



## **SECURITY COUNCIL**

**Chair: Nandita Vegesna**

The Security Council takes the lead in determining the existence of a threat to the peace or act of aggression. It calls upon the parties to a dispute to settle it by peaceful means and recommends methods of adjustment or terms of settlement. In some cases, the Security Council can resort to imposing sanctions or even authorize the use of force to maintain or restore international peace and security. <http://www.un.org/en/sc/>

### **REPORT: Territorial conflicts in the Middle East (Palestinian and Kurdish questions)**

Territorial conflicts in the Middle East (Palestinian and Kurdish questions) Territorial conflicts are nothing new to the Middle East, however in the recent year they have escalated specifically with the Palestinians and Kurdish. While such conflicts are blooming in Turkey, Iran, Iraq and Syria, the Kurds do not belong to any specific country so they occupy areas in all said countries. The UN has yet to declare Palestine as an independent state. Hence such a war has become a battle of two stateless nations forcing their neighbors and the UN to become involved in the conflict. In hopes to establish their countries over a specific land, the Kurds and Palestinians have begun to fight over land with established countries like Iraq and Israel (respectively) in areas like the Gaza Strip.

When writing you position paper, make sure to analyze not only your relations to the conflict but also your alliances relationships. DO NOT MISTAKE THIS AS A WAR BETWEEN PALESTINIANS AND KURDS; THEY ARE NOT FIGHTING AGAINST EACH OTHER THEY ARE JUST FIGHTING FOR THE SAME CAUSE IN THE SAME REGION. Look into the history of the battle further and see how this affects your country's alliance based on their values. Keep in mind how the Kurdish and Palestinian governments have responded to this situation and what they would be willing to advocate for. See if you can represent these countries and advocate for their beliefs if we don't have a representative from these countries.

As part of the Security Council it is your job to research how your country is involved in these conflicts and how we can possibly solve them to better the world. In doing so keep in mind the UN's goals for 2017.

<http://www.mepc.org/journal/middle-east-policy-archives/conflict-democratization-and-kurdsmiddle-east-turkey-iran-iraq-and-syria>

**YMCA of Metropolitan Dallas | 1621 W. Walnut Hill Lane | Irving, TX | 75038**

**YMCA Mission: To put Christian values into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all.**



## **REPORT: Peace Consolidation in West Africa**

With the rising trend of democracy in West Africa, there is a rising amount of riots concerning who should be elected as the countries leader. We see such an event in Gambia, when the Gambians cast ballots on December 1, 2016 resulting in a new president elect Adama Barrow. However, in his concession speech on December 2, the current president, Yahya Jammeh rejected the results and would not acknowledge this election. Hence a political crisis has risen. Different countries have taken different stances for you to support, For example, Mohammed Ibn Chambas, Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS) claimed that "The citizens of the region have shown their maturity and their will to freely and peacefully exercise their right to choose their leaders," he said. Just as how Cabo Verde and Ghana had successfully carried out presidential elections while strictly respecting norms and standards. A similar situation is seen in guinea where the elections are constantly being postponed. To add onto this as terrorist groups such as Boko Haram has spread over borders there is an unstable government to fight against them.

As a part of the Security Council it is your job to research into your country and your countries alliances with those of Africa. Remember to look in the possible ideas of resolutions with the holistic approach to solving problems in your position papers. Moreover, dig into other African conflicts that may not have been listed here that may also add to the instability and must be addressed during the conference.

While many of these may be seen as internal conflicts, the consistent conflict with democracy in West Africa has ensued in a very instable region that could lead to many security issues in the world- hence making this a crisis in which the Security Council must intervene. Think of regulations or any military/humanitarian aid that may be needed, if they are needed, that could be negotiated which would promote international peace rather than war.

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/avlibrary/asset/1813/1813686/>

**YMCA of Metropolitan Dallas | 1621 W. Walnut Hill Lane | Irving, TX | 75038**

**YMCA Mission: To put Christian values into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all.**