



# CONGRESMUN

MODELO DE NACIONES UNIDAS DEL H. CONGRESO DE LA UNIÓN



# UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL

Handbook

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#ELMODELODETODOS



*“In the midst of the chaos, there is also opportunity.”  
(Sun Tzu)*

## **Dear delegates,**

Welcome to the United Nations Security Council for the Eleventh Edition of CONGRESMUN. It is a pleasure for us to have the opportunity to host such an important organ of UN, and work together with you in order to solve few of the current world's biggest problems. Since we applied to be part of the staff for CONGRESMUN 2018 an illusion inside our hearts grows every day, picturing and expecting the best for this edition, immensely excited to finally meet all our delegates.

During the last months we have worked hard in order to fulfill your expectations, and so you can freely develop your speaking, negotiation, critical thinking, research, teamwork and leadership skills. At the end of the day, you are the reason of our preparation and hard work, embodied in our handbook, which contains basic information about the topics we will be able to discuss; along with a protocol and academic preparation. With this, we hope that your experience being a delegate in CONGRESMUN bring you valuable abilities for college, your professional career and even a lifelong learning.

As your Chair we know choosing this committee can be challenging, not only because of the strong global impact of the committee, but also because of the topics we have in the agenda, that requires a strong sensitive love for human rights and keep worldwide peace and security; above all and with no hesitation. However, we believe that you'll give the best of yourself, expressing your love for humanity and diplomacy.

Above all, wish you a pleasant experience in the UN Security Council, please do not doubt to contact us if you get to need anything. Finally, we all are here to learn, so eventually, we hope we all can show our knowledge and wisdom in every session.

**Sincerely yours**

**President, Melissa Hernández Méndez**  
**Moderator, Ariadna Gabriela Martínez Leal**  
**Conference officer, Liliana González Gómez**



## UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL

The Security Council was established after the Second World Conflict to maintain the security and peacekeeping issues around the world; the founding members decided to establish this committee as a defending agency for the peace between Nations.<sup>1</sup> Only the Security Council has the power to make decisions that member states are then obligated to implement under the Charter. Furthermore, all members of the United Nations agree to accept and carry out the decisions of the Security Council.

Since 1946, the Security Council under the Charter of the United Nations, has taken primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. Being a primordial organ for the determination and identification of any threat to peace or any aggression. The Council also works as a source of recommendations for the General Assembly, in matters like the designation of the Secretary-General, the admission of new Members to the United Nations, and electing the judges of the International Court of Justice.<sup>2</sup>

According to the Charter, the United Nations Security Council has four purposes:

- to maintain international peace and security;
- to develop friendly relations among nations;
- to cooperate in solving international problems and in promoting respect for human rights;
- and to be a center for harmonizing the actions of nations.<sup>3</sup>

First of all, is important to keep in mind that the Security Council is the a unique organ within the United Nations framework, able to impose legally binding resolutions which all member states of the United Nations have to accept.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> CFR. (2015) *The UN Security Council*. [On line] Available on: <http://www.cfr.org/international-organizations-and-alliances/un-security-council-unsc/p31649>

<sup>2</sup> United Nations (2012). *UN Security Council*. [On line] Available on: <http://www.un.org/en/sc/>

<sup>3</sup> United Nations (1945). *Charter of the United Nations*: United Nations, Office of Public Information.

<sup>4</sup> United Nations (2015), *United Nations Security Council Subsidiary Organs*. [On line] Available on: <https://www.un.org/sc/suborg/en/sanctions/information>.

When a complaint concerning a threat to peace is brought before it, the Council's first action is usually to recommend that the parties try to reach agreement by peaceful means. The Council may:

- Set forth principles for such an agreement;
- Undertake investigation and mediation, in some cases;
- Dispatch a mission;
- Appoint special envoys; or
- Request the Secretary-General to use his good offices to achieve a pacific settlement of the dispute.

When a dispute leads to hostilities, the Council's primary concern is to bring them to an end as soon as possible. In that case, the Council may:

- Issue ceasefire directives that can help prevent an escalation of the conflict;
- Dispatch military observers or a peacekeeping force to help reduce tensions, separate opposing forces and establish a calm in which peaceful settlements may be sought.

Beyond this, the Council can opt for enforcement measures, including:

- Economic sanctions, arms embargoes, financial penalties and restrictions, and travel bans;
- Severance of diplomatic relations;
- Blockade;
- Or even collective military action.

A chief concern is to focus action on those responsible for the policies or practices condemned by the international community, while minimizing the impact of the measures taken on other parts of the population and economy.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>5</sup> *Ibidem*



## Members

The Security Council is composed of 15 members: five permanent members and ten non-permanent members, elected for two-year terms by the General Assembly.

**Permanent members:** Only these five permanent members have the power of veto, to prevent any adoption of draft Council resolution, if they consider to.<sup>6</sup>

- China
- United States of America
- Russian Federation
- France
- United Kingdom

## Non-permanent members:

- Bolivia
- Ivory Coast
- Ethiopia
- Netherlands
- Kuwait
- Kazakhstan
- Equatorial Guinea
- Sweden
- Poland
- Peru

## Subsidiary organs

Article 29 of the Charter sets out that the Security Council has the power to establish subsidiary bodies as needed for the performance of its functions.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>6</sup> Security Council Report (SCR) (2016). *UN Security Council Working Methods: The Veto*. Available on: <http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/un-security-council-working-methods/the-veto.php>

## TOPIC A: STRATEGIES AGAINST THE USE OF CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS BY TERRORIST GROUPS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

### Background

The use of Chemical and Biological Weapons has been common in conflicts along history; although the key chemical warfare agents such as chlorine, hydrogen, cyanide, cyanogen chloride, phosgene, mustard agent and chloropicrin were discovered in late eighteenth and nineteenth-century. Nonetheless, it was during World War I (1914-1918), also known as the “Chemist’s War”, that marked the beginning of the modern era of chemical warfare. Since July 1917, Germans began this era with the use of mustard agent, which infected about 15,000 British casualties in three weeks.<sup>8</sup>

Also, during some civil wars like in France, US, United Kingdom, and Russia, poisonous gases were used causing several deaths. Consequently, in 1925 it was the creation of the Geneva Protocol, an international treaty that establishes the banning of asphyxiating, poisonous or other gases and bacteriological methods of warfare.<sup>9</sup> Even though it was signed by an important amount of States, during the Second World War there was an evident use of this kind of weapons by some countries, and the consequences were: a massive loss of lives. After that, a significant progress was materialized with the creation of the Biological Weapons Convention, the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention and the Chemical Weapons Convention, adopted in 1972 and 1993. As it was created the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to provide technical assistance to States, so the previous conventions were followed correctly.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>7</sup> *Ibidem*

<sup>8</sup> Romano, Jr., Lukey & Salem (2008) *Handbook of Toxicology of Chemical Warfare Agents. Volume 1* [online]

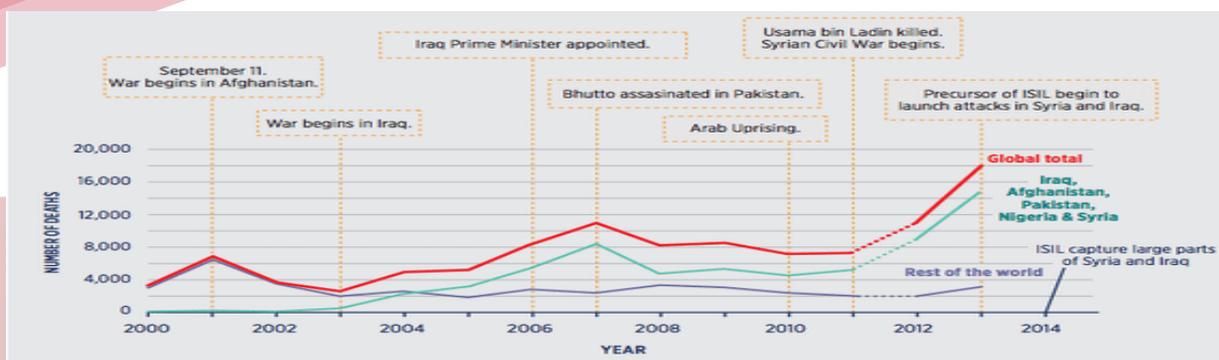
<sup>9</sup> UNODA (2016) *1975 Geneva Protocol* [on line] Available on: <https://www.un.org/disarmament/wmd/bio/1925-geneva-protocol/>

<sup>10</sup> UNODA (2016) *Biological Weapons* [on line] Available on: <https://www.un.org/disarmament/wmd/bio/>

However, the current issues aren't exclusively related to the use of this kind of weapons by governments, the problem is also tied to terrorism; as stated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), terrorism use these weapons against property or a violent and unlawful mean to intimidate governmental entities.<sup>11</sup> The first major terrorist attack took place in the United States in 1982, seven young people died after taking Tylenol capsules laced with a mortal dose of cyanide, similar cases, were then registered in Palestine, Israel and Japan. In addition, it is very hard to identify the authors of crimes related with terrorism and asymmetric warfare, since the relevance of the weapon does not come from a specific attacker.

## Actual Context

The Arab-Israeli conflict started in 1920, and since then the violence has been materialized in several forms. Indeed, the substantial political changes that started after several civil wars were triggered in the Middle East, risking the world's peace. Therefore, in 2012, the intention of a "weapons of mass destruction free zone in the Middle East was dropped, without having a confirmed responsible. Also in 2013 a chemical and biological attack on the outskirts of Damascus almost provoked the intervention of United States in the Syrian civil war, and led to Syria's integration to the Chemical Weapons Convention.



**Figure 1.** Deaths from terrorism 2000 – 2014 (Global Terrorism Database/Institute for Economics and Peace, 2015)

<sup>11</sup>FBI (2011) *Terrorism 2002/20015* [on line] Available on <https://www.fbi.gov/stats-services/publications/terrorism-2002-2005>

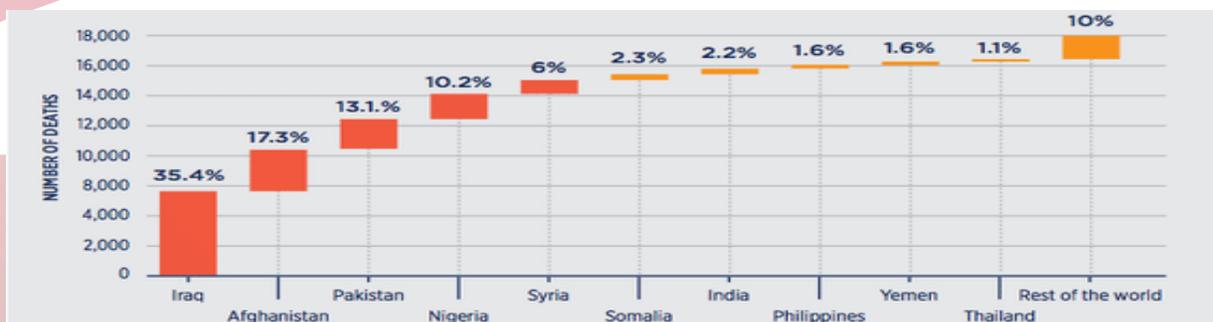


In this context, some have suggested that the time has come to rethink the establishment of a chemical-weapon-free zone in the region.

On the other hand, one of the main problems in the Middle East region is the presence of terrorist groups. This kind of groups are well-known for attacking civil people, causing a destabilization in the way the government reacts, and panic in the population. The attacks made by terrorist groups can be done using different types of weapons like bombs, guns, machine guns and others. Moreover, one of the main fears around the world is that the terrorist groups control or use chemical, biological or nuclear weapons.

As we know terrorist attacks are deliberately planned to surprise, so trend analysis cannot predict them, especially in the contemporary globalized international context. Nonetheless, international entities are working as hard as possible to find solutions to this issue. Moreover, in 2015, the United Nations started the worldwide investigations in collaboration with both the Security Council and the Committee of Anti-Terrorism in order to have clearer information about terrorist groups and their activities.

Moreover, after all the investigations, the UN recognized the groups of al-Qaeda, Daesh, HAMAS, Hezbollah, Abu Nidal, Abu Sayyaf, Aum Shinrikyo, al-Shabaab, Boko Haram, and the al-Nusrah Front, as the most dangerous actual terrorist groups, increasing the concern on Middle East. Further information was released explaining that these terrorist groups conducted attacks for two purposes: to demonstrate the ineffectiveness and illegitimacy of the ruling government and to recruit new members.<sup>12</sup>



**Figure 2.** Percentage of Global Terrorism-Related Deaths, 2013 (Global Terrorism Database/Institute for Economics and Peace, 2014)

<sup>12</sup> Homeland Security (2016) *What are the terrorist WMD attacks?* [on line] Available on: <http://inhomeandsecurity.com/where-are-the-terrorist-wmd-attacks/>

The United Nations Security Council is really concerned about the Middle East area because it is a region of many conflicts between the countries, the presence of terrorist groups is a threat for all and the existence of some civil conflicts inside the countries. The three previous situations could turn into catalysts for the use of chemical and biological weapons, affecting not only the parts in the conflict, but also civilians.

Finally, it is important to mention that, if any terrorist group gets the control of chemical and biological weapons it will be a huge threat for international security and even for human preservation. We must know that the effects of any chemical or biological are will be affected physically by the weapons' agent and psychologically due to the panic of suffering an attack like this. On top of that, the damage on the environment will be quite high.<sup>13</sup>

## Chemical Weapons Classification

We are constantly surrounded by chemicals, both natural and synthetic, which can be tailored to serve specific purposes. In most cases, chemistry is used to improve the quality of life for humans and our planet. The rise of scientific medicine has lowered mortality and increased quality of life, enabling rapid diagnosis and effective treatment of disease and illness. The rise of industry has been centered on the development of chemistry, we can now create synthetic polymers and superior alloys for more effective and efficient production of goods.<sup>14</sup>

Nonetheless, the use of this kind of weapons began in 1914, within the World War I; since then, it is estimated to have caused more than one million deaths.<sup>15</sup> It applies to any toxic chemical, or its precursors that damage human health causing death, injury, temporary disability or temporary sensory irritation. Therefore, they are classified as:

<sup>13</sup> WHO. (2003) *Chemical and biological weapons: public health*. [on line] Available on: <http://helid.digicollection.org/es/d/Js8249s/9.6.html>

<sup>14</sup> MUC (2015) *Multiple Uses of Chemicals*. [on line] Available on: <http://multiple.kcvs.ca/site/index.html>

<sup>15</sup> UNODA (2016) *Chemical weapons*. [on line] Available on: <https://www.un.org/disarmament/wmd/chemical/>

- Stifling agents.
- Vesicant agents.
- Hemotoxic agents.
- Neurotoxic agents.

## Biological Weapons Classification

The biological weapons are systems causing deaths, intoxicating humans, animals, or plants by two parts: a weaponized agent and a delivery mechanism.<sup>16</sup>

Understanding the above, according to the CDC, these types of weapons are classified in three forms, from A to C, the category A being the most lethal to have the majority of the next symptoms:

- Easily contagious.
- High mortality rate.
- Public health impairment.
- Cause massive panic.
- Break social stability.

## Guide questions

1. What is the problem of uncontrolled proliferation of weapons?
2. What should be done to reduce the human cost of unregulated availability of weapons?
3. What has been the intervention of your nation in the Middle East conflict?
4. Is there any registration of chemical and biological weapons in your nation?
5. How would your nation face a chemical or biological attack?

<sup>16</sup> UNOG (2015) *What are Biological and Toxic weapons?* [on line] Available on: <https://www.un.org/disarmament/geneva/bwc/what-are-biological-and-toxin-weapons/>

6. Which agents or chemicals are most likely to be used to create a deliberate outbreak?
7. Which are the main achievements of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapon treating this cases?
8. What has your country done authorities to ensure the implementation of the International Humanitarian Laws?
9. Identify the regions where the use of chemical and biological weapons is suspected.



## TOPIC B: THE UNITED NATIONS STABILIZATION MISSION IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is the country of Central Africa that has one of the most privileged geographical conditions of the continent. It is not only the largest country, sharing limits with Angola, Burundi, Congo, Central African Republic, Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania, Sudan and Zambia; it also has important natural resources, some of them even primordial for the production of electronic devices. However, the main problem of the DRC is based on the fact that it has conflicts with some other African countries such as: Rwanda, Uganda and Burundi. One of the main reasons to consider the situation in the DRC as an international problem is because of the intervention of Zimbabwe, Angola, Sudan, Libya and Eritrea.<sup>17</sup>

The problem started among the different native groups because of ethnic and ideological discrepancies due to years of colonization and the arbitrary design of borders, reinforced by the displacement of these native groups. On top of that, there are certain dynamics like the relation between the convenient and the rebel groups, the ones that involve here in countries such as the support they give to other governments of rebel groups.<sup>18</sup>

The conflict has its roots in the Rwanda genocide of 1994 and the establishment of a new government in that country. The Hutus being persecuted, sought refuge in North Kivu (old Zaire), a zone that was occupied mainly by the ethnic group known as Tutsis and other minor natives. As a consequence of the mix of ethnic groups, in 1996 began a conflict between the forces led by Laurent Désiré Kabila against the army of President Mobutu Sese Seko. Kabila's forces, aided by Rwanda and Uganda, took the capital city of Kinshasa in 1997 and renamed the country as the Democratic Republic of Congo.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>17</sup> OASIS Magazine (2011) The Democratic Republic of Congo and the MONUSCO. [on line] Available on: <http://www.redalyc.org/pdf/531/53129047008.pdf>

<sup>18</sup> *Ibidem*

<sup>19</sup> United Nations (2016) MONUSCO Background. [on line] Available on: <http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/missions/monusco/background.shtml>

Thenceforward, in 1998, after the rebellion against the Kabila government started in the Kivu regions, the rebels took advantage of the situation and invaded larger zones over the country. Consequently, the Heads of State of Angola, Chad, Namibia and Zimbabwe offered President Kabila military aid; but, the rebel movement, known as the Congolese Rally for Democracy (RCD) was supported by Rwanda and Uganda.<sup>20</sup> As a result, the rebel groups maintained the control over the territory.

Eventually, the United Nations Security Council called upon the peacekeeping operations and exhorted the other countries to not interfere in the internal matters of the Democratic Republic of Congo. Then, the Council came up with the resolution S/RES/1279 in November 1999, after the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement was signed in July establishing an agreement between the DRC and its neighbor states Angola, Namibia, Rwanda, Uganda and Zimbabwe. In this resolution was implemented the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC).<sup>21</sup>

In this context the resolution has as main aim to stress and observe the Ceasefire Agreement, so as the disengagement of forces. Moreover, in 2006, the MONUC helped the country to held their first elections in 46 years, in which were elected 500-seat for the National Assembly, followed a runoff election for the presidency on October 29<sup>th</sup>, being Joseph Kabila designed as president of the DRC.<sup>22</sup>



Figure 3. Conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo. (BBC, 2014)

<sup>20</sup> OASIS Magazine (2011) The Democratic Republic of Congo and the MONUSCO. [on line] Available on: <http://www.redalyc.org/pdf/531/53129047008.pdf>

<sup>21</sup> *Ibidem*

<sup>22</sup> United Nations Security Council resolution 12/79 S/RES/1279 (1999) (30 November 1999). [on line] Available on: [http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/1279\(1999\)](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/1279(1999))





This stabilization mission implemented by the UN Security Council works to recover the peace that was lost during the conflict and one of its main goals is to restore the order in the society. Missions have the power to use force due to the violation of international law to restore peace and security in the nation.<sup>25</sup> Furthermore, there are some facts that must be taken into account for the accomplishment of the mission's goals:

1. Political attention.
2. Contingent maintenance capacity.
3. If you want to work together with blue helmets and white vehicles, you have to keep in mind that each one works differently, and terrorist groups that threaten to destroy peace will work to find a way to ruin it.<sup>26</sup>

Finally, in a resolution unanimously adopted, the 15-member of the UN Security Council decided to keep the UN Organization Stabilization Mission (MONUSCO) until 31 March 2018; and it also approved 16,215 military personnel, 660 military observers and staff officers, 391 police personnel, and 1,050 personnel of formed police units to work for the MONUSCO.<sup>27</sup>

## Guide questions

1. How does the situation affects your country?
2. What has been the position of your country in the situation of the DRC?
3. How does your country has contributed to the stabilization missions?
4. Does your country give any proposal to improve the stabilization mission?
5. How could you improve the ongoing military operations in North and South Kivu as well as the Orientale provinces?
6. How can the government improve the capacity to protect the population?
7. How can your country help to achieve the consolidation of the State authority throughout the region?

<sup>25</sup> Watts, S. (2013) For stabilization Mission. [on line] Available on: <https://www.rand.org/pubs/periodicals/rand-review/issues/2013/summer/for-stabilization-missions.html>

<sup>26</sup> Muggah, R. (2010) The effects of stabilization on humanitarian action in Haiti.pdf [on line] Available on: [www.alnap.org/pool/files/the-effects-of-stabilization-in-haiti.pdf](http://www.alnap.org/pool/files/the-effects-of-stabilization-in-haiti.pdf)

<sup>27</sup> UN Peacekeeping (2010) Timeline, UN Missions. [on line] Available on: <https://monusco.unmissions.org/en/timeline>

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[http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/1925\(2010\)](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/1925(2010))
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<https://www.rand.org/pubs/periodicals/rand-review/issues/2013/summer/for-stabilization-missions.html>
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