



UN Security Council

BACKGROUND GUIDE

UNSC

Index

- Letter from the Executive Board
- Committee Expectations
- The United Nations Security Council
- Introduction to the Committee and Guide
- History of US-Iran relations
- Current Scenario
- US Military Advances in the Middle East
- A Timeline of US - Iran Relations
- UN Peacekeeping Forces
- Past Violations of Rules of War
- Suggested Motions for Moderated Caucuses

Letter from the Executive Board

Dear Delegates,

We welcome you to UNSC at CHMUN 2020. As your executive board, during your time in the committee, we'll be trying to open portals for you towards a fast-paced world of international politics and diplomacy. In the committee you're not just going to be a school student. Rather, you'd be an international delegate with the responsibility of voicing the opinions of millions of civilians from your sovereign nation.

During the course of the debate, we expect that the delegates would adhere strictly to their nation's foreign interests and would only quote articles and statistics from Reuters, Al Jazeera, TeleSur, UN or national documents while making statements. Prior to your attendance in the committee, we urge you all to try understanding the complex multidimensional nature of international politics over seemingly fundamental black and white issues. Thoroughly read this background guide but keep it in your mind that this is only to kick start your research and is not to be treated as the end-all be-all of your delegate research.

We promote delegate engagement with the Executive Board and strongly suggest that everyone should feel free in the committee to raise questions ranging from complicated problems like "How to solve border conflicts?" all the way to basic questions like "How are international borders defined?"

We hope to be surprised by your creative and intellectual inputs during the debate and we also hope to surprise you with how much fun understanding international socio-political landscape can be. Your EB looks forward to interacting with you, not just as the people who are there to score your performance, not just as your mentors in the conference, but also as light-hearted quick-witted potential friends.

Best Wishes,

PRAMEY KABRA

CHAIRPERSON

ADITYA KHANDELWAL

VICE CHAIRPERSON

Committee Expectations

Before we get into the substance of the committee, I want to describe my vision for this committee and how I expect the committee to function, although, of course, advice from delegates is welcome. I do not plan to interfere in the working of committee—it will be driven by the delegates. However, I may make suggestions from time to time to direct the flow of committee. For example, if there is a crisis break and the committee continues to discuss an unrelated or less important part of the topics, I might ask for discussion on the crisis. I would like to see a large amount of substantive debate on the topics and the crises. Please be mindful of the nature of the topics and avoid being insensitive, regardless of your country's position, since these are real issues affecting real people today. I expect delegates to be well researched on the intricacies of the topics and on country positions, and I expect that substantive preparation to be reflected in crisis notes and speeches. Since I am very invested in these topics, I want to hear well-constructed arguments from delegates, especially from those defending controversial country positions. I hope to keep committee very fast-paced with constant crisis updates. While I expect superb crisis note writing, I also expect stirring debate on the crisis and its implications, beyond just condemnation and expressions of disapproval. Keep in mind, especially when writing directives, that all international institutions have specific mandates beyond which they cannot act. Also remember that while your country may not have the same capabilities as others, you will NOT be at a disadvantage. Your resources may be limited but your creativity is not. The crisis staff will ensure that they take into account your country's capabilities and will be open to accepting more creative ideas. I want to especially stress the importance of diplomacy. You should behave as actual delegates in the UNSC would. Your actions and speeches should show an understanding of the issues as well as a willingness and ability to work with other delegates. A willingness to compromise will be looked upon favorably if it benefits committee and/or the situation at hand. I cannot emphasize the importance of being polite in your interactions with other delegates and with the staff enough. If you have any questions about how committee will work or if you have any suggestions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

The United Nations Security Council

The United Nations Security Council is one of the six main organs of the UN. It is tasked with the maintenance of international peace and security and is perhaps the most important decision-making body of all international institutions. It is the only organ of the UN which has the power to pass binding resolutions and impose obligations on the Member States of the UN. The Council has five permanent members and ten elected members. It meets regularly to address any threats to international peace and security. It has, in the past, addressed issues that range from terrorism and civil wars to national disasters.

Although subjected to much criticism, the structure of the UNSC has largely remained unchanged since it was founded. It has five permanent members- China, France, Russia, UK, and USA. The permanent members, collectively known as the P5, have this privileged status as a result of their victory in the Second World War, which was a large factor in the creation of the United Nations. The five permanent members of the UNSC wield veto power, which means if any one of them votes against a resolution, the resolution automatically fails. Although China was initially represented by the Republic of China (referred to as Taiwan), it is now represented by the People's Republic of China.

The Soviet Union held a permanent seat and this seat were taken over by the Russian Federation as the successor state of the USSR. Counting the years when the USSR held the seat, Russia has used the veto most frequently. While the US has the second highest frequency, China has been using the veto with increasing frequency recently. The other ten members are elected by a two-thirds vote of the UN General Assembly and serve two-year terms. The most important criterion on which this election is based is the country's contribution to the maintenance of international peace and security. This includes financial contributions, troop contributions, and displays of leadership on regional issues. Another consideration is equitable geographical distribution which led to regional groups being allotted seats. The Asia-Pacific group has two seats, the African group has three seats, the Latin American and Caribbean Group has two, the Western Europe and Others group has two, and the Eastern European group has one.

The functions of the UNSC include determining the existence of a threat to global peace, ordering adversarial parties to settle disputes peacefully by recommending courses of action and/or terms of settlement, imposing sanctions on countries to force their hand, authorizing the use of force, and recommending measures to the UN General Assembly and other organs of the UN. The UNSC is supported by subsidiary organs which carry out its work. This includes ad hoc committees such as those on sanctions and nuclear weapons, or international criminal tribunals such as those for Rwanda. The UN Secretariat also helps it carry out its mandate, especially through the Department of Peacekeeping and Department of Field Support.

The UNSC has been criticized on many grounds. Many argue that the seat distribution reflects a power structure which no longer holds. The veto power frustrates the immense power of the body and makes it subject to the political interests of the P5 which leads to inaction in concerning areas such as Syria. Peacekeeping operations are criticized not just for their cost and unduly large scope but also because peacekeepers themselves have been accused of abuse in multiple cases. Change is, however, unlikely since an amendment of the UN Charter requires an affirmative vote and domestic ratification by two thirds of Member States, including all P5 members who are unlikely to want to reduce their own influence. Many states like Brazil and India are vying for permanent seats themselves, while smaller countries are advocating for greater transparency and enlargement of the body, which would come at the cost of efficiency.

Introduction to the Committee and Guide

The United Nations Security Council promises to be the most fast-paced and engaging committee at CHMUN. Combining a focus on real world conflicts and issues with elements of crisis, this committee allows for important discussions that college students need to be having while encouraging them to err on the side of crazy through creative crisis notes. You will be sparring not just with the other delegates but also with members of the dais who fully intend to hit you with crisis after crisis to keep you on your feet. The topic we have chosen for this committee are designed to provide for engaging debate and solution-heavy argumentation. This guide will cover important information on how the conflicts came to be but you are encouraged to read more on each of the topics because additional knowledge on these issues will help you in committee and beyond.

The guide will explore The present conflict between Iran and U.S. which is the result of longstanding differences between the countries spanning around four decades, Which saw Iran aspiring a nuclear program and the resulting trade sanctions imposed on it by U.S., formulation of JCPOA and the withdrawal of U.S. from the deal in 2018 and many more events that grew up to a large conflict. It focuses on the tensions that have escalated presently with the killing of the Iran's top security and intelligence commander Major General Qassem Soleimani in a drone attack in Baghdad claimed by U.S.

History of US-Iran relations

The United States and Iran have had a very long relationship, which started when U.S. and British intelligence agencies helped elements in the Iranian military to overthrow Iran's democratically elected prime minister, Mohammed Mossadeq in 1953. This followed Mossadeq's nationalization of the Britain-owned Anglo-Persian Oil Company, which led London to impose an oil embargo on Iran. But soon after Under U.S. and UK pressure, the shah signed the Consortium Agreement of 1954, which gives U.S., British, and French oil companies 40 percent ownership of the nationalized oil industry for twenty-five years. But from then the two countries maintained a very friendly relationship where The United States and Iran sign the Cooperation Concerning Civil Uses of Atoms agreement as part of President Dwight D. Eisenhower's "Atoms for Peace" initiative which laid the foundation for Iran's nuclear program, and the United States later also provided Iran with a reactor and weapons-grade enriched uranium fuel. But Their collaboration continued until the start of Iran's 1979 revolution where Grand Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, a Shiite cleric who opposed the shah's Westernization of Iran, returned to the country after fourteen years in exile. Khomeini took power as the supreme leader in December, turning Iran from a pro-West monarchy to a vehemently anti-West Islamic theocracy. Khomeini said Iran will try to "export" its revolution to its neighbours. But the tensions started to rise in the year 1979 when A group of radical Iranian college students took fifty-two Americans hostage at the U.S. embassy in Tehran, demanding that the United States extradite the shah. Washington severed ties with Tehran, sanctioned Iranian oil imports, and freeze Iranian assets. After 444 days, the hostages were released under the Algiers Accords, which were signed just minutes after the inauguration of President Ronald Reagan, whose 1980 presidential campaign emphasized President Jimmy Carter's failure to free the hostages. As part of the accords, the United States promised not to intervene in Iranian politics.

Then in 1980 Iran – Iraq war took place in which Iraq invaded its neighbour and growing rival Iran amid fears of a Shiite revolt against Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein. Where the United States supported secular Iraq with economic aid, training, and dual-use technology until the war ends in 1988, even after the CIA found evidence that Iraqi forces used chemical weapons against Iranians. An estimated one million Iranians and 250,000–500,000 Iraqis died in the conflict. Further in 1985 Despite an arms embargo, senior Reagan administration officials began secretly selling weapons to Iran to secure the release of seven Americans held hostage by Hezbollah in Lebanon. The officials used the money from the illegal deal to fund the right-wing Contras rebel groups in Nicaragua after Congress prohibited further funding of the insurgency. Later on Reagan took responsibility for the scandal in a 1987 televised address, and the affair ended with some officials' convictions. Hezbollah killed two of the hostages and releases the others over several years. Later on July 1988, the U.S. Navy shoots down an Iranian passenger jet after

mistaking it for a fighter jet, that killed all 290 people on board and Most of the victims were Iranian pilgrims on their way to Mecca. then During his 2002 State of the Union address, President George W. Bush described Iran as part of an “axis of evil,” along with Iraq and North Korea. He said Iran “aggressively pursues [weapons of mass destruction] and exports terror, while an unelected few repress the Iranian people’s hope for freedom.” In response to which, the Iranian government stopped secret meetings with U.S. diplomats that were focused on capturing al-Qaeda operatives and combating the Taliban.

Same year an Iranian opposition group revealed that Iran is developing nuclear facilities including a uranium enrichment plant. This led to The US accusing Iran of a clandestine nuclear weapons programme, which Iran denied and a decade of diplomatic activity and intermittent Iranian engagement with the UN's nuclear watchdog follows. But several rounds of sanctions were imposed by the UN, the US and the EU against ultra-conservative president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's government during the 2000's. Later in September 2013, a month after Iran's new moderate president Hassan Rouhani took office, he and US President Barack Obama spoke by phone - the first such top-level conversation in more than 30 years. Then in 2015, after a flurry of diplomatic activity, Iran agreed a long-term deal on its nuclear programme with a group of world powers known as the P5+1 - the US, UK, France, China, Russia and Germany. Under the accord, Iran agreed to limit its sensitive nuclear activities and allowed international inspectors in return for the lifting of crippling economic sanctions. Further President Donald J. Trump announced that the United States will withdraw from the JCPOA and mount a sanctions campaign to place “maximum pressure” on Iran. Iran responded by boosting uranium enrichment in defiance of the agreement’s terms. The withdrawal marked the beginning of rhetorical and military escalation with Iran under the Trump administration. Later on, month of April in 2019 Trump designated the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) a branch of the Iranian army, a foreign terrorist organization (FTO). It was the first time the United States designated part of another country’s government as an FTO. In May and June 2019, explosions hit six oil tankers in the Gulf of Oman, for which the US accuses Iran and on 20 June, Iranian forces shot down a US military drone over the Strait of Hormuz on which The US said it was over international waters and the actions were wrong. And on December 31 Iraqi demonstrators and Iran-backed militias attempted to seize the U.S. Embassy Baghdad in retaliation for an air strike that killed militia members. Protesters chanted “death to America” and demanded United States to withdraw its troops from Iraq. In response to which President Trump tweets that Iran will pay “a very big price” for any lives lost or damage incurred at U.S. facilities.

Current Scenario

On January 3, 2020, United States President Donald Trump ordered the killing of Iranian general Qassem Soleimani. Though Soleimani helped the US defeat ISIL (ISIS), in claiming he posed an "imminent" threat to the US, bringing relations between Washington and Tehran to a new low.

While Iranians have claimed the attack was an illegal act of war, the US Department of Defence says Soleimani was responsible for hundreds of American deaths and that it was to deter future attacks. However, this attack on General Soleimani, was practically the beginning of military confrontation between Iran and the US as following Soleimani's death, Iran retaliated by attacking a US military base in Iraq and injuring 50 American soldiers.

The U.S.-Iran tensions still have the potential to escalate into all-out conflict. Iran's materiel support for armed factions throughout the region, including its provision of short-range ballistic missiles to these factions, and Iran's network of agents in Europe, Latin America, and elsewhere, give Iran the potential to expand confrontation into areas where U.S. response options might be limited. Iran has continued all its operations in the region despite wrestling with the COVID-19 pandemic that has affected Iran significantly. United States military has the capability to undertake a range of options against Iran, both against Iran directly and against its regional allies and proxies. A September 14, 2019, attack on critical energy infrastructure in Saudi Arabia demonstrated that Iran and/or its allies have the capability to cause significant damage to U.S. allies and to U.S. regional and global economic and strategic interests, and raised questions about the effectiveness of U.S. defence relations with the Gulf states. Despite the tensions and some hostilities with Iran since 2020 began, President Donald Trump continued to state that his policy goal is to negotiate a revised JCPOA that encompasses not only nuclear issues but also Iran's ballistic missile program and Iran's support for regional armed factions. High-ranking officials from several countries have sought to mediate to try to de-escalate U.S.-Iran tensions by encouraging direct talks between Iranian and U.S. leaders. President Trump has stated that he welcomes talks with Iranian President Hassan Rouhani without preconditions, but Iran insists that the United States lift sanctions as a precondition for talks, and no U.S.-Iran talks have been known to take place to date. President Trump deployed 35,000 US troops in the Middle East after the assassination of General Soleimani.

US Military Advances in the Middle East

The US military has maintained a significant and permanent military presence throughout the Middle East since 1980, when President Carter made the above declaration. At that time, the administration was concerned about the possibility of the Soviet Army seizing the Khuzestan oil fields in revolutionary Iran. The Middle East became an area of vital and growing US national interest mainly because of the regional politics that caused oil-price shocks in 1973/74 and 1979, the fall of the Shah, and the US-brokered Camp David Accords between Israel and Egypt.

However, at that time, the United States had no forward operating bases and a poor understanding of the cultural and political context of the governments in the region. As Carter's number-two Pentagon official Robert Komer declared at the time: 'The viability of this military policy depends critically on our access to facilities in the area... we do not seek permanent garrisons or sovereign base areas as existed in the colonial past. Instead we are seeking cooperation with friendly states.' After several bureaucratic false starts and inadequate congressional funding, on 1 January 1983, CENTCOM (US Central Command) emerged with a newfound strategic appreciation for the region. Headquartered at MacDill Air Force Base near Tampa, Florida, it has consistently been the most active of all the geographic commands that have been established by the Unified Command Plan – the Pentagon document that defines the missions and geographic responsibilities for the military. CENTCOM's initial primary responsibility was to plan and prepare for President Carter's original intended mission, which its then commander General George Crist colorfully proclaimed to be: 'to go to Iran and wage World War III against the Russians in a conflict restricted solely to our theater of operations.'

CENTCOM has since grown tremendously in size and now oversees an enormous range and number of consequential military-led activities and combat operations in the Middle East.¹⁰ These include operations that fell under the Clinton administration's dual containment strategy (targeted at Iran and Iraq); the George W. Bush administration's regime change in Iraq and subsequent aspiration for regional democratization; the Obama administration's partial rapprochement with Iran and its focus on the emergence of terrorist 'safe havens' that presaged the August 2014 war against the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS); and the Trump administration's abandonment of the Iran nuclear deal. In theory, the State Department is supposed to take the lead in developing, implementing and overseeing foreign policy in the Middle East. However, the Department of Defense via CENTCOM is the predominant foreign policy voice and the first point of contact for concerned regional government officials (including those serving outside of defense ministries). CENTCOM is also the practical coordinator of US governmental efforts, through its theatre campaign plans.

CENTCOM officials make every effort to collaborate with US civilian agencies in the region, but CENTCOM's considerable powers stemming from its diplomatic and military relations and unmatched personnel and resources, have consistently made it the most powerful and substantial US government actor in the Middle East. In her close examination of the roles and responsibility of these combatant commanders, Washington Post reporter Dana Priest described them as 'the modern-day equivalent of the Roman Empire's proconsuls – well-funded, semi-autonomous, unconventional centers of U.S. foreign policy , further The growing tensions surrounding Iranian behavior and heightened dangers to international shipping in the Gulf, however, also give further evidence of a shift toward illiberal hegemony. Although the United States is now seeking to assemble a maritime coalition force to protect commercial ships transiting through the Strait of Hormuz, the first impulses of the Trump administration reflected a tilt toward unvarnished unilateralism and away from collective security. In that vein, U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo suggested initially that the United Kingdom was chiefly responsible for its own commercial ships in the region.

A Timeline of US-Iran Relations

1953 - The CIA helps orchestrate overthrow of Iran's popular Prime Minister Mohammed Mossadegh, restoring to power Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi.

1957 - The United States and Iran sign an agreement on civil nuclear cooperation.

1967 - The United States provides Iran with a nuclear reactor along with weapons-grade 93 percent enriched uranium fuel.

1968 - Iran signs the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty which permits it to have a civil nuclear program in return for a commitment not to acquire nuclear weapons.

1979 - Iran's Islamic Revolution forces U.S.-backed shah to flee, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini returns from exile and becomes supreme religious guide. Fundamentalist students seize the U.S. Embassy in Tehran and hold staff hostage.

1980 - The United States cuts diplomatic ties with Iran, seizes Iranian assets and bans most trade with it; hostage rescue mission ordered by President Jimmy Carter fails.

1981 - Iran releases 52 U.S. hostages minutes after Carter steps down and Ronald Reagan is inaugurated as U.S. president.

1984 - U.S. lists Iran as a state sponsor of terrorism.

1986 - Reagan reveals secret arms deal with Tehran in violation of U.S. arms embargo.

1988 - U.S. warship Vincennes mistakenly shoots down Iranian passenger plane over the Gulf, killing all 290 aboard.

2002 - President George W. Bush declares Iran, Iraq, North Korea an "axis of evil." U.S. officials accuse Tehran of operating secret nuclear weapons program.

2006 - Washington says willing to join multilateral nuclear talks with Iran if it verifiably suspends nuclear enrichment.

2008 - Bush for the first time sends an official to directly take part in nuclear negotiations with Iran in Geneva.

2009 - President Barack Obama tells Iran's leaders he would extend a hand if they would "unclench their fist."

2009 - Britain, France and the United States announce that Iran is building a secret uranium-enrichment site at Fordow.

2012 - U.S. law gives Obama the power to sanction foreign banks if they fail to significantly reduce their imports of Iranian oil. Iranian oil sales drop, sparking an economic downturn.

U.S. and Iranian officials begin secret talks, which intensify in 2013, on the nuclear issue.

2013 - Hassan Rouhani is elected Iran's president on platform of improving Iran's relations with the world and its economy.

In September, Obama and Rouhani speak by telephone, the highest-level contact between the two countries in three decades.

In November, Iran and six major powers reach agree to the Joint Plan of Action nuclear deal. Iran agrees to curb its nuclear work in return for limited sanctions relief.

2016 - Iran releases 10 U.S. sailors who ended up in Iranian territorial waters; the United States and Iran conduct a prisoner swap.

2018 - U.S. President Donald Trump withdraws from the nuclear deal in May, and reimposes crippling economic sanctions on Iran.

2019 - The U.S. designates the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps a "terrorist organization" in April.

Iran says in May it will increase enriched uranium production, bucking its commitments under the nuclear accord.

Oil tankers are attacked in the Gulf in May and June. The United States blames Iran, a charge Tehran denies.

Iran shoots down an U.S. drone in June it says was in Iranian airspace, and seizes a British oil tanker in July.

Saudi Arabia's state-run oil company is attacked in September by drones and missiles believed to be from Iran; Tehran denies involvement.

In December, attacks on U.S. military bases in Iraq kill a U.S. citizen. The United States blames an Iranian-backed militia inside Iraq, and fires on its bases in retaliation.

UN Peacekeeping Forces

Well, originally, peacekeeping forces were established to do just that: keep the peace after a ceasefire or resolution was established in international conflict. This was especially important during the Cold War, where a neutral party was necessary to avoid a small conflict sparking World War III. The first Peacekeeping mission was in 1948, when UN forces were sent to observe and oversee the Armistice Agreement following the Arab-Israeli War. This mission, and the others that soon followed, involved primarily unarmed troops, so as to avoid the potential for hostilities. The first deployment of armed forces was during the Suez Crisis of 1956. UN Peacekeepers helped U.S. and Soviet troops force Israeli, French and British invaders out of Egypt. However, it took until the 1960s for the peacekeepers to take on the role of armed peace enforcers. While the UN was working in the Congo, a coup against the first democratically elected Congolese leader led to his assassination. In response, UN Peacekeepers had to keep mercenaries out of the country by use of armed force. This was called the "Blue Helmets' first war", named for the blue helmet's peacekeepers wear. However, peacekeepers are not simply an enforcement tool to implement the UN's wishes, but rather an impartial force designated to solve conflicts at the consent of all parties involved. Additionally, the UN doesn't recruit and train these forces on its own. Rather, UN member states from across the world contribute troops, police, and military experts. Bangladesh contributes more personnel than any other country, with roughly 8,500 total members. Ethiopia contributes roughly 1000 more troops, but fewer personnel overall. India and Pakistan also provide nearly 8,000 members each. In fact, the majority of Peacekeepers come from the developing world. By comparison, the United States provides only about 80 peacekeepers total. Many countries benefit from contributing peacekeepers, as troops are often better paid. Additionally, UN Peacekeepers are in a considerably safer position than most regular military personnel. But despite all the good they bring; the UN has long been marred by sexual abuse scandals. A 1996 UN study showed that children become victims of prostitution at a higher rate when UN Peacekeepers arrive. In countries like the Congo and Kosovo, UN Peacekeepers take advantage of post-conflict regions to either use prostitutes, or even rape and torture unsuspecting victims. Many say that despite the UN pushing for prosecution of those offenders, it is not nearly enough to effectively stop the practice. Today, there are 16 active Peacekeeping missions, and 120 contributing nations. With roughly 100,000 personnel, and a budget of over \$8 billion dollars, the UN Peacekeepers have become an integral force in global diplomatic efforts.

Past Violations of Rules of War

As warfare has become more advanced and deadly, the nations of the world, have come together to outlaw certain practices to spare innocent human life. After World War I, the League of Nations established the Geneva Protocols which outlawed the use of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or other Gases in war. And yet despite the international communities' agreement, in the lead up to World War II, Italy, Japan, and Spain used chemical weapons. After World War II, the Geneva Conventions established basic rights for wartime prisoners (civilians and military personnel). It also established protections for civilians, who are living in war torn areas. And again, despite the protections for civilians and military personnel, nations have broken these agreements.

1. No Gun Ri Massacre

The Korean War is often forgotten as is the violence and death that led to the establishment of North and South Korea. Nearly five million people died, half of whom were civilians, accounting for 10% of Korea's pre-war population. In addition, nearly 40,000 Americans died, and another 100,000 were wounded. On July 26, 1950, the highest level of U.S command in South Korea, ordered "that all Korean civilians traveling and moving around the country must be stopped." Army leaders were fearful that North Korean guerilla troops were disguising themselves as peasants, and moving across battle lines. Despite the military's order, U.S soldiers in central South Korea ordered hundreds of civilians from their villages to the south, fearing a North Korean invasion. As the civilians marched south, members of the U.S 7th Cavalry regiment dug in near No Gun Ri. When the civilians approached, U.S Cavalrymen were instructed to "fire on everything, kill 'em all." Over a three-day period, hundreds of South Korean civilians were killed. According to survivors, a nearby stream was running red with blood. Estimates range that anywhere from 100 to 300 civilians were killed. Like the My Lai Massacre, the actions of U.S soldiers was hidden for many years. It took five decades for the facts to emerge, which included testimony from survivors and numerous U.S soldiers, the Pulitzer Prize winning author noted that it was one of many occurrences in the Korean war.

2. East Timor Genocide

For nearly five hundred years, East Timor was controlled by the Portuguese. However, in 1974, a coup in Portugal left the East Timorese with the opportunity for independence. In 1976, the Portuguese decided to leave East Timor and just nine days after they left, the country was invaded and annexed by Indonesia. The Indonesian government was fearful of a leftist government taking power or the possibility for other regions of Indonesia to align themselves with the East Timorese. Indonesia would occupy East Timor for twenty-four years, where they systematically murdered men, women and children. Rape was also a common practice to terrorize the women of East Timor. More than 200,000 Timorese died from famine, disease and fighting as a result of the Indonesia occupation.

3. Bosnian Genocide

Probably one of the most well-known violations of international law occurred during the Bosnian Genocide. After the fall of the Soviet Union, Nations in the Eastern bloc began to declare their independence. In April 1992, the government of the Yugoslav republic of Bosnia - Herzegovina declared its independence from Yugoslavia. A multi-ethnic state, the first elections in the country resulted in a coalition along ethnic lines. That did not sit well with Bosnian Serb forces. With the support of the Yugoslav army, the Serbs perpetrated ethnic cleansing and atrocious crimes against Bosnian Muslims and Croatian civilians. The Serbs, who are Christian, killed more than 100,000 people, eighty percent of whom were Muslim. It has been called the worst act of genocide since Nazi Germany.

4. Batang Kali Massacre

After the Geneva Conventions and the establishment of basic human rights for non-combatants, British soldiers broke international law by murdering 24 unarmed citizens. With the Japanese defeat in World War II, the British returned to Malaya to reclaim their former colony. However, many liberation fighters who had mobilized during the Japanese occupation had not disbanded. The guerrilla outfit began targeting British commercial outfits and assassinating British landowners. As a result of increasing hostilities, the British declared a state of emergency which began an undeclared twelve-year war. In December 1948, 7th Platoon, G Company, 2nd Scots Guard rounded up civilians near a rubber plantation. The men were separated from the women and children. There was only one male survivor, Chong Hong, who fainted as the automatic weapons killed his fellow countrymen.

5. "Euthanasia" Nazi Germany

One of the least reported facets of Nazi's perverted ideology was their mass murder of fellow German citizens who were mentally and physically handicapped. We've decided to include this program of "euthanasia" because it was part in parcel of the Nazi sentiment during World War II. They were a race of perfection and purity and anything that was believed to not be consistent with that notion must be eradicated. The most troubling aspect of their program was the cooperation of doctors and midwives who were asked to report children who displayed signs of mental or physical disabilities. The program led to the murder of more than 70,000 German citizens, mostly children, at the hands of their own government.

Suggested Motions for Moderated Caucuses

- Strict laws against violation of Laws of War
- Peacekeeping Agreement amongst Middle East Countries
- Reformation of Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)
- Human Rights Violations by UN Peacekeepers
- Resolving Nuclear Discord

Important Note:

This study guide will not be considered as any proof or evidence during the committee session. The sole purpose of this study guide is to give you a base for your research.

Only information from the given sources will be considered as official:

- UN DOCUMENTS
- OFFICIAL COUNTRY DOCUMENTS
- REUTERS
- AL- JAZEERA
- WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM
- WORLD BANK