



TOPIC A

PIRACY IN THE GULF OF
GUINEA

TOPIC B

INTERPRETATION OF THE
ARAB-ISRAELI SITUATION
AND THE AFTERMATH OF
SC RESOLUTION 2334

Dear Esteemed Delegates,

**”We strive to reach
excellence, and we
aim to achieve it.”**

On behalf of the Academic Training Committee, I welcome you all into our 2nd Annual Model United Nations Conference at NDU!

My dearest delegates, we live in a fallen world where the voice of reason is lost and the power of freedom is forgotten, where man is often seen to be poisoned by greed and blinded by misery and bloodshed, and where man can be the voice of change, but has failed to do so. But, you delegates, can be different. You have the power of change within you. So be courageous and stand up for what you believe in. Believe in yourself and believe in your country. But most importantly, believe that your voice will be heard.

In the conference, you will be representing a country that may not be your own. You will be representing the voice of a nation that you may not have heard of before. You will be the reason behind which a nation may stand or fall, and with that lies great responsibility. You will have to fight to make your voice heard, and I urge you delegates to keep fighting. Fight life the same way you will fight in that conference. For when you choose to create change, you will make your country proud, and you will make your school proud, because you chose to be THAT change.

I hope that, in return, you will leave the conference with more than just an award. You will leave the conference with everlasting memories, friendships that last a lifetime, and strong determination to handle life the same way you handled your conference.

Humbly Yours,
Stephanie Sleilati
Head of Academic Training

Dear Honorable NDUMUN Delegates,

It is with earnest pleasure that I welcome you to the second Notre Dame University Model United Nations conference. Our ever fragile global social and political climate has been under immense strain from conspiracy theories, natural disasters, ongoing privilege and right disparities, 'alternative facts', failed efforts at brokering peace in conflict zones, forgetting how hard it is to remember our history, and ultramodern plans that leave room for stress and anxiety over an enigmatic future. Thus, our theme for this year is: Technology and the Future of Sustainable Development. The topics discussed at this year's conference will fall under the umbrella of this theme and in line with "The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", aka "Transforming our World".

In the process of being active witnesses and participants in an open-minded, intellectual, rational, research-based and thought-provoking exchange of ideas, you, our delegate, will be practicing your leadership, debating, listening and public speaking skills as you roleplay as your country's diplomat, navigating through the discussions in an effort to display your country's views and finding solutions to the issues being addressed. The Background Guide below will help you in your research. Read it very well, understand the text, analyze it and be prepared for your role at the conference.

My name is Rony Chaar. I will be chairing the United Nations Security Council at NDUMUN's 2nd conference. I look forward to an exhibit of young minds, the leaders of tomorrow, getting together to discuss the questions that the leaders of today are pondering, answering them with tangible plans and ideas meanwhile building friendships and progressing their knowledge and skills to higher degrees. These assured outcomes may just end up "transforming our world".

*With the Utmost Respect and Warmest Regards,
Rony Chaar
Chair of Security Council and Deputy Head of Academic Training at NDUMUN'18*



SECURITY COUNCIL

Outline

General Overview

- A. Introducing the Committee
- B. Actions of the Committee

Topic A: Piracy in the Gulf of Guinea

- I. Topic Overview
- II. Role of Committee in Current Topic
- III. Case Studies and Sub-topics
 1. Maersk Alabama Hijacking
 2. Nigeria
 3. Somalia
 4. Movement for the Emancipation of the Nigerian Delta (MEND)
 5. Historical Piracy in the Golden Age Netherlands
- IV. Additional Information
 - A. Reports and Analysis Given by Organizations
 - B. The African Maritime Charter
 - C. Important Resolutions
- V. Questions to Consider

Topic B: Interpretation of the Arab-Israeli Situation and the Aftermath of SC Resolution 2334

- I. Topic Overview
- II. Role of Committee in Current Topic
- III. Case Studies
 1. Israel-Gaza Conflict in Summer of 2014
 2. Trump's Declaration: Jerusalem is the Capital of Israel
 3. The Imprisonment of Ahd Tamimi
 4. Farhud and the Jewish Exodus from Arab Countries
 5. Six-Day War
- IV. Additional Information
 - A. 2000 Camp David Summit
 - B. United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
 - C. Important Resolutions
- V. Questions to Consider

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- *Notre Dame University & its Model United Nations program are diligent in promoting human rights & respecting international law.*
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- *All NDU MUN members reserve the right to the privacy & discretion pertaining their individual opinions on all issues.*
- *This guide remains neutral throughout & is not meant to sway public opinion on these sensitive & controversial issues.*
- *This guide features a panoply of references to back up the material being displayed*

— Disclaimer —

NDU
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MUN

General Overview

A. Introducing the Committee:

The Security Council is one of the 6 main organs of the United Nations ^[1]. In this committee, five powerful countries sit as "permanent members" along with ten elected members with two-year terms to give a total of 15-member states, each with one vote. The five permanent members have the power to 'veto' a decision of the Council by voting against it ^[2].

The permanent members consist of: China, France, Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, and the United States. The other ten, referred to as "non-permanent members", include (with end of term date): Bolivia (2018), Egypt (2017), Ethiopia (2018), Italy (2017), Japan (2017), Kazakhstan (2018), Senegal (2017), Sweden (2018), Ukraine (2017), Uruguay (2017) ^[3].

B. Actions of the Committee:

The basic responsibility of the Security Council is to maintain international peace and security. In this domain, it performs three functions: assisting in the peaceful settlement of disputes, establishing and managing U.N. peacekeeping forces, and following enforcement measures against obstinate States in order to restore peace or security ^[2]. These tasks include imposing sanctions to resolve conflicts.

Moreover, the Council -together with the General Assembly- elects judges to the International Court of Justice, and recommends to the Assembly the name of the new Secretary-General and new State members of the U.N. ^[2,4].

The Security Council can pass binding resolutions, with this being a unique role of the committee, and non-binding resolutions, depending on what section of the Charter they're practiced under.

¹ UN Charter (full text). (n.d.). Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <http://www.un.org/en/sections/un-charter/un-charter-full-text/>

² A. (n.d.). Global Policy Forum. Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <https://www.globalpolicy.org/security-council/32932.html>

³ Security council, SC, UNSC, security, peace, sanctions, veto, resolution, president, united nations, UN, peacekeeping, peacebuilding, conflict resolution, prevention. (n.d.). Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <http://www.un.org/en/sc/members/>

⁴ Security council, SC, UNSC, security, peace, sanctions, veto, resolution, president, united nations, UN, peacekeeping, peacebuilding, conflict resolution, prevention. (n.d.). Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <http://www.un.org/en/sc/>

Topic A

Piracy in the Gulf of Guinea

I. Definition of Topic:

The problem of Piracy over the years has been an overwhelming issue faced by many counter parts, including the locals, cargo-ship members, governments, and industrial companies. It goes without saying, that these piracy attempts occur do not only occur in the context of getting hold of luxurious and expensive products. Looking further into this problem, many of the ships and cargo-boats travel in the Indian Ocean and Gulf of Aden. Such a type of threat is being imposed on foreign officials and workers, and causing international disturbances between hosting countries and countries trying to traverse the ocean. Over the past few years, there has been a steady decline in the number of recorded incidents of piracy, armed robbery at sea and other illicit and illegal activities in the Gulf of Guinea. However, insecurity at sea remains a source of concern in the region. ^[1]

The International Maritime Bureau (IMB) is a specialised division of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and a non-profit making organisation, established in 1981 that acts as a focal point in the fight against all types of maritime crime and malpractice. ^[2] In 2016, the IMB recorded 53 attacks or attempted attacks in the Gulf of Guinea – including 36 for Nigeria. The Gulf of Guinea accounted for more than half of the kidnappings for ransom in 2016, with 34 seafarers kidnapped out of a total of 62 worldwide. ^[3] In the first quarter of 2017 however, there were nine incidents, with zero recorded in Ghana. Nigeria has recorded six out of the nine. ^[7] The topic of piracy in the African region has been a hot debate for several decades now.

Fortunately speaking, with all of the efforts of the United Nations and other international organizations, such as European External Action Service (EEAS) recorded events of piracy have been on a steady decline the past years ^[4]. This is a crucial issue that has many dimensions to it; starting from the poor families that aren't being able to provide food to their families leading to groups and militias starting out and emerging from previous and potential terrorist organizations. ^[5]

¹ The Current Situation: Israel, The Palestinian Territories, and the Arab-Israeli Conflict. (2017, October 06). Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <https://www.usip.org/publications/2017/10/current-situation-israel-palestinian-territories-and-arab-israeli-conflict>

² Administrators (2017, July 07). International Maritime Bureau. Retrieved February 02, 2018, from <https://www.icc-ccs.org/icc/imb>

³ H. (n.d.). Incidents of pirate attacks in Gulf of Guinea on the decline. Retrieved December 28, 2017, from <http://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/incidents-of-pirate-attacks-in-gulf-of-guinea-on-the-decline/>

⁴ M. W. (n.d.). Why piracy in Somalia has declined. Retrieved February 02, 2018, from <http://www.seychellesnewsagency.com/articles/300/Why+piracy+in+Somalia+has+declined>

⁵ D. W. (n.d.). Terrorism, piracy and hunger are plaguing Somalia | Africa | DW | 22.02.2012. Retrieved February 02, 2018, from <http://www.dw.com/en/terrorism-piracy-and-hunger-are-plaguing-somalia/a-15759626>

II. Role of Committee in Current Topic:

The United Nations Security Council has worked on passing two resolutions 2018 (2011) & 2039 (2012) which both worked on condemning the acts of violence resulting from piracy and armed robbery in the Gulf of Guinea. In the first resolution 2018, the council encouraged the development and the implementation of domestic laws and regulations that aim at penalizing criminalizing armed robbery at sea. The committee further suggested and emphasized on the cooperation of the ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African States), the ECCAS (Economic Community of Central African States) & the GGC (Gulf of Guinea Commission) in the *“prosecution of alleged perpetrators, including facilitators and financiers of acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea committed off the coast of the Gulf of Guinea, in accordance with applicable international law, including human rights law”*.^[6]

In their second resolution 2039 (2012), the Security Council further stressed on the importance of the cooperation of the above-mentioned parties (ECOWAS, ECCAS, & GGC) in working as single unit in the process of implementing strict laws and judiciary regulations and reforms that aim at penalizing the acts of piracy, and also penalizing the people responsible for these acts; including the financiers, planners, and the executors. Moreover, the council also focused on the idea of international cooperation, and the aid of different member states while combating the problem.^[7]

III. Case Studies and Sub-Topics:

1. Maersk Alabama Hijacking

The hijacking of the Maersk Alabama Ship took place in the Indian sea approximately 235 miles away from the Somalian shores. The series of attacks began on April 8, 2009, a group of Somali pirates found track of a huge ship relatively close to the shore. The first time the Somali pirates tried approaching the ship, Captain Richard Phillips outsmarted them by faking a call to the Navy Seals for rescue.^[8]

This however, did not stop the pirates from coming back the second day; which also in return gave time to the ship to properly know its procedures while being attacked by a group of pirates. The pirates did manage to go on board of the cargo ship, which contained valuable loot, and put the captain and the crew's lives in danger. They then held captive of the captain in a small orange lifeboat leaving him in starvation and beating him up for days before they actually got killed by the navy seals, the captain did try to escape from the lifeboat but the moon was so bright, that the pirates easily recognized the captain in the water and brought

⁶ Condemning Acts of Piracy, Armed Robbery off Gulf of Guinea States, Security Council Calls on Regional Bodies for Strong Action against Perpetrators | Meetings Coverage and Press Releases. (n.d.). Retrieved December 28, 2017, from <http://www.un.org/press/en/2011/sc10430.doc.htm>

⁷ Security Council Expresses Deep Concern at Piracy in Gulf of Guinea; Urges States of Region to Convene Summit to Develop Common Maritime Strategy against Threat | Meetings Coverage and Press Releases. (n.d.). Retrieved December 28, 2017, from <http://www.un.org/press/en/2012/sc10562.doc.htm>

⁸ E. D. (2013, October 12). The True Tale of Captain Phillips. Retrieved February 02, 2018, from <http://entertainment.time.com/2013/10/12/movie-fact-check-captain-phillips/>

him back. The hijacking of the Maersk Alabama was the first successful pirate seizure of a ship registered under the American flag since the early 19th century, and as a result, ships and cargo-boats, became fully equipped with highly secure protocol systems for such a crisis not to occur again.^[9]

2. Nigeria

Piracy in Nigeria has increased dramatically over the years, calling for several resolutions and proposal of rules and regulations to fight this issue. Pirates kidnap expats that work onboard oil platforms, such as the MT Kalamos on February 3rd 2015. One Greek officer was killed after failing to survive gunshot wounds and other three were kidnapped, two of whom were Greek and remained held for ransom.^[10] Ransoms cost oil companies millions of dollars each month.^[11] The heavily armed mobs use speedboats to storm oil ships. Moreover, kidnapping and extortion have made many criminal gangs hundreds of thousands of dollars. In 2015 alone, pirates in Nigeria have carried out 73 attacks and held 62 people for ransom.^[12]

Answering questions from journalists, at the summit on marine security, on the Gulf of Guinea in Yaoundé, Cameroon in 2013, former President Jonathan of Nigeria said that the end was near to the excesses of pirates with the determination of leaders present. He assured the attendees that the leaders of the West African Coast and the Central African Coast would expand cooperation to check the illicit activities that were hampering economic growth of the region.^[13] The summit attended by Heads of States and Governments of the ECCAS, ECOWAS and GGC, to focus on maritime safety and security in the Gulf of Guinea.

The President said: *"The key thing about this conference is the issue of piracy and armed robbery in our coastal waters of which of course you know we have quite a number of attacks in Nigeria because of the volume of oil industry activities and the trade being a very big country. The only way we can contain it is for the countries within the Central African Region and West African Region to come together. Already Nigeria and Benin have been partnering but we need to expand across the coast, the West African Coast and the Central African Coast. So, this is the beginning of the end of these excesses of piracy, so we are quite pleased with the conference."*^[14]

Reading the communiqué of the summit, the Cameroon Minister of External Relations, Pierre Moukoko Mbonjo, said the member states of the three blocs (ECOWAS, ECCAS and GGC) have agreed on a coalition

⁹ Goldman, A. (2013, October 11). Captain Phillips: The true story behind the dramatic rescue. Retrieved January 05, 2018, from https://www.thestar.com/news/world/2013/10/11/captain_phillips_the_true_story_behind_the_dramatic_rescue.html

¹⁰ Schuler, Mike. "Greek Officer Killed, Three Others Kidnapped from VLCC Off Nigeria – gCaptain." GCaptain, 5 Feb. 2015, <http://gcaptain.com/officer-killed-three-others-taken-from-vlcc-kalamos-off-nigeria/>

¹¹ Gusovsky, D. (2015, July 10). Companies rush to protect against kidnapping. Retrieved February 02, 2018, from <https://www.cnbc.com/2015/07/06/the-multi-million-dollar-business-of-ransom-.html>

¹² Jazeera, Al. "Piracy in Nigeria." Human Rights | Al Jazeera, Al Jazeera, 9 Mar. 2017, www.aljazeera.com/programmes/peopleandpower/2016/11/piracy-nigeria-161117080711053.html.

¹³ Reuters. "Benin seeks planes, boats to fight W. Africa pirates." DefenceWeb, 17 Aug. 2011, www.defenceweb.co.za/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=18099%3AAbenin-seeks-planes-boats-to-fight-w-africa-pirates&catid=51%3ASea&Itemid=106

¹⁴ "Africans take control of Gulf of Guinea security." Mer et Marine, 2 Oct. 2017, www.meretmarine.com/fr/content/africans-take-control-gulf-guinea-security

for a multilateral assistance among all the 25 members. The communiqué reads: *"Harmonization of members for information sharing on security issues within the Gulf of Guinea and constant convening of conferences on maritime security."* They agreed to put up a mechanism for the three blocs to work together for strategic activities to check piracy, agreeing to put in place structures that would enable the military personnel of the blocs to secure safety in an accurate manner both together and individually in their respective countries. In his closing remarks, Paul Biya said the agreement reached by the leaders to provide a secured space for easy circulation of goods within the regions was within the context of African solidarity.^[14]

3. Somalia

On January 3, 2018, it was reported by a Somalian mayor that an Iranian fishing boat was hijacked right off of the coast of Somalia to be used as a base-ship for future hijacking events.^[15]

Over the recent years, the region has seen less piracy attempts after being infamously known for the high activity of attacks over the recent years. One example is the 2010 incident when Somali pirates hijacked 49 ships. According to the International Maritime Bureau, they abducted over 1,000 hostages.

Although the hijacking activity has decreased in the recent time, some of the people of Somalia have concerns that after this period of calmness would result in the increase of the threat of piracy.^[15] The NGO Oceans Beyond Piracy (OBP), which has played a significant role in the attempt to maintain maritime security and report sea activity, reported that piracy is spreading and evolving.^[16] This report is shown through, attacks in the West Coast of Africa with 95 incidents in 2016, and 54 in 2015,^[15] beyond the High Risk Area (HRA). The majority of the above attacks took place in Nigerian waters. Economic losses in West Africa have increased by more than 10 percent to \$793.7 million^[15] due to piracy. Two specific aspects of piracy- kidnap and ransom- have increased as well and this raises more concerns as they pose a greater threat of violence. Kidnap and ransom put pirates less at risk and promise them a significant reward in return. Over the course of 2016 in Asia alone, kidnapping attacks increased where pirates took 67 hostages and killed six seafarers.^[16]

There were no hijacking occurrences on the shoreline of Somalia; however, it had been noted that the monitoring efforts concerned with piracy in the area have decreased. In a report by the OBPT, it is stated that the co-author of the report considers this to have played a part in the series of assaults in 2017.^[17]

¹⁵ Patinkin, Jason. (2017, Apr 9) "Somalia's Pirates Are Back in Business." *Foreign Policy*, Foreign Policy from <http://foreignpolicy.com/2017/04/09/somalias-pirates-are-back-in-business/>

¹⁶ Piracy and Robbery Against Ships in Asia | SOP 2016. (2017, May 02). Retrieved February 02, 2018, from <http://oceansbeyondpiracy.org/reports/sop/se-asia>

¹⁷ Monks, Kieron. (2018, Jan 3) "Piracy Threat Returns to African Waters." CNN, Cable News Network from <http://edition.cnn.com/2017/05/25/africa/piracy-resurgence-somalia/index.html>

In April of 2017, piracy began to reappear in Somalia. There were six alleged piracy events near Somalia, five of which were deemed successful. This is opposed to a total amount of zero successful attacks in 2016. Somalia's former fisheries minister stated, "*The priority is we need the mandate of the international naval forces guarding the coast of Somalia to inspect fishing vessels. We are still crying to get a U.N. resolution allowing these vessels to inspect any fishing vessels.*" Some maritime security representatives speculate that as long as illegal fishing is taking place, there will be no end, at least not anytime soon, to piracy.^[15]

4. Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND)

MEND is one of the largest militant groups in Nigeria's oil producing Niger Delta region. It is a combination of armed groups that have spent years disrupting oil-production by abducting oil workers, attacking oil fields, blowing up pipelines and fighting Nigeria's army. They started as Niger Delta politicians went arming young men to serve them as their private armies and rig elections, but then these gangs turned against the government and oil companies consequently emerging under the name of MEND in the late 2005-early 2006.^[18,19] In spite of the active and immense oil extraction, the Delta is still underprivileged. MEND blamed it mostly on the Nigerian government's poor management of the needs and complaints of Niger Delta citizens^[18]. Thus, the group was aiming for local control of oil resources in the region^[18] and fighting for the Delta to obtain more benefits from its oil, "*with a fairer share of wealth invested in roads, schools, hospitals, clean water, and power supply*".^[19] However they deviated, practicing criminal activities like blackmail, kidnapping oil workers for ransom, and using stolen crude oil from pipelines to gain billions of dollars. They caused significant cuts in Nigeria's oil production at certain points, leading to spikes in the global oil price.^[18, 19]

Recruiting people for militias is said to be easy in the Niger Delta region due to socio-economic reasons like the big percentage of youth unemployment and other reasons in addition to political ones. Over the years, several groups were reportedly involved with MEND, including the Ijaw ethnic group (largest ethnic group in the Niger Delta), Ogoni, Urhobo, Itsekiri, and Yoruba youth (in the country's southwest) groups. In addition, there were beliefs that MEND in 2009 provided student cults on university campuses with weapons thus supporting cultist activities.[¶] Moreover, many Nigerian pirates, driven by the unfair resource distribution and pollution due to oil extraction, are related to MEND, providing such rebels with resources and money (to pay fighters and obtain material) by stealing oil to be sold in the black market, thus strengthening insurgencies and land conflicts.^[20]

¹⁸ Pike, J. (n.d.). Military. Retrieved January 07, 2018, from <https://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/para/mend.htm>

¹⁹ Duffield, C. (2010, October 04). Who are Nigeria's Mend oil militants? Retrieved January 07, 2018, from <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-11467394>

²⁰ Prins, B., Daxecker, U., & Phayal, A. (2017, March 14). Analysis | Somali pirates just hijacked an oil tanker. Here's what pirates want — and where they strike. Retrieved January 07, 2018, from https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2017/01/25/what-do-pirates-want-to-steal-riches-at-sea-so-they-can-pay-for-wars-on-land/?utm_term=.dc93f02bfe7c

MEND was led by Henry Okah who was also believed to use the alias “Jomo Gbomo”, who supposedly spoke for the group by contacting the media to announce attacks or criticize the government of Nigeria. After 2009, the authority of the group became vague and the group divided where most of the members including the senior ones have accepted an amnesty and ceased fire. The government afterwards enrolled some of their ex-militants in training sessions. However, a fraction remained, determined to stay the voice of the movement and to keep fighting to reach the group’s original goal. [18, 19]

5. Historical Piracy in the “Golden Age” Netherlands

The notion that piracy exists in our modern world may not be common knowledge, but in the Golden Age Dutch Republic piracy was a destructive, evil, and despicable activity which terrified mariners, wasted naval and judicial resources, alienated allies, and brought upon destruction on the Republic’s thriving yet vulnerable commerce... except that it didn’t.^[21]

The Dutch government was erratic in its dispensation of justice when dealing with pirates. Numerous seamen charged with piracy were punished lightly, pardoned, or even rehabilitated to serve the state within the context of the strict penal and legislative patterns that existed in the Golden Age Netherlands, and some pirates were not persecuted at all. Compelling and extensive evidence of this tendency is manifested in numerous types of sources, from contemporary books and pamphlets, to criminal sentencing records, to government proclamations.^[21] For example, the Admiralty of the Maas’ criminal sentencing index renamed piratical offenses, thereby eradicating the legal penalties of the label “piracy.” Actions that by law constituted piracy on the high seas were given confusing or more benign titles such as “plundering of prizes” or “extortion.” This inclination also surfaced in proclamations and laws, such as a 1606 States-General plaque issued in retort to a report that several Dutch privateers in search of Spanish victims had instead been attacking the ships of the Republic’s allies and even the Dutch themselves as an act of insubordination.^[21]

The decline of piracy in the Caribbean paralleled the decline of the use of mercenaries and the rise of national armies in Europe.^[22] Following the end of the Thirty Years’ War, the direct power of the state in Europe expanded. Armies were systematized and brought under direct state control; the Western European states’ navies were expanded and their mission was extended to cover combating piracy. The elimination of piracy from European waters expanded to the Caribbean beginning as early as 1600 with the expansion of standing Royal Naval vessels in the Caribbean, numbering 124 by 1718. Other colonial powers soon followed suit and by the beginning of the nineteenth century, France, Spain, and the United States had all stationed ships in the Caribbean.^[22]

²¹ *Piracy and Privateering in the Golden Age Netherlands* [PDF]. (n.d.) from http://www.e-reading.club/bookreader.php/138014/Piracy_and_Privateering_in_the_Golden_Age_Netherlands.pdf

²² Boot, Max (2009, January 1). "Pirates, Then and Now: How Piracy Was Defeated in the Past and Can Be Again". *Foreign Affairs*. 88 (4): 94–107

IV. Additional information:

A. Reports and analysis given by organizations

i) *International Maritime Bureau (IMB)*

The IMB recorded 53 attacks or attempted attacks in the Gulf of Guinea – including 36 for Nigeria. ^[23]

ii) *Dryad Maritime, The UK's Leading Maritime Intelligence Provider*

According to Dryad, the overall statistics show a 13% reduction in crime, but 'shock' incidents such as the kidnap and ransom of seafarers off the Niger Delta still present real and credible threats; six seafarers are still believed to be in captivity in Nigeria. Similarly, the hijacking of the MT Kerala ship from its Angolan anchorage with a subsequent theft of 13,000 tons of gasoil off the Niger Delta, has demonstrated the increasingly significant reach of Nigerian based criminals. ^[24]

B. The African Maritime Charter

Nigeria and other member-states of The African Union have signed an African charter on Maritime Security, Safety and Development in Lome, Togo. Professor Osinbajo who represented President Muhammadu Buhari at the summit noted that "*The blue economy is one of the major areas of focus of the charter*" adding that without security, benefits derivable from around the waters is jeopardized by maritime crimes like Piracy and Smuggling. Consequently, the African Union adopted a landmark charter on maritime security. The document commits all Member countries to protect their environment, but also to prevent and suppress crimes on sea, as well as the traffic of human beings, weapons or drugs. Moreover, the document is expected to provide Africa with a mechanism to develop a legal and technical framework for prevention and fight against threats on African maritime spaces. ^[25]

C. Important Resolutions:

i) *Resolution 2018*

On October 31, 2011, the UNSC signed off resolution 2018 due to the increasing concern on safety and security in Africa. This resolution offers a step towards achieving a secure maritime environment, providing safety to seafarers and other persons involved. ^[25,26] Additionally, within the limits of this resolution, the UNSC encourages member countries of ECOWAS,

²³ Incidents of pirate attacks in Gulf of Guinea on the decline. Retrieved January 05, 2018, from <http://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/incidents-of-pirate-attacks-in-gulf-of-guinea-on-the-decline/>

²⁴ Dryad release latest piracy statistics. (n.d.). Retrieved January 05, 2018, from <http://www.marsecreview.com/2014/04/dryad-maritime-release-latest-piracy-statistics/>

²⁵ *Maritime Security in the Gulf of Guinea* [PDF]. (2013, March) from https://www.chathamhouse.org/sites/files/chathamhouse/public/Research/Africa/0312confreport_maritimesecurity.pdf

ECCAS and GGC to participate and hold summits in order to develop and improve domestic law. ^[26]

ii) *Resolution 2039*

Similar to resolution 2018, on the 29th of February 2012, the UNSC signed yet another resolution that further increases security in Africa, mainly in the Gulf of Guinea due to the ascending piracy attacks. ^[27,28] The resolution stipulates that coastline security be strengthened to secure a more favorable environment and avoid collateral damage if something were to happen. ^[29]

V. Questions to Consider:

1. What is the internationally approved definition of “Piracy”?
2. Why has Somalia and Guinea become a pirate paradise in the last decade?
3. What are the tactics of pirates in Guinea within the modern-day dynamics of global sea piracy?
4. How are the pirates tied to governments and organized crime? Are the governments where pirate activity is rampant responsible for the crimes?
5. Who or what is financing piracy in Guinea, Somalia, and Nigeria? How are they acquiring weapons, high tech and vehicles?
6. Examine MEND and answer the following question:
Do the communities that prosper due to piracy wish for piracy to stop or support the pirates and disregard or overlook the moral quandaries?
7. Examine the repercussions of Piracy in Guinea on regional politics
8. Taking into consideration charter of the UN, what may be an effective way to divert interest in piracy besides criminalizing the attacks and reprimanding the perpetrators?
9. How is the African Union involved in plans to deal with piracy? Can and should it be more involved?
10. Compare new age piracy in Guinea to piracy in the “Golden Age” Netherlands. Why has the latter been tolerated as a more legitimate tool for prosperity while the former is considered solely as criminal? Is it a sign of the times or some type of bias?

²⁶ UNSCR Search engine for the United Nations Security Council Resolutions. (n.d.). Retrieved January 07, 2018, from <http://unscr.com/en/resolutions/2018>

²⁷ Wambua, P. M. (n.d.). *Enhancing regional maritime cooperation in Africa: The planned end state* [PDF] from http://erepository.uonbi.ac.ke/bitstream/handle/11295/39125/Wambua_Enhancing%20regional%20maritime%20cooperation%20in%20Africa%20The%20planned%20end%20state.pdf?sequence=2

²⁸ A. (2016, October 16). African Union adopts charter on maritime security. Retrieved January 07, 2018, from <http://www.africanews.com/2016/10/16/african-union-adopted-a-charter-on-maritime-security/>

²⁹ UNSCR Search engine for the United Nations Security Council Resolutions. (n.d.). Retrieved January 07, 2018, from <http://unscr.com/en/resolutions/2039>

Topic B

Interpretation of the Arab-Israeli Situation and the Aftermath of SC Resolution 2334

I. Definition of Topic:

For over 7 decades, the reigning conflict in the Middle East has been the Arab-Israeli situation. Despite the international community's peacebuilding efforts, the convoluted issue is still sparking new flames. Following the collapse of negotiations, the spur of additional violence, hardened public attitude and threatened prospects of peace, the United Nations Security Council identifies the Arab-Israeli conflict as a diplomatic priority.^[1]

Hamas, the Palestinian Sunni-Islamic fundamentalist organization and authority figure, mentions in its charter that *"The Islamic Resistance Movement believes that the land of Palestine is an Islamic Waqf consecrated for future Moslem generations until Judgement Day."* Palestinian leaders express that any peace agreement would just be a strategy towards the definitive objective of eliminating Israel completely.^[2] However, Palestinian public opinion is varied. The majority supports a non-violent resistance but do not believe a two-state solution is viable anymore due to Israel's settlements.^[3]

Israel retorts with violence when faced with resistance from the Palestinian side. Though Israel supposedly supports the two-state solutions, the actions it takes do not pave the path towards the aforementioned goal. Israel continues to build illegal settlements which are regarded as a violation of international law by the United Nations. *"Let me be absolutely clear: settlements are illegal under international law. The occupation, stifling and oppressive, must end,"* - Ban Ki-Moon, eighth Secretary General of the United Nations.^[4,5]

Resolution 2334 most recently follows in the footsteps of previous resolutions and tackles this issue, stating that Israel must fulfill its legal obligations, retract its occupying forces, and aims at implementing actions that will produce a sustainable and peaceful two-state solution.^[5]

¹ The Current Situation: Israel, The Palestinian Territories, and the Arab-Israeli Conflict. (2017, October 06). Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <https://www.usip.org/publications/2017/10/current-situation-israel-palestinian-territories-and-arab-israeli-conflict>

² " Hamas Covenant 1988", Retrieved December 27, 2017, from http://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/hamas.asp

³ A. (2016, December 29). Palestinian Public Opinion Poll No (62). Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <http://www.pcpsr.org/en/node/676>

⁴ (2016, September 15). Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <https://youtu.be/6KXP8KFBV78>

⁵ Israel's Settlements Have No Legal Validity, Constitute Flagrant Violation of International Law, Security Council Reaffirms | Meetings Coverage and Press Releases. (n.d.). Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <https://www.un.org/press/en/2016/sc12657.doc.htm>

II. Role of Committee in Current Topic:

According to the preamble to the U.N. Charter, signed by its founding member states in June 1945, the organization's goal is "to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war" and to "establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained."^{6]} However, the United Nations was both player and venue in the complex international diplomacy that led to the partition of Palestine in 1947 and creation of the state of Israel in 1948, which today is the platform for the Arab-Israeli conflict.^[7]

U.N. General Assembly Resolution 181, one of the most significant milestones in the history of the Palestinian-Israeli struggle, is one of three baselines used by different Palestinian and Israeli politicians in evaluating each country's rights in the conflict. Resolution 181 legitimizes the principle of two states, Israel and Palestine, while the two U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 1397 adopt the roadmap and determine the specific, realistic and legal borders between those two states.^[8,9,10,11]

In late 1948, The U.N. General Assembly passed Resolution 194 which affirms the rights of Palestinian refugees to return to their homes and to receive compensation for their losses, post the Arab-Israeli war of 1947-1948. Israel joined the U.N. the following year; its membership, pertaining to G.A. resolution 273, was conditional and based on its responsiveness to the requirements set by earlier resolutions, including 194. After Israel was created and on its way to stability, the political decision-making process did not witness involvement from the U.N. as an institution. Rather, the process was largely dominated by the Security Council's powerful permanent members - and by the time of the 1967 war, Britain, France, the U.S. and the Soviet Union were in charge.^[12]

By the end of the 1967 war, Israel had taken over the rest of the Palestinian land, including the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem, including the Golan Heights in Syria and Sinai in Egypt. Over a million more Palestinians found themselves under Israeli authority while US-Israeli relations eased greatly.

The U.N. reacted to this via passing Security Council Resolution 242, condemning the actions taken by Israel, calling for the withdrawal of Israeli forces in the occupied territories, yet making little reference to the Palestinian refugees.^[12,7,8,9,10]

⁶ The Role of the U.N. in Creating the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict. (2013, July 01). Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <https://www.wrmea.org/2013-august/the-role-of-the-u.n.-in-creating-the-israeli-palestinian-conflict.html>

⁷ A. (n.d.). What Has Been the Role of the UN in the Israel-Palestine Struggle by Phyllis Bennis. Retrieved December 27, 2017, from http://tari.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14&Itemid=15

⁸ (n.d.). Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <http://www.bitterlemons.org/previous/bl130904ed34.html#is1>

⁹ Nachrichten, J. (n.d.). Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <http://friedensbewegung.zionismus.info/verhandlungen/un-181.htm>

¹⁰ United Nations Resolution 242 [PDF]. (n.d.). from <http://www.un.org/Depts/dpi/palestine/ch3.pdf>

¹¹ Security Council Demands Immediate Cessation of All Violence in Middle East; Affirms Vision of Two States, Israel And Palestine | Meetings Coverage and Press Releases. (n.d.). Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <https://www.un.org/press/en/2002/sc7326.doc.htm>

¹² United Nations in the Israel-Palestine Conflict. (n.d.). Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <https://www.ukessays.com/essays/politics/united-nations-intervention-in-the-palestine-israel-conflict-politics-essay.php>

After 1973, The U.N. Security Council called for peace talks between USA and the USSR as tensions were rising over USSR's determination of protecting Egypt against Israeli aggression, meanwhile the U.N. General Assembly granted the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) an observer's status within the U.N. in a vote with an overwhelming support for the Palestinian cause.

In 1975, peace talks sponsored by the USA between Israel and Egypt ended fruitfully, with Sinai being returned to Egypt and the signing of a non-aggression pact (Sinai Interim Agreement) by the latter. The U.N. was not needed in the agreements, prompting the US to take control of the diplomatic situation. Three years later, Egypt and Israel signed the Camp David Accords, which called for a formal peace treaty between Israel and Egypt- wherein Israel was to withdraw from the Sinai Peninsula within three years, and both countries apply all the principles of U.N. Resolution 242- but the other Arab nations would only negotiate peace terms under U.N. auspices^[13].

In 1978, the U.N. reacted swiftly to Israel's invasion of Lebanon, passing U.N. Security Council Resolution 425, calling for immediate withdrawal of Israeli forces from the country. However, Israel ignored that resolution in 1982 and invaded again, under anti-PLO pretenses. Israel unilaterally withdrew eighteen years later.^[7,12]

In 2000, Camp David peace negotiations failed and were the start of a Second Intifada. Both the General Assembly and the International Court of Justice declared the Israeli West Bank barrier as illegal in 2003. The Court cited illegal interference by the government of Israel with the Palestinian's national right to self-determination; and house demolitions, land confiscations, the creation of enclaves, and restrictions on movement and access to water, food, education, health care, work, and an adequate standard of living in violation of Israel's duties under international law.^[14,15] In 2004, Security Council Resolution 1544 reiterated the obligation of Israel, the occupying Power, to abide meticulously by its legal responsibilities under the Fourth Geneva Convention, and called on Israel to address its security needs within the boundaries of international law.^[16]

In 2012, the United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/19 upgraded Palestine's status from "observer entity" to "non-member observer state". 136 out of the 193 member states of the United Nations, and the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic, have recognized the State of Palestine as sovereign over both West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Many of the countries that do not recognize the State of Palestine nevertheless recognize the PLO as the 'representative of the Palestinian people'.^[17] The countries are: Albania, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Hungary, Mongolia,

¹³ (n.d.) "Camp David Accords September 17, 1978" Retrieved February 01, 2018, from <http://www.mfa.gov.il/mfa/foreignpolicy/peace/guide/pages/camp%20david%20accords.aspx>

¹⁴ *United Nations Resolution ES-10/13* [PDF]. (n.d.). from https://web.archive.org/web/20090711152839/http://www.un.int/palestine/docs/res_es10_13.pdf

¹⁵ International Court of Justice Advisory Opinion, *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory* [PDF]. (n.d.). from <https://web.archive.org/web/20100706021237/http://www.icj-cij.org/docket/files/131/1671.pdf>

¹⁶ UNSCR Search engine for the United Nations Security Council Resolutions. (n.d.). Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <http://unscr.com/en/resolutions/1544>

¹⁷ A/RES/67/19 of 4 December 2012. (n.d.). Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <https://unispal.un.org/DPA/DPR/unispal.nsf/0/19862D03C564FA2C85257ACB004EE69B>

Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Togo, Yugoslavia [based on a comparison between GA Resolution 3236 and GA resolution 67/19] ^[18,19]

The United Nations Security Council had not passed a single resolution on the Arab-Israeli situation in over seven years, up until Resolution 2334. The power of the U.S. to veto has played a huge role in the shortcomings of UNSC resolutions regarding this issue. ^[20]

New Zealand Foreign Minister Murray McCully stated that “*The council could be a silent witness to the demise of the two-state solution,*” implying maintainable solutions need to be implemented swiftly. ^[20]

III. Case Studies and Sub-Topics:

1. Israel-Gaza Conflict in Summer of 2014

What began as a limited conflict escalated into a major Israeli ground offensive into Hamas-held Gaza. After the murder of 3 Israeli young men in the West Bank, who were kidnapped and killed, Israel believed that the killings were done by Hamas operatives. It arrested a large number of people in the West Bank, suspected of being Hamas supporters, and launched airstrikes into Gaza. Palestinians responded by firing rockets from Gaza. Israelis were furious and a Palestinian boy was murdered by six Israelis, essentially, from what Israeli police described, was an act of revenge. This led to a wave of anger on the Palestinian side. ^[21,22]

On the morning of July 8, Hamas launched a wave of 40 rockets in the direction of Israeli towns with very little guidance or aiming. They don't often hit targets or produce many casualties but nonetheless create a climate of terror inside Israel. These rocket attacks were the first that Hamas had claimed responsibility for since 2012, the last major conflict. In response, Israel launched more strikes in Gaza, as part of what Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said was an “effort to make Hamas pay a heavy price”.

By July 11th, 100 Palestinians had been killed by about a thousand airstrikes. ^[22] By July 14th, the total casualties had exceeded the 2012 conflict. And then on July 17th, Israeli troops entered Gaza to root out tunnels into Israel which allowed Hamas to strike Israeli targets or send soldiers in on the ground to attack Israeli cities or military bases. After the ground offensive, casualties skyrocketed. While targeting Hamas bases, Israel was responsible for shelling United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) shelters and

¹⁸ *United Nations General Assembly Resolution 67/19* [PDF]
<https://unispal.un.org/DPA/DPR/unispal.nsf/0/19862D03C564FA2C85257ACB004EE69B>

¹⁹ *United Nations General Assembly Resolution 3236* [PDF]
<https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/RESOLUTION/GEN/NR0/738/38/IMG/NR073838.pdf>

²⁰ UN Security Council discusses resolving Israeli-Palestinian conflict. (2016, April 20). Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <http://www.jpost.com/Arab-Israeli-Conflict/UN-Security-Council-discusses-resolving-Israeli-Palestinian-conflict-451740>

²¹ Sherwood, H. (2014, August 04). UN dragged into conflict between Israel and Hamas in Gaza. Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/aug/04/un-dragged-conflict-israel-hamas-gaza>

²² Vox (2014, July 21). The Israel-Gaza crisis, explained in 3 minutes. Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sZAnAxW7j0>

schools, resulting in the death of at least 44 civilians, including 10 U.N. staff members, between July and August. ^[21,22]

The conflict lasted throughout August and saw the death of over two thousand deaths on each side, the majority being civilians. ^[23] The sad path that led to an incredibly devastating ground offensive in Gaza illustrates just how hair-trigger the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is. Sudden and slight provocations, even things that may not be planned by either side, can lead to massive escalations in violence. ^[22]

2. Trump's Declaration: Jerusalem is the Capital of Israel

The reaction to the Jerusalem declaration made by U.S. President Trump was immediate. Countries noted how it may regress the peace process and negatively impact negotiations. ^[24] Turkey condemned the US's decision as "irresponsible" and called on Washington to reconsider the move, Egypt refused to accept Trump's decision, Lebanon's President Michel Aoun said the decision had put back the peace process by decades, threatening regional stability and perhaps global one as well. Similar sentiments were expressed from Jordan, Syria, Morocco, Iraq, Iran, Qatar, China, France, Germany, Britain, Canada and Russia. The E.U. and U.N. voiced alarm as well for the repercussions Trump's declaration may have on reviving Israeli-Palestinian peacemaking. U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said there was "*no alternative to a two-state solution between Israel and the Palestinians*" and that "*Jerusalem was a final-status issue that should be resolved through direct talks*". ^[24]

Arabs asserted themselves and took action by forcing governments to adopt a stronger stance. Egypt and its delegation played a leading role in this. They drafted a diplomatic resolution whilst dodging mentioning the U.S verbatim. Had they done that, it may have made it complicated for U.S allies, such as Britain, to support the draft. After the veto in the Security Council, Egypt and Turkey were quick to bring an emergency session for the situation to the General Assembly where there is no veto. ^[25]

Trump's recognition of the holy city as Israel's capital resulted in a U.N. resolution that denounced and devalued his decision. In a joint effort of resistance toward Washington, the General Assembly voted 128 to 9, though came with 35 abstentions. ^[26,27]

²³ Report of the detailed findings of the independent commission of inquiry established pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution S-21/1 [DOC]. (n.d.). from http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/ColGaza/A_HRC_CRP_4.doc

²⁴ World reacts to Trumps Jerusalem decision. (n.d.). Retrieved February 01, 2018, from <https://www.geo.tv/latest/170968-what-is-the-worlds-position-on-jerusalem>

²⁵ Gharekhan, C. (2017, December 22). A capital mistake: on UN resolution against US' Jerusalem move. Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <http://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/a-capital-mistake/article22261344.ece>

²⁶ Trump should have called me before Jerusalem decision: Erdoğan. (n.d.). Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/trump-should-have-called-me-before-jerusalem-decision-erdogan-124650>

²⁷ Gladstone, R. (2017, December 21). Defying Trump, U.N. General Assembly Condemns U.S. Decree on Jerusalem. Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/12/21/world/middleeast/trump-jerusalem-united-nations.html>

Another international point of discussion was that the US threatened to withdraw aid to UNRWA if the international community, and specifically Palestinians, do not concede. In one neighbourhood in Jerusalem, Shoufat, UNRWA is the closest thing to a government that Palestinians living there have. The neighbourhood is considered to fall under Israeli jurisdiction, the taxes people pay don't contribute to their life, and the only aid they feel is through UNRWA's operations at running schools, clinics, sanitation efforts and shelters. The US contributes almost 30% of UNRWA's overall funding, any withdrawal from the US will adversely impact the UN agency's work. Trump stated "*That money is on the table and that money's not going to them unless they sit down and negotiate peace,*" sitting opposite Israel's prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu.^[28,29]

After Donald Trump's recognition of Jerusalem as the Israeli capital, Palestinian deaths have risen to above 12. This is the number killed due to violence, mostly in Gaza and the West Bank as of December 2017. In Gaza, protesters and the Israeli forces have been in constant clashes along the border fence. Israeli forces are using teargas and live fire to break up the crowds.^[30]

3. The Imprisonment of Ahed Tamimi

Ahed made headlines after confronting an Israeli soldier who tried to detain her brother in 2015. She's a well-known activist in her village where protests against illegal Israeli settlements have been ongoing.^[31]

In 2017, a video surfaced of Ahed pushing and punching an Israeli soldier at her home. The incident reportedly took place after her cousin was hit in the face with a rubber bullet, leaving him in a coma for 72 hours, requiring intensive surgery. Israel arrested the teenager in a night raid in the occupied West Bank.^[32]

According to Defence for Children International (DCI), 11 Palestinian children have been held in solitary confinement, in Israel in 2017, 14 have been killed in confrontations.^[32]

The detainment allegedly includes abuse and humiliation. Children are often forced to sign documents written in Hebrew, a language they do not speak. Israel insists that it is following protocol in handling these situations, mentioning that the courts study the cases and lay out sentences according to democracy and law.^[32]

²⁸ (2018, January 03) Trump threatens stop to Palestinian aid over Jerusalem row. Retrieved February 01, 2018, from <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-42549157>

²⁹ Holmes, O. (2018, January 27). Its a death sentence: Palestinians in Jerusalem brace for Trump aid cuts. Retrieved February 01, 2018, from <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/jan/26/jerusalem-trump-aid-cuts-shuafat-israel-palestine>

³⁰ Gaza, A. P. (2017, December 24). Death toll rises to 12 in violence after Trump's Jerusalem recognition. Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <https://amp.theguardian.com/world/2017/dec/24/death-toll-rises-to-12-in-violence-after-trumps-jerusalem-recognition>

³¹ Girl Who Fought Off Israeli Soldier Is Leading Protests In The West Bank. (2015, September 04). Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=taFM1rRDNgk>

³² Ashly, J. (2017, December 26). Ahed and Nariman Tamimi's detentions extended. Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/12/ahed-nariman-tamimi-detentions-extended-171225212559689.html>

While to Israeli authorities and law enforcement Ahed Tamimi may be the face of Palestinian propaganda, to others she is comparable to Malala Yousafzai, Rosa Parks and Joan of Arc. *“Ahed Tamimi has become the symbol of a new generation of Palestinian resistance. It would be far better, however, if she could just be a child.”*- Ben Ehrenreich, journalist.^[33]

4. Farhud and the Jewish Exodus from Arab Countries

Prejudice and hatred against Jews has been prevalent in the Arab World pre-creation of Israel in 1945. Nazi propaganda, Zionist ideologies, and religious persecution all played a role in creating pogroms (organized massacres) throughout history. While anti-Jewish sentiment may have increased due to the Arab-Israeli conflict, some of the prior pogroms include: Cairo (1890, 1901–02), Alexandria (1901–07), Aleppo (1850, 1875), Dayr al-Qamar (1847), Beirut (1862, 1874), Jerusalem (1847, 1870 and 1895).^[34]

These sentiments were never exclusive to Muslim Arabs. An example would be the “Dreyfus Affair”, wherein Captain Alfred Dreyfus went to court for alleged high treason in France in 1894 in front of a set of anti-semitic juries who judged him guilty. The biased verdict was a product of escalating antisemitism in France supported by the government’s active efforts in igniting fear and xenophobia to scapegoat the negative public reactions on the shift in political climate that had been taking place.^[35] The Dreyfus Affair saw thereafter fiery outbursts of antisemitism in French-influenced Maronite Lebanon, echoing those happening in France. Meanwhile, the Muslim Arab press was sympathetic to the falsely accused Captain Dreyfus, and criticized the persecution of Jews in France.^[36]

Farhud refers to the pogrom executed on the 1st of June 1941. The Nazi-inspired pogrom erupted in Baghdad, bringing to end more than two millennia of peaceful existence for the city’s Jewish minority, marking a turning point for Iraq’s Jews.^[37]

The Jewish Exodus from Arab countries refers to the point in time between 1940s to 1970s when hundreds of thousands of Jewish people were expelled, fled, or left their homes willingly from Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Iraq, Egypt, Yemen, Lebanon, and Syria. It is a quintessential time in history, one which marks the dissolution of the Jewish population in Arab and Muslim countries. In some countries, those who did not leave were killed.^[38]

³³ Ehrenreich, B. (2017, December 27). Ahed Tamimi Has Become the Symbol of a New Generation of Palestinian Resistance. Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <https://www.thenation.com/article/ahed-tamimi-has-become-the-symbol-of-a-new-generation-of-palestinian-resistance/>

³⁴ Yossef Bodansky. *Islamic Anti-Semitism as a Political Instrument* Co-Produced by The Ariel Center for Policy Research and The Freeman Center for Strategic Studies, 1999. ISBN 978-0-9671391-0-4, see also *The Encyclopedia of World History* By Peter N. Stearns, William Leonard Langer p. 527. 2001.

³⁵ The Significance of the Dreyfus Affairs on Politics in France from 1894 to 1906. (n.d.). Retrieved February 01, 2018, from <http://www.e-ir.info/2012/06/06/the-significance-of-the-dreyfus-affairs-on-politics-in-france-from-1894-to-1906/>

³⁶ Lewis (1986) p.133

³⁷ Ehrlich, S. (2011, June 01). Farhud memories: Baghdad’s 1941 slaughter of the Jews. Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-13610702>

³⁸ Hoge, W. (2007, November 05). Group seeks justice for ‘forgotten’ Jews. Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <http://www.nytimes.com/2007/11/04/world/americas/04iht-nations.4.8182206.html>

5. Six-Day War

The Six-Day War, also known as the 1967 Arab-Israeli War, was fought between June 5 and June 10 1967 by Israel from one side, and Egypt, Syria, and Jordan from the other. The main trigger of the war was the order issued by Egyptian president Gamal Abdel Nasser on May 22 1967, after tensions between Israel and Arabs got remarkably heightened, to block the Straits of Tiran to Israeli shipping, and thus any ships heading to Eilat in Southern Israel. This action was preceded by Gamal mobilizing the Egyptian forces in the Sinai on May 14 as an expression of support for Syria, and demanding the removal of the UNEF (United Nations Emergency Force) located there on May 18 after being accused of hiding behind them. On May 30, King Hussein of Jordan signed a mutual defense pact with Egypt, thus joining Jordanian forces with Egypt's. Finally, Iraq joined the alliance on June 4.^[39,40]

After 1948 and welcoming more than million immigrants who played an important role in military service, Israel achieved a speedy, flexible, and deadly military and was even close to obtaining its own nuclear weapons by 1967.^[41] On the other hand, Egypt, Syria, and Jordan were getting massive arm support from the Soviets and armies and weapons from Kuwait, Algeria, Saudi Arabia, and Iraq.^[40] On the morning of June 5, in response to the mobilization of its Arab neighbors, Israel launched a preemptive air assault that caught the Egyptians by surprise destroying more than 90% of Egypt's air force on the Turmac. A similar attack weakened the Syrian air force. This left Egypt vulnerable, thus leading the Israelis to capturing the Gaza Strip and all of the Sinai Peninsula up to the east bank of the Suez Canal. Ignoring Israel's warning to stay out of the fight, Jordanian forces started bombarding West Jerusalem on June 5 and met a severe Israeli counterattack driving them out of East Jerusalem and most of the West Bank on June 7.^[39]

On that day, the Security Council called for a cease-fire which was accepted on the spot by Jordan and the next day by Egypt. Continuing to target villages in northern Israel, Syria received an assault from Israel on June 9 on the Golan Heights, thus losing it to Israel and consequently accepting the cease-fire on June 10.^[39] Following advice from the U.S. Secretary of State, Dean Rusk, to cease-fire, Israel accepted it on June 10.^[40]

The Arab losses, due to this war, were immensely greater than that of Israel, leaving them in a position of "no peace, no negotiations, and no recognition" (declared by the Arab League Summit in Khartoum on August 1967) towards Israel that was aiming instead for a peace arrangement.^[40] As a result of the war, Israel had occupied territory that was more than triple the size of the area it controlled. This territory included the Sinai, Golan Heights, Gaza Strip, West Bank, and Old City of Jerusalem (thus allowing it to unify Jerusalem).^[39,40] Shortly afterwards, Israel started forming settlements in some of these conquered territories,

³⁹ The Editors of Encyclopædia Britannica. (2017, November 29). Six-Day War. Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <https://www.britannica.com/event/Six-Day-War>

⁴⁰ The Six-Day War: Background & Overview. (n.d.). Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/background-and-overview-six-day-war>

⁴¹ Bowen, J. (2017, June 05). 1967 war: Six days that changed the Middle East. Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-39960461>

disregarding many requests, including UNSC resolution 242, to exit them to maintain peace.^[40] The Six-Day War led to hundreds of thousands of Palestinian refugees and placed millions in the occupied regions under Israeli control, marking a new stage of conflict between Israel and the Palestinians.^[39]

Note: These case studies demonstrate the need for a resolution which deals with Israeli occupation, Palestinian resistance, the violation of human rights, children's rights, the sporadically escalating violence, the refugee population, US stimulation of the situation, one that goes hand in hand with all the relevant United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 16 and 17) and one which builds upon the last Resolution: 2334.

IV. Additional information:

A. 2000 Camp David Summit

During July 11-26 of 2000, Israeli prime minister Ehud Barak and Palestinian Authority chairman Yasser Arafat, with US President Bill Clinton, playing a crucial mediating role, tackled the major issues dividing Israel and the Palestinians: Jerusalem, the refugees, the borders between a future Palestinian state and Israel, the Israeli settlements, and the problem of water supplies and pollution.

A crucial sticking point was Jerusalem. Barak approved dividing Jerusalem, with the Palestinians to receive sovereignty over most of the Arab-populated neighborhoods in the walled Old City and the Temple Mount (Haram ash Sharif) area within it, containing the Dome of the Rock and the al-Aqsa Mosque as well as the underground remains of King Solomon's and Zerubbabel's and Herod's temples. Arafat would not settle and stuck firm to his demand that the Temple Mount and the whole of the Old City come under Palestinian sovereignty; he rejected President Clinton's last-minute proposal that the Old City be divided between Israel and the Palestinians, with the Temple Mount to be governed conjointly by the Security Council, Morocco- the permanent president of the Islamic states' 'Jerusalem Committee'- and the Palestinians.^[42]

Major disagreement also rose over the Palestinian demand for recognition and implementation of 'the right of return' of the refugees to their homes, villages and towns in Israel (based on U.N. General Assembly Resolution 194). Israel rejected this 'right' and refused to accept moral or legal responsibility for the refugee problem and wanted it solved not by repatriation but by compensation through international aid, though it agreed to absorb 'several thousand' refugees over ten years as part of a 'family reunion scheme' and to contribute in reimbursements for the refugees' lost property.

There was also contention over the Palestinian demand that Israel hand over all of the West Bank and Gaza Strip to Palestinian rule. Barak was willing to concede 84-90 percent of the West Bank and almost all of the Gaza Strip.^[42]

⁴² What Was the 2000 Camp David Summit? - Israeli-Palestinian Conflict - ProCon.org. (n.d.). Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <https://israelipalestinian.procon.org/view.answers.php?questionID=000428>

The summit collapsed and neither parties came to an agreement, with both the Israelis and Palestinians letting fly with recriminations.^[42]

B. United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)^[1]

The United Nations SDGs are also known as "*Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*". Here are the SDGs **relevant** to the topic:

- # 1 No Poverty
- # 2 Zero Hunger
- # 3 Good Health and Well-Being for people
- # 4 Quality Education
- # 5 Gender Equality
- # 6 Clean Water and Sanitation
- # 7 Affordable and Clean Energy
- # 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth
- # 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- # 10 Reduced Inequalities
- # 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities
- # 12 Responsible Consumption and Production
- # 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
- # 17 Partnerships for the Goal

C. Important Resolutions

i) *Resolution 242:*

In the aim of reaching peace in the Middle East after the 1967 Six-Day War, the Security Council unanimously adopted resolution 242 at its 1382nd meeting on 22 November 1967 after inviting the representatives of United Arab Republic, Israel, and Jordan on 9 November and later Syria on 13 November to participate without vote.^[2,3] The resolution focused on the withdrawal of Israel armed forces from the conquered territories during the war, the ending of all acts of belligerency, and the respect and guarantee of each state's political independence and inviolability (through methods like demilitarized zones), sovereignty, territorial integrity, and peaceful living within its own secure and recognized boundaries. In addition, the resolution aimed at finding the right solution for the refugee problem and assured the freedom of movement through international water channels in the region. Finally, it was decided to send a special representative to help in achieving the Resolution's goals and monitor the procedure.^[2]

The resolution was accepted by Egypt and Jordan with the withdrawal being taken as the first requirement to start negotiations. Israel accepted it too requesting direct negotiations with Arab states to reach the desired results. On the other hand, Syria rejected the idea of connecting the principle problem of Israel withdrawal to requests asked from Arab

¹ Sustainable development goals. (n.d.). Retrieved February 01, 2018, from <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

² Chapter 3 THE 1967 AND 1973 WARS [PDF]. (n.d.). from <http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/IP%20S%20RES%20242.pdf>

³ (2002, March 12) "UN Security Council Resolution 1397", Retrieved December 27, 2017, from <http://www.mfa.gov.il/mfa/foreignpolicy/peace/guide/pages/un%20security%20council%20resolution%201397.aspx>

countries while the PLO disapproved limiting the issue of Palestine to a refugee problem.^[2]

ii) *Resolution 1397*

This resolution was adopted on March 12, 2002 after the violent events of “Al-Aqsa Intifada” since September 2000 between Israel and Palestine. Concerned for the civilians’ safety and considering the extent the violence has reached, the Security Council declared that it will stay seized of the issue and demanded in the resolution an instant end to all the acts of terror, incitement and damage.^[4]

Recalling resolutions 242 and 338, the resolution requested a collaboration between the Israeli and Palestinian sides to execute the Mitchell Report recommendations: which stated the termination of terrorist operations and punishment of the perpetrators from the Palestinian Authority’s (PA) side and the halt of all settlement activities and expansions of existing ones from the Government of Israel’s (GOI) side, followed by the agreement to participate in security operations.^[5] In addition, it called PA and GOI to execute the Tenet work plan which declares the commitment of both sides to a cease fire and lists specific security steps to be followed by both to reconstruct security cooperation similar to the one that was present before 28 September.^[6]

Resolution 1397 was the first to mention a two-state solution to the situation where a Palestinian state can exist side by side next to an Israeli state, each within its own secure and recognized borders.^[4]

iii) *Resolution 2334*

Adopted on 23 December 2016 at the Security Council’s 7853rd meeting, the resolution declares that the Israeli settlements formed since 1967 in the occupied Palestinian regions, particularly East Jerusalem, are illegal, hindering the realization of the two-state solution and violating the international law and the Fourth Geneva Convention concerning the protection of civilians in time of war. The Council thus requested Israel in the resolution to terminate all the settlement activities in the mentioned conquered territories and respect its legal obligations. The resolution stresses on separating the territory of the State of Israel from the areas occupied since 1967 and states not recognizing any modifications, which are not settled by the parties through negotiations, to the 4 June 1967 lines. The Council demanded through the resolution an instant action to prevent the acts of violence and terror against the civilians through security coordination from both parties and to avoid any provocative actions that might worsen the situation.^[7]

⁴ University of Colorado Denver (2001, October) “Sharm el-Sheikh: Fact-finding committee report (Also known as the Mitchell Report)”, Institute for International Business and Center for International Business Education & Research, December 27, 2017, from http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/internationalprograms/CIBER/GlobalForumReports/Documents/Mitchel_Report.pdf

⁵ (2001, June 14) “Palestinian-Israeli Security Implementation Work Plan -Tenet cease-fire plan”, December 27, 2017, from <http://www.mfa.gov.il/MFA/ForeignPolicy/Peace/Guide/Pages/Palestinian-Israeli%20Security%20Implementation%20Work%20P.aspx>

⁶ *United Nations Resolution 242* [PDF]. (n.d.). from <http://www.un.org/webcast/pdfs/SRES2334-2016.pdf>

⁷ United Nations Security Council, “Resolution 2334 (2016)”, 23 December 2016, <http://www.un.org/webcast/pdfs/SRES2334-2016.pdf>

In the aim of reaching peace in the Middle East, the resolution urged and supported an international and regional diplomatic effort associated with statements from similar UN resolutions and others like the Arab Peace Initiative and the Quartet Roadmap.^[7]

V. Questions to Consider:

1. Why is Israel's presence called an occupation? Why are the settlements illegal?
2. How may Israel maintain its safety without violating the United Nations declaration of Human Rights, specifically the rights of Palestinians?
3. Were the Camp David Summit offers fair to the Palestinians? If not, what could have been amended? If so, how could negotiations re-occur and end with an agreement?
4. How can Palestine and Israel share Jerusalem as their mutual capital?
5. According to your country is Hamas a terrorist organization and/or is the IDF an apartheid tool?
6. How is the struggle to resist the occupation affecting Palestinian sovereignty? Is it paving a path towards its sovereignty or doing the opposite?
7. Considering the Arabs initiated the Six Day War, is Israel entitled to the land it acquired due to winning the war? If so, does the UN need to reconsider its policy on spoils of war? If not, how can the UN neutralize both sides' losses?
8. What is the significance of American influence in the region? Could the US be a tool for peace, or is it an opponent of the latter?
9. How significant is resolution 2334? Is it a drop in an ocean of sterile resolutions, or a support for the basis of brokering peace in the Middle East?
10. Is the discussion in the United Nations favoring one side over the other? If so, what should be done to rectify this?
11. Explore the history and prospects of a two-state solution vs one-state solution. Does your country consider the two-state solution still viable, or does the UN need to consider a one-state solution?

— LOUAIZE —
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