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WORD OF WELCOME

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), we are Calvin Smid and Ishvar Lalbahadoersing. We are both well known to the world of MUN as well as to AUCMUN. We will convene in Amsterdam for AUCMUN, where we both studied so please do not hesitate to ask me any questions about venues, schedules, or Amsterdam. It is a great pleasure to be co-chairing this very extremely interesting committee with complex topics to be discussed. We hope you would show a passion for the issues to be discussed and for the debate that will take place. We can’t wait to welcome you to our past uni: Amsterdam University College in the beautiful Amsterdam, we are also very much looking forward to seeing you all in debate and reading your wonderful position papers and eventually resolutions. Most importantly, let’s make friends and have fun!

Yours,

Calvin Smid and Ishvar Lalbahadoersing

Chairs of the UNSC | AUCMUN 2019
UN SECURITY COUNCIL

HISTORY

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations (UN). Its tasks are to maintain international peace and security in addition to accepting new members to the United Nations and approving any changes to the United Nations Charter. Its powers include the establishment of peacekeeping operations, the implementing of international sanctions, and the authorization of military action through Security Council resolutions. As such, it is the only UN body with the authority to issue binding resolutions to member states.

The Security Council was created after World War II to replace its predecessor, the League of Nations, in maintaining world peace; the first meeting was held on the 17th of January, 1946. In the beginning the UNSC was almost not active because of the Cold War which caused the division between the US and USSR including their respective allies.


The Security Council consists of fifteen members. Russia, the United Kingdom, France, China, and the United States serve as the body’s five permanent members, often referred to as the P5. These permanent members can veto any substantive Security Council resolution, including those on the admission of new member states or candidates for Secretary-General. The Security Council also has ten non-permanent members, elected on a regional basis to serve in two-year terms. The body’s presidency rotates monthly among its members.

Security Council resolutions are typically enforced by UN peacekeepers; these are military forces voluntarily provided by member states and funded independently of the main UN budget. As of 2016, 103,510 peacekeepers and 16,471 civilians were deployed on sixteen peacekeeping operations and one special political mission.
MANDATE

The UNSC mandate is established by the UN Charter, and determines that the primary responsibility of the council is: ‘the maintenance of international peace and security’. In order to successfully fulfill its important role, the UN Charter, especially under Chapters 6 and 7, allows the council to use more forceful methods than any other organ of the UN, such as binding resolutions and peacekeeping operations. As mentioned before, traditionally, the UNSC has 15 members, of which the P5 members have veto powers. States who do not currently hold a seat in the UNSC are called observer states and can participate in UNSC proceedings, yet without voting privileges.¹

RELEVANT UN CHARTER ARTICLES AND CHAPTERS

- **Article 29**: allows for the creation of subsidiary organs
- **Article 33**: Calls upon nation states to peacefully settle issues through traditional diplomatic means
- **Articles 34 & 36**: Investigate disputes, and recommend procedures
- **Article 41**: Demand certain issue-specific (non-military) measures to be taken in order to resolve issues
- **Article 42**: Should these measures be deemed inadequate, or turn out ineffective, military actions may be taken
- **Chapter XI**: the declaration regarding non-self-governing territories

PEACEKEEPING MISSIONS

The UNSC has the discretion to deploy a peacekeeping mission, and in doing so it has to be specific in providing the missions mandate, which are tailored to the specific topic at hand. However, a degree of consistency between peacekeeping missions show aspects of typical peacekeeping mandates. Therefore peacekeeping missions are commonly used to:

- Prevent conflict or spillover of conflict
- Stabilize post-conflict situations
- Assist in moderating peace agreements or talks
- Lead states through transitional periods

REFERENCES


¹ UN Peacekeeping, 2019
UNSC SPECIFIC ROP

MOTIONS:

MOTION TO DECLARE A VOTE SUBSTANTIVE

The P5 nations have the right to declare any procedural vote substantive, meaning they would have the right to veto a certain procedural matter, or allowing other nations registered as “present” to abstain from voting. The motion does not require a seconding, and passes at the Chair’s discretion.

VOTING PROCEDURE:

MAJORITY

The UNSC simple majority stands at 9/15 votes, not the standard 50%. This may be subject to change depending on the quorum of the committee.

VETO

The five permanent members (P5), namely the United States of America, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Russian Federation, the People’s Republic of China, and the Republic of France have the right to veto any motion brought forward under a substantive vote. The right to veto is a nation’s power to overrule the standard majority voting rules of procedure. A veto vote needs no support from other nations present to pass and be enacted.

ABSTAINING

Should a P5 member not agree with a resolution, but also not wish to veto against it, they can abstain.
PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT

If the committee fails to pass a resolution and there is no consensus in the foreseeable future whilst the conference comes to an end, Chairs may consider to release a Presidential Statement. This is not a motion, and must be brought forth at the Chair’s consideration although delegates may ask whether it is appropriate before the matter is presented.

Once brought forth, delegates may draft up a statement. The Presidential Statement follows a similar format to a resolution, but has no distinction between preambulatory and operative clauses and is not legally binding.

As with a resolution, the statement must first be checked by the Chairs before being presented. Should it be finalized, the Chairs will present the statement directly to the committee, after which the committee moves directly into voting procedure.

Please note that the statement must be passed by consensus; should there be objections, the delegates must address these in a rewrite of the statement, or drop the statement altogether.
**INTRODUCTION:**

Dating as far back as 1947, the Kashmir conflict is one of the oldest ongoing international conflicts in modern history. In its essence a territorial question between India and Pakistan arisen out of the mismanagement of the Colonial departure of the British, the region has always been one of the primary causes of conflicts between the two nuclear powers. Tensions have recently reignited, most notably last February (2019) when, firstly, a suicide bomber with links to al-Qaeda in Pakistan killed 44 Indian soldiers. India responded with airstrikes on suspected terrorist locations, to which Pakistan retaliated with its own airstrikes. Despite many bipartisan, multilateral and UN-efforts to resolve the dispute, little progress has been made in the last 70 years. In the Security Council of AUCMUN 2019, by reopening the discussion, we aim to finally change this pattern of inaction.

Please note that this research report is a brief report on the origins, context and intricacies of the conflict, and should serve as the starting point of the research, not the finish.

**OVERVIEW OF THE ISSUE:**

**OVERVIEW OF REGION:**

The Kashmir and Jammu region (hereafter referred to as Kashmir) is a region surrounded by Pakistan, China and India. The region comprises of 139,000 km², and is currently split between Pakistan (35%), China (20%) and India (45%) (BBC NEWS, 2019). The divisionary line between the Indian part and the Pakistani part is known as the 'Line of Control' (LoC), however all parties claim full or partial ownership over the region.
DEMOGRAPHICS

The Indian controlled part of Kashmir (blue in the map) is divided into three parts, Kashmir Valley, Jammu, and Ladakh. The total population is 12,541,000 with approximately 67% Muslims, 30% Hindus and 3 percent miscellaneous (mostly Sikhs). Below you will find a table with the ethnic division per region, and a map identifying the different regions.

<p>| Religious groups: Indian-administered Kashmir |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REGION</th>
<th>Buddhist</th>
<th>Hindu</th>
<th>Muslim</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kashmir Valley</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jammu</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ladakh</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<p>| Religious groups: Pakistani-administered Kashmir |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REGION</th>
<th>Buddhist</th>
<th>Hindu</th>
<th>Muslim</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northern Areas</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Azad Jammu and Kashmir</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MAGNITUDE OF THE CONFLICT

The Kashmir conflict has not been of the same magnitude as some of the other more prominent twentieth century conflicts (Bosnia, Sudan etc.), however estimates of casualties’ range between 20,000 and 100,000 and many more wounded and displaced, with most sources claiming it to be around 45,000-60,000. As is often the case in conflicts like these, it is difficult to make a good estimate of the scope of the problem due to conflicting (state) media reports on the same incidents. Furthermore, the timeframe of the conflict and the different sub-conflicts and wars make it more complicated.

Beyond the loss of life, the conflict has had serious ramifications for the region, with an estimated 22% of the people in Kashmir living below the poverty line. Tourism, an important source of income of Kashmir during less contentious periods of the conflict, is discouraged by the looming conflict. In the period of 1989-2002 (a more turbulent period as becomes clear later) there was an estimated loss of 27 million tourists, amounting to 3.6 billion USD. Moreover, in the same time period, over 1,151 government buildings, 643 educational buildings, 11 hospitals, 337 bridges, 10,729 private houses and 1,953 shops have been destroyed in approximately 5,268 attacks on infrastructure. Estimates indicate that in a 5-year period (2004 to 2008) the conflict lead to a loss

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2 BBC NEWS, 2019
3 Project Ploughshares, 2016
4 Kalis & Dar, 2013, p. 121
of 12.25 billion USD. Moreover, especially in the predominantly Muslim areas of Kashmir, illiteracy rates are relatively high and access to schools is not always available due to the ongoing conflict.

GEOPOLITICAL IMPORTANCE OF KASHMIR

Fundamental to understanding the Kashmir dispute is understanding the region and the geopolitical importance of the area. Therefore, this section outlines some of the features of Kashmir that make it an important region for both India and Pakistan.

LOCATION

Kashmir is landlocked, and can be seen as the gateway to Afghanistan for both Pakistan and India, in addition to Russia and China (amongst other nations). This is of importance because of the fact that the traditional trade route of the main silk road goes through Kashmir, and it is the gateway of trade for both Pakistan and India. But it’s geographical importance goes beyond mere trade routes. For both India and Pakistan, Kashmir is of extreme strategic importance. India has two main competitors in the region with which it has had problems in the past: 1) Pakistan and 2) China. Surrendering Kashmir would make the two countries neighboring states, which is considered a big threat to India, which is especially evident in the Siachen conflict (which will be discussed later). Moreover, the fact that the area is extremely mountainous means it offers both a natural protection against each other, as well as a cover for potential military operations, both of which are of strategic importance for Pakistan and China.

WATER

Secondly, Kashmir is important because it contains the Indus water basin, and the start of many of the large rivers in the region. India, but especially Pakistan depends on this water influx, and giving the source of the water up to India would essentially leave the survival of their country in the hands of India. The water from the rivers and Basin is used mainly for agricultural purposes, but also for fishing and electricity. Currently the Indus Water Treaty manages the division of water between the two nations, however there have been several violations on this treaty on either side. Moreover, climate change and environmental degradation are also threatening the Basin, and new ways of water management might be necessary in the future.

5 Ibid.
6 Kalis & Dar, 2013
7 Kalis & Dar, 2013, p. 122
8 bin Shamsuddin, 2014, p. 30-34
**HISTORICAL OVERVIEW OF THE CONFLICT**

**ORIGINS OF THE CONFLICT**

The Kashmir Conflict is a residue of the aftermath of the territorial division that followed the end of the Second World War. Under the British colonial rule, the Kashmir region had enjoyed a semi-autonomous status, however with the British departure in 1947, the ‘princely state’ of Kashmir was pressured into either joining Indian or Pakistani Rule. The division between India and Pakistan largely relied on the ethnic background of the two, India having a large Hindu majority, whereas Pakistan has a Muslim majority.9

Whereas most ‘Princely states’ that had enjoyed the same status as Kashmir were successfully ‘persuaded’ to merge with either India or Pakistan (mostly India), the Kashmir Prince managed to hold out on the decision, in an attempt to gain independence instead. This resulted in the first violent struggle in 1947, which ended with a Pakistani-backed invasion of Kashmir by Pashtun tribesmen. In response, the Prince, Maharaja Sir Hari Singh, who had been given the legal authority to make the accession decision by the British, decided to side with India - which was the condition for them to send military troops to the Maharaja in order to be able to fight the Pakistani-backed rebels. This decision inspired a strong response among the Muslim majority of the Kashmir region, especially considering that the Prince was part of the Hindu minority. This resulted in a war breaking out between Kashmiri Muslims backed by Pakistan and the Kashmiri Hindus backed by India. Allegedly, the government of India agreed to help fight this war so that it could secure a safe plebiscite on the self-determination of the different communities in the region. However, Pakistan accused India of masterminding this move, in order to inherit more territory in the region.10

After this initial invasion and breakout of skirmishes, the conflict moved into a stalemate situation. In 1949, under the supervision of the UN military observer group, a temporary Cease-Fire Line Agreement was drawn up and ratified by both parties, solidifying a status quo. The firing of guns stopped, however, because of conflicting demands from negotiations between India and Pakistan, the stalemate remained contentious.11 For a while, the Kashmir situation had taken more of a backseat in international politics, notwithstanding continuous tension, occasional border incidents, and serving as an impediment on Pakistan-Indian Relations. It is important to note here, that neither bilateral negotiations nor moves towards a plebiscite were made. Any election that took place regarding the issue was accused of being somehow rigged.

In 1965, the stalemate was suspended between April and September when Pakistan launched operation Gibraltar, designed to infiltrate forces into Jammu and Kashmir to inspire an insurgency.

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9 BBC NEWS, 2019
10 Wirsing, 1996
11 Kalis & Dar, 2013, p. 117-118
India retaliated with a full-scale military attack on Pakistan. The fighting continued for 17 days and a cease-fire was declared following a UN-Initiative backed by the US and Soviet Union.\textsuperscript{12}

As part of the end of the Indo-Pakistani War of 1971, a war between the two fought primarily in and over the region of Dhaka (not Kashmir), the Simla agreement was drawn up between the two nations. Not only the independence of Bangladesh (formerly part of Pakistan) was secured in this agreement, but it also created a status quo in Kashmir. The Simla agreement drew up the first formal cease-fire line in Kashmir (the LoC) and held that no party shall seek to change this line unilaterally. Furthermore, it holds that the conflict should be resolved by bilateral negotiations excluding any third-party involvement.

\textbf{INCIDENTS BETWEEN 1980 AND 2000}

Although having established the LoC, tensions between the two were maintained throughout the rest of the 1970's and 1980's. The planned bilateral negotiations never materialized, and an odd status quo arose, in which none of the underlying problems were resolved. At several occasions the tensions boiled over into incidents or conflicts, most notably the Siachen war (1984), the Muslim uprisings in 1990, and the Kargil war (1999).

The Siachen war lasted nearly 20 years, in which both India and Pakistan claimed control over the Siachen region. The result of a shortcoming of the 1947 ceasefire agreement, and a subsequent oversight of the Simla agreement, the Siachen glacier area in the North-East of Kashmir was not divided. Due to its barren soil, few inhabitants and the relative unimportance of the area to Kashmir as a whole, it was not deemed ‘worthy’ to include in the agreement. This ‘oversight’ resulted in a 20 year war with around 10,000 casualties. Both sides remain heavily militarized in the area.\textsuperscript{13}

In the 1990’s the conflict gained another dimension with insurgent uprisings from within Kashmir, rather than intra-state warfare. The uprisings are a conflict largely between Muslim insurgents in the Indian ruled part of Kashmir (Kashmir valley in particular). However, especially in the beginning, the insurgency lacked organization, as some militants advocated an accession to Pakistan, whereas others fought for self-determination. Lack of democratic development in Kashmir in the Indian-ruled part is said to have inspired the insurgency. In the years leading up to 1990, several demonstrations, strikes and political attacks took place, and tensions boiled over in 1990 resulting in India’s largest domestic conflict which has resulted in between 25,000 and 50,000 deaths since.\textsuperscript{14}

\textsuperscript{12} New World Encyclopedia, 2018
\textsuperscript{13} Chari, 2013
\textsuperscript{14} Kalis & Dar, 2013
The Kargil war (1999) was a result of Pakistani infiltration on the Indian side of the LoC. Pakistani authorities claimed that the war was a result of an uprising of the Muslim militants without Pakistani involvement, however India claims to have documentation linking the Pakistani government to the militants. In two months, the Indian forces had recaptured most of the infiltrated areas on their side of the LoC.¹⁵

The turn of the century in 2000, unfortunately, did not entail a turn of the page in the Kashmir conflict. Tensions reached extremely high levels in 2001 and 2002 after both Pakistan and India allegedly successfully acquired Weapons of Mass Destruction, after years of developing them. After an attack on the Indian parliament, both countries heavily militarized the LoC resulting in a stand-off. India claims that the attack was carried out by a Pakistan-based terror group, however Pakistan firmly denies the allegations. On the other hand, Western concerns on the issue were primarily about both countries' nuclear capabilities. Diplomatic mediation by the UK (amongst other nations) helped diffuse the tension in 2002 and resulted in a mutual demilitarization of the LoC. The mediation however, failed to provide any structural or long term solutions.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE REGION

Although both India and Pakistan maintained their stalemate throughout the 2000’s, violence in the region was still a relatively common occurrence. Several militant groups, such as Al-Qaeda, mostly operating from Pakistan regularly attacked facilities, and number of victims on both sides continued to rise with the ongoing insurgency against Indian rule in the Kashmir Valley. That being said, the first recent notable conflict since the early 2000’s between India and Pakistan occurred between 2014 and 2015, when once again conflict concerning the LoC arose.

In 2014, both countries accused each other of violating the unspoken terms of the LoC, following ‘unprovoked’ firing on both sides claiming approximately 120 casualties, most of which were civilians. Both sides regularly reminded the other of their nuclear capabilities. In 2015 both parties agreed to maintaining the stalemate and stopping the provocations.¹⁶

In 2016, the Indian government killed Burhan Wani, a commander of one of the major ‘insurgency organizations’ in Kashmir: Hizbul Mujahideen. In response anti-Indian protests erupted throughout the area of the Kashmir valley, which had been the primary operation base of Hizbul Mujahideen. The Indian government responded to these protests with a show of force: imposing curfew, raising military- and police presence, and breaking up protests.¹⁷

¹⁵ TNN, 2018
¹⁶ Miglani, 2001
¹⁷ Fahad, 2018
Moreover, within a day of the first protests, the Indian government suspended the access to internet on mobile devices in Kashmir. It aimed to prevent Kashmiri news sources from printing newspapers or magazines in the following month; both claims were denied to be intentional by the Indian government. Moreover, arrests of several human rights activists, denied requests for human right supervision by the UN, and reports of media censorship put international pressure on India.\(^\text{18}\) India was accused by Pakistan, Amnesty International and the Human Rights watch of violating human rights treaties. Especially the use of ‘pellet guns’ as a method of protest dispersion by the Indian Government was heavily criticized. These uprisings resulted in the alleged death of 90 civilians, and over 15,000 injured.\(^\text{19}\)

Most recently, in February of this year, tensions rose to levels it has not risen in years. Following a suicide bomb attack that killed 46 Indian military police officers in the Indian-administered part of Kashmir, India vowed to “completely isolate” Pakistan.\(^\text{20}\) The attacks were claimed by Jaish-E-Muhammad (JEM), one of the terrorist organizations operating in Kashmir. India blames Pakistan for not cracking down on terrorist organizations whereas, Pakistan denies any involvement in the attacks. India responded by recalling its diplomats and conducting airstrikes on Pakistani Territory which on suspected JEM locations. These airstrikes were the first strikes by either side on the opposite side of the LoC since 1971.\(^\text{21}\) At the time of writing the situation remains highly contentious and delegates are advised to keep an eye out for news on future events/incidents in the Kashmir region.

**TIMELINE OF IMPORTANT EVENTS:**

- **1947-1948** – First Indo-Pakistani War
- **1965-1965** – Second Indo-Pakistani War
- **1971-1971** – Simla Agreement
- **1984-2003** – Siachen War
- **1990-present** – Insurgency in the Kashmir region.
- **1998-1998** – Pakistan and India enter ‘nuclear club’
- **1999-1999** – Kargil War
- **2014-2015** – Border Skirmishes between India and Pakistan
- **2016- 2017** – Kashmir Unrest
- **2019-present** – Pulwama Unrest

\(^{18}\) Mathur, 2016

\(^{19}\) BBC, 2016

\(^{20}\) BBC, 2019

\(^{21}\) Ibid.
KEY ACTORS

INDIA

India has repeatedly stated that Kashmir is an integral part to their country. Originally, at the start of the conflict in 1947, they were willing to support a plebiscite determining the fate of the Kashmir region, they now believe that history has shown that Kashmir has willingly become part of India. The Prince had legal power to decide the fate of Kashmir, and chose for an accession to the State of India. Moreover, the Kashmir people have been integrated in the Indian political institutions, have been given ample opportunity to internal self-determination, and in as such have no grounds for external self-determination or accession to Pakistan (or any other state). It believes the argument that the Muslim population belongs to Pakistan for their shared religion is unsound, as India considers itself a multicultural nation, and moreover has the second largest Muslim population in the world (120,000,000) (only Indonesia has more). The current discontent in Kashmir is a result of Pakistani infiltration and propaganda, which is why it is currently unwilling to enter into negotiations.22 23

PAKISTAN

Pakistan maintains that Kashmir is the jugular vein of Pakistan, meaning that without control over Kashmir Pakistan cannot live (an analogy especially suitable because of the importance of water for Pakistan). They believe that India's legal claim to the region is invalid because the Prince who signed the accession paper was 1) a tyrant not supported by the people, and 2) put under pressure by Indian troops. Moreover, Pakistan accuses India of many human rights violations against the people of Kashmir. They blame Indian forces for the murdering of Kashmiri civilians, and the raping of their women.

Pakistan blames India for the failure of organizing a plebiscite, and refers to the ‘two-nations’ principle in arguing that the Muslim majority areas should belong to Pakistan. Moreover, with regards to the Simla agreement, Pakistan holds that it entailed exploring the possibility for bilateral negotiations without excluding the help of the UN or third parties. Moreover, the fact that the Simla agreement calls for seeking to resolve the conflict with bilateral negotiations does not supersede the earlier UNSC resolutions that tried to establish the plebiscite.

Pakistan however, also has its domestic problems. Pakistan has a longstanding history of political instability, and the current government, although stable, faces tough decisions with strong opposition. According to the World Bank's Political Stability Index, Pakistan has been in a state of weak political stability since 2006, scoring between -2.4 and -2.8 on a scale where where -2.5 is weak, and 2.5 is strong. Corruption, frequent leadership changes and conflict between the different branches of government have created problems for Pakistan. Moreover, they are accused (amongst others by India) of having connections with several terrorist organizations.24

22 Embassy of India in Washington DC, 2009
23 Kalis & Dar, 2013
24 Ibid.
JAMMU AND KASHMIR LIBERATION FRONT (JKLF) / HIZBUL MUJAHIDEEN/AL QAEDA/ KASHMIR

Seen as freedom fighters by some, and as terrorists by others, many militant groups are currently operating from either Pakistan or Kashmir. Most of these groups are currently still operating for either an accession to Pakistan, but mostly for independence of Kashmir. Some of the more prominent organizations will be briefly outlined below:

- **Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF):** Originally a militant organization, it has recently tried to convert itself into a political party. It asserts the position of a Kashmiri independence, despite having strong ties with - and being trained by - Pakistan. Historically the JKLF has been split and reunited into several factions with different ideas on how to gain Kashmiri Independence, whether through means of violence and/or politics. They represent the large majority of Kashmir that wants to gain independence, with polls indicating that between 87% and 95% of the local population want an independent Kashmir. However, the validity of these numbers may be questioned. Moreover, scholars have questioned the ability of Kashmir to become an independent nation due to, amongst other things, the lack of resources and infrastructure.²⁵

- **Harkat-ul-Mujahideen (HUM) and Jaish-e-Mohammed (JEM):** These are the two most active terrorist organizations operating in Kashmir, and both groups have alleged connections to larger organizations such as al-Qaeda. Whereas the HUM is fighting for independence of Kashmir, the JEM wants to accede to Pakistan. Especially the JEM has repeatedly been connected to Pakistan, however officially the group has been recognized as a terrorist organization by both Pakistan and India since 2002. Both groups are currently still actively perpetrating attacks on Indian facilities, in a guerrilla-war fashion. Moreover recently, ISIS has claimed incidents in the region, and ISIS flags have been spotted in Kashmir. However, recent reports indicate that their foothold in the region is still not as large as that of the HUM and JEM.²⁶

Combined, organizations like this express the feelings of the Kashmir people. This is a position that has to be taken into account as well. Moreover, the fact that Kashmir is a breeding ground of (potential) terrorist organizations should both inspire more interest in the situation, as well as being taken into account in the resolution.

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²⁵ Kalis & Dar, 2013; Global Security, 2019

China, as another nation bordering the Kashmir region has a strong interest in the matter. They believe that the part bordering China (Aksai Chin) should become a permanent part of China. They do not recognize the borders of Kashmir as drawn up by Britain in 1947. Moreover, China leans towards supporting Pakistan on the issue, because of its complicated history with India, since the Indo-China war in 1962. The war was a result of a border dispute between the two countries, and ended when China unilaterally declared a ceasefire when it had obtained its claimed territories. Both parties then established the Line of Actual Control (LAC) that set the borders between China and Pakistan. These borders are currently still somewhat contested by India, and India claims that China occasionally still violates the terms, such as in 2013. In response to these claims, China and India negotiated a border agreement that prevents border patrols turning into incidents. With regards to Kashmir China currently forms a major block in the road with regards to combatting the JEM, as they hold that the definitions of terrorism employed by India are not congruent with their own definition of Terrorism. Moreover, the economies of Pakistan and China are increasingly integrating.

PREVIOUS INVOLVEMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS:

FULL LIST OF UNSC RESOLUTIONS ON KASHMIR (EXCLUDING RESOLUTIONS ON THE INDO-PAKISTAN RELATIONSHIP INCLUDING NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENT):

UNSC Resolutions: #38, #39, #47, #51 (1948), #80, #91, #96, #98 (1950-1952), #122, #123, #126 (1957), #209, #210, #211, #214, #215 (1965), #303, and #307 (1971)

HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT:

The attention of the UN was first directed to the conflict around 1948. This was in the midst of the ongoing battle between Indian and Pakistani troops, at a time where Pakistan had reclaimed large parts of the Kashmir region. India brought forward a formal complaint in the UNSC as they held that the Pakistani Invasion was an unlawful act of aggression following the legal accession to India by the Prince a year earlier. In response, the UN passed several (#38, #39, #47, and #51) resolutions that called for the immediate ceasefire of the conflicted and suggested the settlement of the dispute should result from a ‘democratic method of a free and impartial plebiscite’. Moreover several UN organizations were set up, such as the UN Commission for India and Pakistan (UNCIP), and the United Nations Military Observers Group (UNMOG).

The UNCIP consisted of five individuals, none of which were born in Asia. From its onset, the commission was met with hostility by both India and Pakistan. After multiple visits and talks with India and Pakistan, they unanimously adopted Resolution 47 which consisted of three parts: 1) Ceasefire, 2) Truce Agreement, 3) A post-truce Consultation. This resolution implicitly confirmed

27 Times of India, 2019

28 Panda, 2019

29 bin Shamsuddin, 2014
the position of Pakistan as the invader by making a truce agreement precede the consultation regarding the future of the region. Moreover, there was no mention of a plebiscite. Following this initial resolution, the commission started to work on the terms of the ceasefire, truce agreement and plebiscite, but were once again met with resistance from both countries, and in the end failed to produce a working document.

Following the failure of the UNCIP (1948), one representative of the UNSC, General A. G. L. McNaughton, informally consulted both India and Pakistan regarding a demilitarization plan. In doing so, he made no distinction between Pakistan and India and called for demilitarization on both fronts, resulting in resolution 80. A mediator was appointed, however these negotiations failed as well.

In a following attempt to resolve the issue, the UNSC started proceedings to try and create a plebiscite under the auspices of the UN. However, several problems prevented this from happening. Firstly, the need for demilitarization, and secondly the degree of control over the plebiscite by both nations ‘to ensure a free and fair election’. These problems were attempted to be solved with resolutions #96 and #98. However, in 1957, three resolutions were passed that in essence admitted the failure of the proposed plebiscite, and were aimed to manage and contain the situation.

The third wave of resolutions by the UNSC were accepted in 1965, during, and in the aftermath of the second Indo-Pakistani War. Resolutions 209, 210, 211, 214 and 215 urged, in ascending degrees of strength, both parties to refrain from fighting, and instead listen to UNMOG and respect the LoC. All of these resolutions were disregarded, after which resolution #215 demanded representatives of both India and Pakistan to meet with representatives of the UNSG to discuss possible plans forward. This meeting was held and the fighting stopped, however none of the fundamental issues were resolved or discussed in the meetings, rather focussing on acquiring an immediate cease-fire.

Following the Indo-Pakistani war of 1971, the Simla agreement between India and Pakistan specifically mentioned a resolution should be sought through bilateral trade, therefore effectively excluding any UN involvement on the issue. The latest UN resolution on the issue therefore also dates back from 1971 (#303, and #307) which called on both parties to respect the ceasefire agreement, and allow international aid.

In the following half-a-century, no more UNSC resolutions were produced. This is partially because of the Simla Agreement between Pakistan and India that stipulates bilateral agreements should be made without third-party involvement. Scholars, however, have also argued that there is a general lack of interest by powerful nations in resolving the conflict. It is interesting to note that the nuclear development of the DPRK, Iran and Iraq were top priorities for both the UN and
the major powers (primarily the US). In comparison, however, the acquiescence of WMD for both India and Pakistan have yielded quite tame responses. [30, 31, 32]  

OTHER (POTENTIALLY) RELEVANT UN RESOLUTIONS:
- Resolution #1172 (1998): Essentially condemns both India and Pakistan for developing Nuclear capabilities, and offers mediation on the Kashmir issue in return for denuclearization.
- UNSC resolution #1373 (2001): A binding resolution (under Ch. VII of the UN statutes) which focuses on preventing nation states from funding/supporting Terrorism organizations (amongst other things. Pakistan has been accused of aiding terrorist organizations.

PREVIOUS NOTEWORTHY BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS

INDUS WATERS TREATY (1960)

Because of the importance of water in the Kashmir region, to both nations, in 1960 the water in the region was divided between the two. The treaty was brokered by the World Bank. It too established that India could (somewhat limitedly) use some of the water from Pakistan's rivers because of the fact that they received more water flow. This water could be used for limited irrigation, but fully for fishing, power generation and other non-consumptive uses. Since the treaty, there have been no further water wars, disputes have been settled in legal courts.  

TASHKENT AGREEMENT (1965)

This agreement ended the Second Indo-Pakistani War, after being pushed by the United Nations Security Council, particularly the US and the USSR. The agreement tried to create a more permanent settlement, with the outcome of the agreement being a return of the territories that either side had claimed in the war. No further progress was made, although it is worth noting that the then-Indian prime minister died in Tashkent under suspicious circumstances. 

SIMLA AGREEMENT (1972)

As previously mentioned, the Simla agreement ended the Indo-Pakistani war of 1971, and created the independent state of Bangladesh. It also established that India and Pakistan must resolve the Kashmir issue through bilateral negotiations, and reaffirmed the LoC as it was prior to the conflict, and that neither side shall seek to alter this line unilaterally. According to India, this agreement has made UNMOG irrelevant, as this bilateral agreement suffices as a method of maintaining the LoC. 

30 Bukhari, 2016; Chakravarty, 2016; Wani & Suwirta, 2014
31 Kalis & Dar, 2013; bin Shamsuddin, 2014
32 Editors of Encyclopaedia Britannica, 2019
33 Ministry of External affairs India, 1972
LAHORE DECLARATION (1999)

A bilateral agreement between India and Pakistan that establishes a mutual understanding in the development of nuclear weapons. Provided a mutual confidence in which the threat of a nuclear arms race was avoided. Whereas initially a great sign of cooperation between the two, the start of the Kargil war several months later placed another strain on the Indo-Pakistani relations.34

AGRA SUMMIT (2001)

A summit aimed at reducing nuclear arsenals and settling the Kashmir issues. However these talks collapsed within two days. The conclusion of this summit was that neither party was ready to make concessions yet.35

QUESTIONS A RESOLUTION COULD ANSWER

The Kashmir conflict is one of the longest and most intricate ongoing conflicts. In as such, it has many dimensions in which resolutions could contribute to resolving the issue of Kashmir. These dimensions need not all be included, as sometimes baby steps in a resolution are better than no steps at all. However, this is a (and by no means exhaustive) list of some of the most urgent issues.

WHO SHOULD RULE (AND OVER WHAT PART) OVER KASHMIR?

First and foremost, the issue of territoriality should be discussed. As this problem is essentially a problem about territoriality or self-determination. You have three broad options, Kashmir joining Pakistan, Kashmir joining India, Or Kashmir become independent. Then to these 3 general options, there are many sub-options such as a division of Kashmir and dividing them between the several actors involved. The fact that the area is of such strategic importance to all sides makes the territorial division even more difficult to realize.

Whereas this is the core issue, it will be extremely difficult to come to a territorial division in the Security Council, not in the least place because of the fact that India maintains bilateral agreements on the division are required. Therefore, focusing on facilitating conditions to establish a potential bilateral agreement on territorial divisions should also be taken into consideration. Moreover, the mandate of the Security Council is to maintain peace and security, territorial disputes are undermining these principles, but it has no authority to judge on self-determination. What it can do, is lay out conditions that will decrease the violence in the area, reduce the contention between India Pakistan and China, and try gain some traction in the conflict.

HOW CAN DEMILITARIZATION OF THE PRESSURE POINTS BE ACHIEVED?

One of the ways to do that is through a demilitarization of the LoC. Currently, on all sides there is a large Military presence, as a show of force to the other. Not only does this result in frequent incidents between troops, it also indicates the lack of trust between the parties. A reduction of these troops could be one of the baby steps in building trust between the nations.

34 Ministry of External Affairs, 1999
35 Ministry of External Affairs India, 2001
HOW CAN ACTS OF TERRORISM AND POLITICAL VIOLENCE BE BETTER PREVENTENTED?

Another important part of the problem is the political violence that is hurting Kashmir. Whereas the different groups, albeit terrorist or merely political groups, have large bases of support within Kashmir, a way to crackdown on violent incidents has to be sought. This would likely necessarily involve both the good will of Pakistan and India, and propaganda campaigns of both nations will likely have to be suspended somehow before such a step can be taken. This will need a cooperation of all parties involved, and a level of intelligence sharing that both countries are currently not comfortable with, although intelligence sharing between the two does occur. Another important step could be guaranteeing a better path to self-determination for the people of Kashmir.

HOW SHOULD THE ACCESS OF WATER FROM THE DIFFERENT REGIONS BE DIVIDED?

Another important aspect to take into account is the water management. As the water in the Kashmir region is of fundamental importance to both India and Pakistan, possible revision of the Indus Water act, or the better enforcement of said act might help remove the water management as a point of contention.

IN WHAT WAYS CAN WE ENSURE THE RESPECT OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN KASHMIR?

Indian troops have been accused of the killing of civilians and raping of women under the pretense of them being part of the rebels/terrorist organization. Measures that will guarantee the Human Rights of the Kashmir people are likely decrease their attraction to terrorist organizations, and would generally increase peace in the region. Finding a way to enforce violations, making sure that fewer violations occur could be two ways to do this. These are however more difficult to realize in practice.

IS THERE A POSSIBILITY FOR DENUCLEARIZATION?

Even though the Lahore Declaration and the Agra Summit have laid some fundamentals in the management of Nuclear Weapons, the UNSC should keep these weapons in mind, and a possible reduction of both arsenals may be sought to 1) build trust, and 2) realize the goal of denuclearization. However, will both nations be up for this, or are they sticking with the theory of Nuclear peace?

CLOSING REMARKS

Once again, we would like to stress that the issue of Kashmir is extremely complicated, and that a comprehensive resolution resolving all different aspects of the conflict should be sought but is not realistic. We look forward to both your position papers and your ideas for resolving the issue.
SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH:

- Report on Human rights violations in- and the general political situation of Kashmir after the violent uprisings in 2016. By the Office of the UN Commission for Human Rights
- UN archive files on the issue of Kashmir
- BBC overview of the different territorial divisions that have been proposed and/or suggested
  [http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/shared/spl/hi/south_asia/03/kashmir_future/htm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/shared/spl/hi/south_asia/03/kashmir_future/htm)
- An online book which outlines the development of Kashmiri accession to India, from an Indian perspective
- UNSC resolution #47
- Simla Agreement
- Water Indus Treaty
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TOPIC B: STABILIZING EASTERN AFRICA THROUGH THE INCLUSION OF WOMEN IN PEACEBUILDING EFFORTS

INTRODUCTION:

Ever since African countries have become independent, devastating conflicts have become a norm rather than an exception. At least 24 of the 54 nations have experienced conflict in one form or another. An overwhelming amount of these conflicts took place in Eastern Africa, especially in the Horn of Africa, which over the years experienced both intra and inter-state conflicts.

The most significant military conflicts include:

- Ethiopian Civil War (1935-1937)
- Ogaden War (1977-1978)
- Second Sudanese Civil War (1983-2005)
- Somali Civil War (2009-present)
- Burundi Civil War (1993-2005)
- Lord’s Resistance Army insurgency in Uganda (1987-present)
- Rwandan Genocide (1994)
- Uganda-Tanzania War (1978-1979)

Contrary to the theme of political instability in the region, Kenya has enjoyed relatively stable governments. The peace has been punctuated at times by instances of violence, including the attempted coup d’état in 1982, but these only took place for a short time and the country is overall stable. Burundi and Rwanda suffered civil wars and acts of genocide during the twentieth century, while Somalia on the other hand is punctuated by military conflict.

The role of men and women has been very different in these conflicts with the latter being more adversely affected in terms of deaths, physical injuries, displacement and loss of livelihood. Efforts have been made to increase participation of women in solving these conflicts, mainly through the use of international legal systems to lobby for the inclusion of women, proactive activities of women groups and activists, as well as international support and solidarity for the plight of women in Eastern Africa. Countries in the region have some of the highest success rates (e.g. Rwanda, Ethiopia) in these matter, as well as some of the worst (e.g. Somalia, Sudan). However,

36 ACLED, 2014
the results of these efforts are not as expected and not very visible in terms of numbers. Consequently, this encourages states to cooperate and learn from each other.

In the Security Council of AUCMUN 2019, this problem should be tackled and an effective way of the inclusion of women in peacebuilding efforts should be found. This research report is a brief report on the origins, context and complexities of the conflict, and is meant to give the committee a general understanding of the topic in order to build further upon the report find specific solutions.

OVERVIEW OF THE ISSUE

REGION

- Eastern Africa (UN subregion)
- East African Community
- Central African Federation (defunct)
- geographic East Africa, including the UN subregion and East African Community
Eastern Africa is shown in the map above. It can be defined differently according to different sources; for the purposes of this conference we will consider Eastern Africa as defined by the United Nations. It consists of two parts: East Africa and the Horn of Africa. East Africa is made up of Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda. The Horn of Africa is made up of Somalia, Djibouti, Eritrea, and Ethiopia. Egypt and Sudan are sometimes considered to be part of East Africa due to geographical reasons, but the definition of the United Nations includes:

- Mozambique and Madagascar – sometimes considered part of Southern Africa
- Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe – often included in Southern Africa, and formerly of the Central African Federation
- Burundi and Rwanda – sometimes considered part of Central Africa
- Comoros, Mauritius, and Seychelles – small island nations in the Indian Ocean
- Réunion and Mayotte – French overseas territories also in the Indian Ocean

MAGNITUDE OF THE PROBLEM

Not only within Eastern Africa is the inclusion of women in peacebuilding a struggle. Structurally women are often excluded which can be seen from these facts:

- Between 1990 and 2017, women constituted only 2% of mediators, 8% of negotiators, and 5% of witnesses and signatories in all major peace processes.
- Women’s participation in peace negotiations increases the durability and the quality of peace. A recent study investigating 82 peace agreements in 42 armed conflicts between 1989 and 2011 found that peace agreements with female signatories are associated with durable peace. Additionally, this study shows peace agreements signed by female delegates demonstrate higher implementation rate for agreement provisions.
- Gender-sensitive language in peace agreements is critical to setting a foundation for gender-inclusion during the peacebuilding phase. Yet, data show a downward trend since 2015; only 27 percent of peace agreements signed in 2017 contained gender-responsive provisions.
- Insufficient attention has been paid to the implementation of gender provisions in peace agreements. Of peace agreements signed between 2000–2016, only seven percent refer to specific modalities for implementation of gender provisions.

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37 Wikipedia, 2018
38 Kalis & Dar, 2013, p. 117-118
39 New World Encyclopedia, 2018
40 UN Security Council, 2018
41 Bell & McNicholl, n.d.
A trend analysis on 1,500 peace and political agreements adopted between 2000 and 2016 (140 processes) showed that only 25 agreements discuss the role of women's engagement in implementation.\textsuperscript{42}

In Eastern Africa this trend is not all too different from the global figures shown above. As of March 2013, there were less than four percent female UN peacekeepers in the world. And only 1.49 percent of the total military personnel are women. A demonstrative example of this would be the Mbagathi process, which took place during the Somali Civil War. There was intense lobbying for inclusion of women and women groups, yet only about 55 of 1,000 delegates were women. Of these, 21 were registered as observers and 34 as official delegates. From those 34, only 26 took part as members of faction groups or the Transitional National Government (TNG). The national parliament in 2012 comprised only 13.8 percent of women, despite the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) target of 30 percent.\textsuperscript{43}

**HISTORICAL OVERVIEW OF THE CONFLICT**

**OVERVIEW OF KEY CONFLICTS IN THE REGION**

As mentioned before, the situation in Eastern Africa has been extremely unstable in the period after decolonization. Some conflicts, such as the Somali Civil War and the Lord’s Resistance Army insurgency in Uganda are still happening presently. Over the years of conflict, many of the countries in this region now suffer from chaotic and unstable government infrastructures since independence.\textsuperscript{44}

The Eritrean War of Independence (1961–1991) lasted 30 years and caused around 150,000 deaths in the country, around three percent of their total population. Consequently, Eritrea had little time to stabilize the region after their independence in 1947.

The Ethiopian Civil War (1974–1991) caused a massive number of casualties estimated at the minimum of 1.4 million people. The Ethiopian Civil War was a civil conflict fought between Ethiopia’s communist governments and anti-government rebels from September 1974 to June 1991. The Eritrean-Ethiopian War (1998-2000) caused both countries a total of 300,000 casualties.\textsuperscript{45}

The Ogaden War (1977-1978) was the start of unrest in Somalia, which later developed into the Somali Civil War (1991-present). These events resulted in more than 500,000 casualties and over 1.1 million people displaced. The current conflict in Somalia is still ongoing.\textsuperscript{46}

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\textsuperscript{42} Ibid.

\textsuperscript{43} UN, 2013

\textsuperscript{44} UN Africa Renewal, 2019

\textsuperscript{45} UN News, 2018

\textsuperscript{46} Goulding, M. 1991
The Uganda-Tanzania War (1978-1979) and the Lord’s Resistance Army insurgency in Uganda (1987-Present) cause a very unstable situation in Uganda, which is unfortunately ongoing. Over 100,000 have been killed and nearly 500,000 displaced.47

The Second Sudanese Civil War (1983-2005) was a war in a series of three civil wars. It ended with the south of the country having six years of autonomy and an independence referendum. Even though Sudan does not belong to Eastern Africa according to the UN, it should still be mentioned. An estimated 1 to 2 million casualties resulted from the Second Sudanese Civil War, while the South Sudanese Civil War is still ongoing with around 400,000 casualties and still counting.48

The Burundi Civil War was an armed conflict lasting from 1993 to 2005. The civil war was the result of longstanding ethnic divisions between the Hutu and the Tutsi ethnic groups in Burundi, just like what happened in Rwanda. The conflict began following the first multi-party elections in the country since independence from Belgium in 1962. The estimated death toll stands at 300,000, with children having been used widely by both parties involved.49

The Rwandan Genocide (1994) is perhaps the most well-known of these conflicts: the genocide against the Tutsi - a mass slaughter of Tutsi in Rwanda during the Rwandan Civil War, which started in 1990. The genocide was directed by members of the Hutu majority government during the 100-day period from 7 April to mid-July 1994. An estimated 500,000 to 1,000,000 Rwandans were killed - an estimated 70 percent of the Tutsi population. The genocide and widespread slaughter of Rwandans ended after the Tutsi-backed and heavily armed Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF), led by Paul Kagame, took control of the capital and the country. This resulted in an estimated 2,000,000 Rwandans, mostly Hutu, being displaced and becoming refugees.50

Every region in Eastern Africa has been marred by devastating conflict; some of these are still ongoing. There has not been a significant period of time when the whole region was conflict-free, although certain countries have been able to keep the peace for longer periods of time. All these wars and conflicts resulted in the dire need of stabilizing Eastern Africa with potentially peacebuilding missions.51

**WOMEN IN AFRICAN COUNTRIES**

At the moment women in Eastern Africa face many challenges that restrict them to properly be included in helping the region to be stabilized. These include the lack of political strength and political vision: women suffer from "political illiteracy". They lack an ideological framework that could give teeth to a strong position adopted by a collective woman. Peace building as a political activity and therefore requires political strategy for engagement.52

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47 ibid

48 UNMIS, 2019

49 UNDPNA, 2019

50 UN, 2019

51 UN Africa Renewal, 2019

52 Dolphyne, F. A. 1991; UN Women Africa, 2019
Next, women also face the lack of experience, exposure and skills in negotiation, advocacy and lobbying techniques: women have always been kept secluded from the political arena and sphere of decision-making; therefore, in many situations they are unable to participate.53

This also means that they have a lack of a political platform: without a political platform, women are on the margins of action and lack confidence in participating in the peace building process. The lack of experience and political platform naturally lead to a lack of visibility. Women’s conflict-resolution activities are confined to the informal sector, very often at the periphery of official peace negotiation. In addition, even if women contribute to the promotion of peace, they are not invited to participate in formal negotiations.54

Moreover, women in Africa have a lack of resources (material and financial). Most of the time women’s groups lack the means to back up their actions. In some instances, they are unable to get across to the media network to enhance their peace campaign because they do not have a budget for multi-dimensional activities. Further, they are not part of main fundraising channels and networks. They work on a voluntary basis at the grassroots levels, pooling their own resources together to get an office, desk, and phone line.55

Lastly, women in Eastern Africa have a lack of sustainability in political participation. Representation does not necessarily mean meaningful and recognized participation that has an impact on substantial inputs in peace agreement. In addition, once a peace process is over, women often return to more traditional activities, losing their gains and public presence. These losses make it very difficult for women to return to the public stage later when resolution begins.56

CURRENT SITUATION

At the moment, there are still conflicts ongoing in Uganda and Somalia57. Apart from these cases, Eastern Africa is a region which is very sensitive to new conflicts, which has to do with some sociological aspects which explain that the area has a high potential to violence. These aspects will be examined below:

POVERTY

Internal armed conflict is much more prevalent in developing countries than in developed ones. This is because developing states lack the ability to ensure law and order. Updated forecasts using the International Futures forecasting system indicate that around 37% of Africans live in extreme poverty (roughly 460 million people). By 2030, 32% of Africans (forecast at 548 million) are likely to live in extreme poverty. So, while the total percentage is coming down (around 5% less), the

53 Ibid.
54 Ibid.
55 Ibid.
56 Ibid.
57 Peace Inside, 2018
absolute numbers will likely still increase by around 90 million. It’s therefore unlikely that Africa will meet the first of the Sustainable Development Goals on ending absolute poverty on a current growth path of roughly 4% GDP growth per annum.\(^{58}\)

DEMOCRATISATION

Democratisation can trigger violence in the short to medium term, particularly around elections. Where there is a large democratic deficit, as in North Africa before the Arab spring, tension builds up; Eastern Africa is in a similar position, as well as still recovering from the various civil wars have been fought in recent times.

A democratic deficit – where levels of democracy are below what can be expected when compared to other countries at similar levels of income and education – often leads to instability. Instability is also fuelled by the manipulation of elections and constitutions by heads of state to extend their stay in power.

REGIME TYPE

The nature of the governing regime is another structural factor. Most stable countries are either full democracies or full autocracies. But most Eastern African countries have mixed regimes with some elements of democracy mixed with strong autocratic features. They present a façade of democracy but lack its substantive elements. Mixed regimes are inherently more unstable and prone to disruptions than either full democracies or full autocracies.\(^{59}\)

POPULATION STRUCTURE

Eastern Africa’s population is young, with a median age of 19. By comparison, the median age is 41 in France (a relatively young country by European standards). So, 22% of adult French are in the youth bulge of 15-29 years compared to 47% of Africans.\(^{60}\)

Young countries tend to be more turbulent because young men are largely responsible for violence and crime. These young men are at the prime of their working capabilities, and the economies of many African states are not capable of supplying the job market with enough positions for the burgeoning workforce. If young people lack jobs and rates of urbanisation are high, social exclusion and instability follow.\(^{61}\)

\(^{58}\) Independent, 2018

\(^{59}\) UN Africa Renewal, 2016

\(^{60}\) Rogue Chiefs, 2017

\(^{61}\) ibid.
REPEATED VIOLENCE

A history of violence is generally the best predictor of future violence. Countries such as Sudan and Ethiopia are trapped in cycles of violence\textsuperscript{62}. Historically speaking, these cycles are very difficult to break. It requires a huge effort and is very expensive, often requiring a large, multi-dimensional peace mission that only the UN can provide. But, scaling peacekeeping back rather than scaling it up is the order of the day at the UN.\textsuperscript{63}

A ‘BAD NEIGHBOURHOOD’

Where a country is located can increase the risk of violence because borders are not controlled, and rural areas not policed. Most conflict in Africa is the result of a domino-effect from neighbouring countries\textsuperscript{64}. Violence spills over national borders and affects other countries while poorly trained and equipped law and order institutions generally cannot operate regionally.\textsuperscript{65}

SLOW GROWTH AND RISING INEQUALITY

Africa is considerably unequal, so growth does not translate into poverty reduction. In addition, the world is in a low growth environment after the 2007/8 global financial crisis, with average rates of growth significantly lower than before. Africa needs to grow at average rates of 7% or more a year if it is to reduce poverty and create jobs, yet current long-term forecasts are for rates significantly below that.

All these factors play a role and need to be tackled when stabilizing Eastern Africa. Additionally, the role and inclusion of women needs to be discussed. How to outweigh where women are essential and how they can efficiently make processes more effective in terms of peace building.\textsuperscript{66}

\textsuperscript{62} BBC, 2019
\textsuperscript{63} UN Peacekeeping, 2019
\textsuperscript{64} Reliefweb, 2014
\textsuperscript{65} Rift Valley Institute, 2016
\textsuperscript{66} Ibud
KEY ACTORS

EASTERN AFRICAN COUNTRIES

Governments of these countries obviously have to initiate action in stabilizing the part of the continent. This can be done through peace negotiations with other nations, but the first step is to ensure that the governing of their own country is stable. Additionally, the sociological aspects discussed above should be solved in the long term, or at least a plan has to be made. Moreover, the role of women should be discussed on a national, regional and international basis in order for women to play a bigger role in ensuring peacebuilding in the African regions.

UNITED NATIONS

The United Nations Security Council needs to come together to decide how other nations can help the situation in Eastern Africa. Assisting the countries by sending external help could be an option or guiding the countries with setting up structures. So far, other than building bases in countries such as Kenya, the UNSC has not been very much involved, nor has any other department of the UN in specific.

QUESTIONS A RESOLUTION SHOULD ANSWER

Firstly the sociological aspects that should be tackled, in order to even create a sable Eastern Africa. Plans or clauses for solving these issues should be included. Next, a solution for the lack of women should be presented in the resolution. The involvement of the national governments can play a role within finding outcomes, but the UN(SC) can also be used to come to an eventual solution.

Furthermore, the following themes can be used in a resolution:

WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION

Women's involvement in peace processes have positive impacts in pushing for the commencement, resumption or finalization of negotiations, particularly when momentum has stalled, or talks have faltered. What should be women’s involvement? How can we incorporate current involvements with new input? How should women participate?

PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN HUMANITARIAN SETTINGS

Increased attention has been paid to violence against women and girls, particularly sexual violence in conflict, resulting in greater visibility, high-level advocacy, and the development of technical tools. However, too little funding is allocated to programming and services for survivors. How can we ensure more funding is given? Where should this funding come from? How is guaranteed the funding ends up well?
TOWARD AN ERA OF TRANSFORMATIVE JUSTICE

Justice must be transformative in nature, addressing not only the singular violations experienced by women, but also the underlying inequalities which render women and girls vulnerable during times of conflict and which inform the consequences of the human rights violations they experience.

KEEPING THE PEACE IN AN INCREASINGLY MILITARIZED WORLD

There is need for a larger focus on demilitarization, and the development of effective strategies for conflict prevention and the non-violent protection of civilians. Moreover, the study highlights that women’s presence in the security sector has been found to significantly lower rates of complaints of misconduct, rates of improper use of weapons, as well as raise the credibility of forces, increase access to communities and vital information, and lead to a greater reporting of sexual and gender-based crimes. Given this information, how can we include women in the security sector?

BUILDING INCLUSIVE AND PEACEFUL SOCIETIES IN THE AFTERMATH OF CONFLICT

Women in conflict-affected and recovering countries lack economic opportunities necessary for survival, remain confronted by daily violence in their homes and communities, struggle to cope with heavy burdens of care and dependency, and continue to endure the emotional and physical scars of conflict, without support or recognition. In the aftermath of conflict, violence against women often increases, underlining the importance of rebuilding rule of law institutions. How should we decrease violence against women in the aftermath? How can we support women during and after a conflict?

PREVENTING CONFLICT

States that have lower levels of gender inequality are less likely to resort to the use of force. Stronger recognition is required of the influence of gender norms, gender relations, and gender inequalities on the potential for the eruption of conflict. How can we implement gender equality and what role can women or government play here?

COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM

Across regions, a common thread shared by extremist groups is that in every instance their advance has been coupled with attacks on the rights of women and girls—the rights to education, participation in public life and autonomous decision-making over their own bodies. What can we do to counter these extremists beliefs and groups?
CLOSING REMARKS

We are aware that this issue has two problems: “How to stabilize Eastern Africa?” and “How to include women in peace negotiations?”. This is what makes this topic incredibly difficult to solve, since the combination challenges for creative solutions but also many clauses in order to solve the problems posed. We wish you good luck and are looking forward to the position papers and potential resolutions.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH:

- Participation of Women in Peace Building in Somalia: A Case Study of Mogadishu

- Building peace in Eastern Africa

- The Role of Women in Peacebuilding and Community Development
  [http://www.academia.edu/9710791/THE_ROLE_OF_WOMEN_IN_PEACEBUILDING_AND_COMMUNITY_DEVELOPMENT](http://www.academia.edu/9710791/THE_ROLE_OF_WOMEN_IN_PEACEBUILDING_AND_COMMUNITY_DEVELOPMENT)

- Conference on promoting the role of women in peace development in the African horn
  [https://www.peacewomen.org/content/role-women-promoting-peace-and-development-horn-africa](https://www.peacewomen.org/content/role-women-promoting-peace-and-development-horn-africa)

- African Women on Peace

- News article on Women's Peace roles
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