rebel groups. However, the eastern regions of the DRC remained volatile, with intermittent clashes and ongoing human rights violations.

As of 2024, the situation in the DRC remains critical. The government has announced new policies aimed at improving human rights and tackling the root causes of conflict, such as poverty and lack of education. International cooperation has been strengthened, with increased support from the United Nations and African Union. Despite these efforts, the DRC continues to face significant challenges in ensuring the safety and rights of its citizens. The humanitarian crisis persists, with millions still in need of aid and protection.



Past Actions

The United Nations has been pivotal in addressing the humanitarian crisis in the Democratic Republic of Congo through a series of strategic actions and initiatives aimed at stabilising the region. The first large-scale UN operation was called the United Nations Operation in the Congo (ONUC). From 1960 to 1964, ONUC helped stabilize the new independent DRC during the Congo Crisis by maintaining order, supporting the government, and facilitating Belgian troop withdrawal. ONUC also contributed towards restoring political independence plus territorial integrity as well as implementing training and technical assistance programs. Once Katanga was back into the fold in 1963, the UN began pulling out its forces; this was completed by June 30, 1964. Military operations ceased but the UN retained its largest civilian aid program, which peaked at around 2,000 experts.

Since the 1960's the United Nations has maintained a military presence in the Democratic Republic of Congo, however, it was in 1999 that the Security Council established the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC). Initially, MONUC's mission aimed at monitoring the ceasefire, overseeing the disengagement of armed forces and maintaining communication with all parties involved in the Ceasefire Agreement. Also known as the Lusaka Agreement, this treaty involves Angola, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Namibia, Uganda, Rwanda and Zimbabwe. It addresses several critical issues: halting hostilities, establishing a joint military commission, withdrawing foreign forces, disarming and reintegrating combatants, releasing prisoners, restoring governmental functions, and appointing a mediator to facilitate an inclusive inter-Congolese dialogue aimed at achieving lasting peace and stability in the region.

In the early 2000s, three crucial agreements to promote peace after the Second Congo War took place: the Pretoria Accord, the Luanda Agreement, and the Sun City Agreement. The Pretoria Accord was signed on December 16, 2002, marking the end of the Second Congo War. This accord aimed to solidify the relationship between Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo by reconstructing new government security and achieving a national reconciliation through the ideals of the initial Sun City Agreement. However, the Luanda Agreement was signed on September 6, 2002, advancing the peace process by addressing the ongoing conflict between various factions and reinforcing the commitments made in the previous agreements. Meanwhile, the Sun City Agreement was signed on April 2, 2003, following extensive negotiations from the previous year. This agreement emerged from the Inter-Congolese Dialogue (ICD) and aimed to create a government of national Unity.

In 2010, MONUC was renamed the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the DRC (MONUSCO), marking a new phase for the country. With a peak strength of over 20,000 troops, MONUSCO has been tasked with protecting civilians, supporting the government's efforts to stabilise and consolidate peace, and facilitating the delivery of humanitarian assistance. The mission has also supported the DRC government in neutralising armed groups through targeted offensive operations. In 2013, the UN Security Council authorised the creation of the Force Intervention Brigade (FIB) within MONUSCO. The FIB was created in response to the escalating violence and instability in the eastern DRC, particularly following the resurgence of the M23 rebel group. Its mandate was distinct from traditional peacekeeping forces, as it was authorised to take offensive action against armed groups threatening civilian safety and regional stability.



Case Studies

Plaine Savo Massacre:

On February 2nd of 2022, the Plaine Savo Camp in Ituri Province was attacked by members of the Cooperative for the Development of Congo (CODECO), a militia primarily composed of individuals from the Lendu ethnic group. Armed with machetes, edged weapons, and firearms, the militia targeted the camp, which sheltered over 24,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) fleeing violence in the Djugu territory since 2019. This attack resulted in the deaths of at least 59 civilians and injured approximately 40 others.



The conflict between the Lendu and Henna ethnic groups has deep roots, primarily centred around competition for land and resources. The CODECO militia has been one of the prominent groups involved in this ongoing conflict, and the attack on the Plaine Savo camp is part of a broader pattern of escalating violence against civilians in the region.

The massacre triggered a new wave of displacement, forcing around 1,500 camp residents to seek refuge in the nearby town of Blué, where they found temporary shelter in schools, churches, and with host families. The attack left the survivors traumatised and heightened fear among the camp population.



In the aftermath, the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) and other humanitarian organisations condemned the attack, calling for the Congolese authorities to provide protection for civilians and address the root causes of the conflict. The Congolese military and UN peacekeeping forces

(MONUSCO) responded to the attack, but the militia members had already fled by the time they arrived.

Otomabere Massacre:

On June 5th 2022, the Otomabere Village in the Irumu territory of Ituri Province was attacked by suspected Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) fighters. The assailants, armed with guns and machetes, set several homes ablaze. The Red Cross reported the possibility of the death toll being as high as 36, yet only having 18 confirmed deaths. Eyewitnesses reported widespread panic as villagers fled in various directions to escape the violence.



The ADF, originally a Ugandan militia, has been active in the Irumu region since the late 1990s and is notorious for its brutal tactics. The Otomabere massacre is part of their ongoing insurgency in the eastern DRC, aimed at instilling fear, asserting territorial control and retaliating against communities perceived to be aligned with their enemies or the Congolese government. This violence is part of a larger pattern of escalating attacks by



the ADF, particularly following their pledge of allegiance to the Islamic State in 2019, which intensified their operations against both military and civilian targets in eastern DRC.

The massacre triggered further displacement, with many Otomabere residents seeking refuge in nearby areas. The attack underscores the persistent vulnerability of civilians in Ituri Province, despite the presence of Congolese forces and joint operations between DRC and Uganda to combat the ADF. The Congolese army responded to the attack, but the perpetrators had already fled when they arrived.

The Congolese government's response to the crisis has faced criticism. Declarations of a “stage of siege” in Ituri and North Kivu provinces in 2021 have failed to curb the attacks. The international community has also been criticised for the perceived ineffectiveness of peacekeeping efforts and lack of concrete action to address the root causes of the conflict. The situation in Otomabere highlights the urgent need for comprehensive strategies to protect civilians and stabilise the region.

Bimoza’s Story

With little more than the clothing on her back, 25-year-old Bimoza, a single mother of five children arrived at an Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camp on North Kivu. "I found myself without anyone to support me in the camp. I asked myself what I could do to survive and provide for my children. One day I was at a farm looking for vegetables. On my way back I found a man who proposed that I sleep with him, and he would give me a basket of Irish potatoes and 5000 CF (\$2.5). As I had no other alternatives, I complied.”



Over 1.1 million people in the DRC have been forced to flee their homes due to conflict since March 2022, resulting in an escalating humanitarian crisis. This has increased the number of people who have no access to food, resulting in women –like Bimoza– to be driven to engage in high-risk behaviours such as survival sex in order to provide for their children. Bimoza stated, “I don’t practise survival sex every day, only when we do not have any food. It’s the only way to help me feed my children. I am feeling itchy these days, sometimes I have lower stomach pain to the point of being unable to walk and I tell myself this [survival sex] will kill me. I went once to the clinic and explained to the lady how I was feeling, she gave me pills for just one day.”

Rape is a Weapon of War



Rape has been employed as a systematic war tactic in the DRC to destabilize populations and undermine communities and family bonds. According to reports, sexual violence is widespread, including gang rape, kidnapping for sexual slavery, forced involvement in rape by family members, and mutilations of women’s genitalia with knives and weapons, among other atrocities.

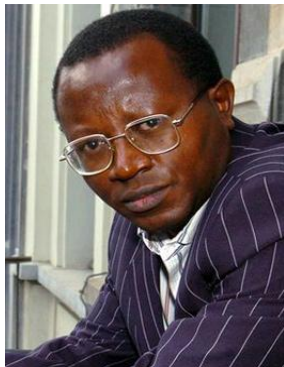
A 2011 report revealed that approximately 1,000 women were raped daily in the DRC, highlighting the alarming prevalence and systemic nature of this issue. This statistic underscores the severity of the crisis, reflecting not only the frequency of these atrocities, but also the culture of impunity and normalization of sexual violence within the conflict. Reinforcing these normalizations, the militiaman Noel Rwabirinba –who is 16 years old– has stated, “If we see girls, it’s our right...we can violate them.”



This statement highlights the urgent need for comprehensive interventions, including legal reforms and grassroots initiatives, to change social attitudes towards the normalization of sexual violence.

Assassination of Floribert Chebeya

Floribert Chebeya, a Congolese human rights activist and Director of Voix des Sans Voix, was murdered on the 1st of June in 2010. Known for criticising the government's security forces during President Kabila's regime, Chebeya was summoned to meet General John Numbi –Inspector General of Police. After notifying his wife of his arrival at the police headquarters, he disappeared, with his body discovered the following day in the backseat of his car, showing signs of foul play, while his driver, Fidèle Banzana, was never found.



In June 2011, a military court sentenced four police officers to death for their participation. However, the trial was criticised for not addressing the state involvement, particularly General Numbi's suspected role in the assassination due to Chebeya's investigation into police and military abuses. In 2021, testimonies from former police officers indicated orders came from Colonel Mukalay and Major Ngoy, under Numbi's command, prompting calls to reopen the investigation. In 2022, Colonel Ngoy was sentenced to death, while Numbi remains at large, highlighting the need for judicial reforms to combat the impunity in the DRC.



Bloc Positions

African Bloc

The African Bloc emphasizes regional stability and security. They advocate for increased support to the DRC to combat armed groups and prioritize sustainable development, economic aid, and infrastructure rebuilding, while mostly relying on Western funding. Additionally, they focus on addressing human rights violations and pushing for governmental reforms to enhance governance in the DRC while highlighting the African Union's role in coordinating regional efforts and mediating conflicts.

Western Bloc

The Western Bloc advocates for increased international aid and humanitarian assistance to the DRC, focusing on healthcare, food security, and shelter. They place a strong emphasis on protecting human rights, particularly against sexual violence and child soldier recruitment. This bloc supports the role of international organizations in peacekeeping and humanitarian efforts, and they often tie aid to improvements in governance and anti-corruption measures.

European Union Bloc

The European Union Bloc focuses on long-term development aid, including education, healthcare, and infrastructure projects in the DRC. They support diplomatic efforts to mediate conflicts and address environmental issues like mining and deforestation. This bloc strongly advocates for measures against human rights abuses and provides substantial support for victims of violence and displacement.

Middle Eastern Bloc

The Middle Eastern bloc expresses solidarity with the DRC and supports its sovereignty and territorial integrity. They provide development aid and support for infrastructure projects while offering some humanitarian assistance focused on food security, healthcare, and education, but cannot spare many resources. This bloc advocates for non-interference in the DRC's internal affairs and respect for its sovereignty, emphasising solidarity and support for regional stability.



QARMAS

1. Is it the duty of neighboring countries, such as Rwanda, to provide refuge to displaced Congolese?
2. Would sending military forces from other countries to combat armed groups in the DRC breach its national sovereignty?
3. How can the international community ensure that humanitarian aid reaches the most vulnerable populations in the DRC without being diverted by armed groups or corrupt officials?
4. What measures can be implemented to address and prevent sexual violence and the recruitment of child soldiers by armed groups in the DRC?
5. What measures or alternative solutions can be implemented to improve the living conditions in refugee camps and address the challenges faced by displaced populations?
6. How can the DRC balance economic development through mining with the need to protect human rights and the environment?
7. What strategies can be implemented to mitigate the impact of natural disasters on the humanitarian crisis in the DRC and improve disaster preparedness and response?



Position Paper Requirements

A position paper is a one-page document that will need to be presented before the conference, the requirements of it are as follows.

Font: Times New Romans (size 11)

Margins (centimetres): 2.54 from all sides

Line Spacing: 1.15

Heading: Committee's name, topic, delegate's name, delegation, and allocation.

First paragraph: Introduction to your nation's perspective on the topic and should not be confused with an introduction to the topic. How does your nation see the issue discussed at hand?

Second paragraph: Past actions which relate to the topic and have been taken either by your country nationally, or with the UN. What effects did these have on the conflict in general?

Third paragraph: Solutions to the problem, more than one of these are encouraged to fully encompass the issue presented. Remember to remain within policy and within the scope of what your country can do.

Bibliography: The sources used to produce this position paper should be presented in MLA9 citation format. If a delegate fails to present sources for their position paper, it will be assumed to be plagiarised work and they will become ineligible for awards.

Deadline: All position papers must be sent in pdf form to unsc@sansilvestre.edu.pe before 11:59 pm the 30th of August, 2024.

Eligibility for awards: Position papers will be used as a way for the chair to ensure your participation previous to the conference. For such, position papers must be submitted before the deadline for the delegate to be eligible for an award. However, they will not be a factor which contributes when choosing awards for your participation during the conference.

A note on artificial intelligence usage: We know in recent times many tools have been devised to automate tasks such as the development of literary texts. It would be ignorant to completely prohibit the use of such devices as they are tools created for the enhancement of human intelligence. For such, we believe that many times these devices can be used to improve your work, and we encourage the **healthy, moderated, and smart** usage of these aids. Let it be known, that although AI can be of big help for redaction purposes, **it should not be the sole source of your research** due to the obvious constraints that it possesses, which included but are not limited to; bias, lack of data from recent years, and false information. Furthermore, it is important to note that we **completely prohibit** the use of, for example, Chat GPT **during the conference** to create speeches at real-time speed. Our chairs will make sure to value your improvisation and public speaking skills over a perfectly redacted speech made by an AI tool. With this in mind, make sure to research thoroughly, find different perspectives and sources to devise a proper position paper.

If you have any doubts about the policies in more detail please email your chair or the Secretary-General lxu86@sansilvestre.edu.pe