

BACKGROUND GUIDE

UNSC

BBPS – Glengaze – MUN

Agenda – “Peace Building Measures in Post Conflict Regions with Special Emphasis on Iraq and Libya.”

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Greetings,

We welcome you to the United Nations Security Council, in the capacity of the members of the Executive Board of the said conference. Since this conference shall be a learning experience for all of you, it shall be for us as well. Our only objective shall be to make you all speak and participate in the discussion, and we pledge to give every effort for the same.

How to research for the agenda and beyond? There are several things to consider. This background guide shall be different from the background guides you might have come across in other MUNs and will emphasise more on providing you the right Direction where you find matter for your research than to provide you matter itself, because we do not believe in spoon-feeding you, nor do we believe in leaving you to swim in the pond all by yourself.

However, we promise that if you read the entire set of documents so provided, you shall be able to cover 70% of your research for the conference. The remaining amount of research depends on how much willing are you to put in your efforts and understand those articles and/or documents. So, in the purest of the language we can say, it is important to read anything and everything whose links are provided in the background guide.

What to speak in the committee and in what manner? The basic emphasis of the committee shall not be on how much facts you read and present in the committee but how you explain them in simple and decent language to us and the fellow committee members. The entire conference aims at analysing your understanding of the agenda and not how much you have studied. So, kindly focus upon analysis and explanation, because we are interested in knowing how much you know and remember that you will know only if you read and work.

We wish you all the very best and feel free to ask doubts, if any.

Thank you and Regards,

Pultasya Singh
Chairperson

Yash Kalra
Vice Chairperson

INTRODUCTION

Violent conflict is one of the most profound of development challenges: **without peace and security there can be no sustained development**. However, focusing on peace-building alone is not sufficient. Just as development cannot occur in the absence of peace, peace without development is a peace that may not last.

In recent years, the international community's discourse about addressing violent conflict and its consequences has become more nuanced. We increasingly recognize that humanitarian action, peace-making, peace-keeping, peace-building, state-building, and development do not happen in a mechanical linear sequence, but are closely interlinked and overlapping.

Such a complex landscape calls for cooperation and coherence among actors. It challenges us to address the short-term demands of a deeply damaged society while making sure that our actions do not compromise the longer-term goal of building an effective state.

WHAT IS PEACEBUILDING ?

Peacebuilding is an activity that aims to solve injustice in nonviolent ways and to *transform* the cultural & structural conditions that generate deadly or destructive conflict. It revolves around developing constructive personal, group, and political relationship across ethnic, religious, class, national, and racial boundaries.

This process includes violence prevention; conflict management, resolution, or transformation; and post-conflict reconciliation or trauma healing, i.e., before, during, and after any given case

of violence. As such, peacebuilding is a multidisciplinary, cross-sector technique or method which becomes strategic when it works over the long run and at all levels of society to establish and sustain relationships among people locally and globally—thus engendering sustainable peace.

Strategic peacebuilding activities address the root causes or potential causes of violence, create a societal expectation for peaceful conflict resolution, and stabilize society politically and socioeconomically.

The methods included in peacebuilding vary depending on the situation and the agent of peacebuilding. Successful peacebuilding activities create an environment supportive of self-sustaining, durable peace; reconcile opponents; prevent conflict from restarting; integrate civil society; create rule of law mechanisms; and address underlying structural and societal issues.

Researchers and practitioners also increasingly find that peacebuilding is most effective and durable when it relies upon local conceptions of peace and the underlying dynamics which foster or enable conflict.

LOCAL LEVEL CHALLENGES TO POST-CONFLICT PEACEBUILDING

Laying the basis for a sustainable political order in the aftermath of civil war requires a broader perspective on the state than the one commonly taken by analysts and practitioners of peacekeeping and peacebuilding. In particular, it calls for closer attention to the building of state authority and capacity at local levels.

While there is a growing literature on the political imperatives of building a lasting peace following negotiated termination of civil wars, for the most part research has focused on the construction of the central political institutions. However, negotiated peace settlements often face their greatest challenges at the local level, when the principles of the political settlement negotiated at the centre are extended throughout the national territory.

There is a need to review the local level challenges to peacebuilding and All the nations should urge an approach to peacebuilding informed by closer attention to the multiple layers of the state and the state building process.

IRAQI CONFLICT (2003–PRESENT)



The Iraqi conflict is a long-running armed conflict that began with the 2003 invasion of Iraq by a United States-led coalition that toppled the government of Saddam Hussein. The conflict continued as

an insurgency emerged to oppose the occupying forces and the post-invasion Iraqi government.

The United States officially withdrew from the country in 2011, but became re-involved in 2014 at the head of a new coalition. The conflict is still ongoing as a low-level insurgency. It is estimated that 267,792 to over 1,190,793+ have been killed in the conflict.

BACKGROUND

The main rationale for the invasion of Iraq was based on allegations by the American and British governments that Saddam Hussein was developing weapons of mass destruction and that he thus presented a threat to his neighbors and to the world. The U.S. stated "on November 8, 2002, the UN Security Council unanimously adopted Resolution 1441.

All fifteen members of the Security Council agreed to give Iraq a final opportunity to comply with its obligations and disarm or face the serious consequences of failing to disarm. The resolution strengthened the mandate of the UN Monitoring and Verification Commission (UNMOVIC) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), giving them authority to go anywhere, at any time and talk to anyone in order to verify Iraq's disarmament."

Throughout the early 2000s, the administrations of George W. Bush and Tony Blair worked to build a case for invading Iraq. Shortly after the invasion, the Central Intelligence Agency, Defense Intelligence Agency, and other intelligence agencies refused to continue to support the allegations related to Iraqi weapons at which point the Bush and Blair administrations shifted to secondary rationales for the

war, such as the Hussein government's human rights record and promoting democracy in Iraq.

Opinion polls showed that people all over the world opposed a war without a UN mandate, and that the view of the United States as a danger to world peace had significantly increased. U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan described the war as illegal, saying in an interview in 2004 that it was "not in conformity with the Security Council."

2003 INVASION

The invasion of Iraq lasted from 20 March to 1 May 2003 and signaled the start of the Iraq War, which was dubbed Operation Iraqi Freedom by the United States. The invasion consisted of 21 days of major combat operations, in which a combined force of troops from the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia and Poland invaded Iraq and deposed the Ba'athist government of Saddam Hussein. The invasion phase consisted primarily of a conventionally fought war which included the capture of the Iraqi capital of Baghdad by American forces with the assistance of the United Kingdom, Australia and Poland.

160,000 troops were sent by the Coalition into Iraq during the initial invasion phase, which lasted from 19 March to 9 April 2003. About 130,000 were sent from the USA, with about 28,000 British, 2,000 Australian, and 194 Polish soldiers. 36 other countries were involved in its aftermath. In preparation for the invasion, 100,000 U.S. troops were assembled in Kuwait by 18 February. The coalition forces also received support from Kurdish irregulars in Iraqi Kurdistan.

ANTI-COALITION INSURGENCY

Invading U.S.-led forces were unable to immediately fill the power vacuum caused by the sudden collapse of a highly centralized state authority, resulting in weeks of virtual anarchy. The rampant looting during this time period, and the inability of U.S.-led forces to control the situation, led to Iraqi resentment.

Additionally, the unexpectedly quick implosion of Saddam Hussein's regime meant that the invading forces never engaged and decisively defeated his army in any major battle; the Iraqi army forces simply melted away, often with their weapons, back to their homes. Another cause of resentment was the lack of immediate humanitarian aid and reconstruction efforts for Iraqis suffering from the invasion, the long-term effects of the repression and mismanagement of the Saddam Hussein regime, and international sanctions.

A number of factions felt suspicious of long-term American intentions; the conduct of some American soldiers also served to heighten tensions. In May 2003, after the Iraqi conventional forces had been defeated and disbanded, the U.S. military noticed a gradually increasing flurry of attacks on U.S. troops in various regions of the so-called "Sunni Triangle", especially in Baghdad and in the regions around Fallujah and Tikrit.

Members of insurgent groups came from a variety of sources. Former members of the security services of the Ba'ath regime, former military officers, and some other Ba'ath Party members are cited as members of insurgent groups; indeed, these elements formed the primary backbone

of the nascent insurgency. Initially, most former members of the Ba'ath Party and former Iraqi soldiers expressed a willingness to compromise with the Coalition forces. However, many lost their jobs and pensions with the disbanding of the Iraqi army; this, and the unwillingness of the Coalition Provisional Authority to negotiate with former Ba'ath elements, provided impetus for the initial insurgency...

COALITION WITHDRAWAL

The withdrawal of U.S. military forces from Iraq was a contentious issue in the United States for much of the 2000s. As the war progressed from its initial invasion phase in 2003 to a nearly decade-long occupation, American public opinion shifted towards favoring a troop withdrawal.

In late April 2007 Congress passed a supplementary spending bill for Iraq that set a deadline for troop withdrawal but President Bush vetoed this bill, citing his concerns about setting a withdrawal deadline. The Bush Administration later sought an agreement with the Iraqi government, and in 2008 George W. Bush signed the U.S.–Iraq Status of Forces Agreement.

It included a deadline of 31 December 2011, before which "all the United States Forces shall withdraw from all Iraqi territory". The last U.S. troops left Iraq on 18 December 2011, in accordance with this agreement.

POST INVASION EVENTS

Rise of ISIL

The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant's (ISIS, ISIL) military campaign was very successful, and the group took swathes of territory in northern

Iraq during 2014. Violence reached very high levels, with 1,775 people killed in the month of June alone. These figures remained very high for the remainder of the year.

Iraqi–Kurdish conflict

The 2017 Iraqi–Kurdish conflict occurred in and around the Kurdish region of northern Iraq that began on 15 October 2017, shortly after the Iraqi Kurdistan referendum in 2017 was held on September 25.

After the independence referendum, Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi demanded the referendum to be canceled. In October, the Iraqi military moved into the Kurdistan region after the entry of Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant.

On 16 October 2017, the Kurdish Peshmerga ignored a deadline given by Iraq to withdraw. This led to Battle of Kirkuk (2017), and Iraqi forces and Iranian-backed PMU retaking Kirkuk and its province on 15 October 2017. Within 15 hours, the city of Kirkuk and the nearby K-1 Air Base, along with surrounding oilfields, were retaken by Iraqi forces. This resulted in the conflict's end.

Defeat of ISIL

On December 9, 2017, the last ISIL-held areas in the al-Jazira Desert were captured by the Iraqi military. The prime minister later declared victory, and celebrations occurred soon after.

ISIL insurgency (2017–present)

Following ISIL's defeat, the group has continued an insurgency. However

they have been greatly weakened and violence in Iraq has been sharply reduced in 2018. Only 95 people lost their lives during the month of May of 2018, the lowest figure in 10 years, but still the threat continues, sometimes creating tensions in the state..

LIBYAN CRISIS (2011-PRESENT)



The Libyan Crisis refers to the ongoing conflicts in Libya, beginning with the Arab Spring protests of 2011, which led to a civil war, foreign military intervention, and the ousting and death of Muammar Gaddafi. The civil war's aftermath and proliferation of armed groups led to violence and instability across the country, which erupted into renewed civil war in 2014.

The ongoing crisis in Libya has so far resulted in tens of thousands of casualties since the onset of violence in early 2011. During both civil wars, the output of Libya's economically crucial oil industry collapsed to a small fraction of its usual level, with most facilities blockaded or damaged by rival groups, despite having the largest oil reserves of any African country

BACKGROUND OF LIBYA

The history of Libya under Muammar Gaddafi spanned 42 years from 1969 to 2011. Gaddafi became the de facto leader of the country on 1 September 1969 after leading a group of young Libyan military officers against King Idris I in a nonviolent revolution and bloodless coup d'état.

After the king had fled the country, the Libyan Revolutionary Command Council (RCC) headed by Gaddafi abolished the monarchy and the old constitution and proclaimed the new Libyan Arab Republic, with the motto "freedom, socialism, and unity".

After coming to power, the RCC government took control of all petroleum companies operating in the country and initiated a process of directing funds toward providing education, health care and housing for all. Despite the reforms not being entirely effective, public education in the country became free and primary education compulsory for both sexes. Medical care became available to the public at no cost, but providing housing for all was a task that the government was not able to complete. Under Gaddafi, per capita income in the country rose to more than US\$11,000, the fifth-highest in Africa

EVENTS INVOLVED IN THE CRISIS

First civil war

In early 2011, a civil war broke out in the context of the wider "Arab Spring". The anti-Gaddafi forces formed a committee named the National Transitional Council, on 27 February 2011. It was meant to act as an interim authority in the rebel-controlled areas.

After the government began to roll back the rebels and a number of atrocities were committed by both sides, a multinational coalition led by NATO forces intervened on 21 March 2011, ostensibly to protect civilians against attacks by the government's forces.

Shortly thereafter, the International Criminal Court issued an arrest warrant against Gaddafi. Gaddafi was ousted from power.

His Jamahiriya regime came to an end the following month, culminating on 20 October 2011 with Sirte's capture, NATO airstrikes against Gaddafi's escape convoy, and his killing by rebel fighters.

Post-revolution armed groups and violence

The Libyan revolution led to defected regime military members who joined rebel forces, revolutionary brigades that defected from the Libyan Army, post-revolutionary brigades, militias, and various other armed groups, many composed of ordinary workers and students.

After the first Libyan civil war, violence occurred involving various armed groups who fought against Gaddafi but refused to lay down their arms when the war ended in October 2011.

In dealing with the number of unregulated armed groups, the National Transitional Council called for all armed groups to register and unite under the Ministry of Defense, thus placing many armed groups on the payroll of the government. This gave a degree of legitimacy to many armed groups

On 11 September 2012, militants allied with Al-Qaeda attacked the US consulate in Benghazi, killing the US ambassador and three others. This prompted a popular outcry against the semi-legal militias that were still

