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# UNSC

## BACKGROUND GUIDE



Wesgreen International School  
Model United Nations

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# Welcome Note

Dear Delegates,

It is with great pleasure that Maryam, Omar and Shahmeen warmly welcome you to WESMUN 2025 and the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).

As members of the Model United Nations (MUN) community, you represent the next generation of leaders and innovators. At the UNSC, we are committed to equipping you with the tools and insights to engage with pressing global issues and inspire positive change in the world.

The United Nations Security Council is a specialized body within the UN system with a mandate to maintain international peace and security. The UNSC focuses on resolving conflicts, preventing wars, addressing threats to global stability, and ensuring the enforcement of international law.

As part of this committee, you will delve into the critical work of the UNSC, advocating for your nation's interests while collaborating with member states to address pressing global crises. This is also an incredible opportunity to network with fellow delegates and exchange perspectives on some of the most urgent challenges facing our world today.

We eagerly look forward to working with you and supporting your efforts to make a meaningful difference. Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact us at our email address.

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Sincerely,  
UNSC Committee Chairs.

# Topic 1: Addressing Root Causes and Mitigating Global Impacts of the War on Terror.

## Introduction:

In the aftermath of the September 11, 2001 attacks, the global “war on terror” became a central focus of international relations and national security policies. The

United States, supported by various allies, launched military interventions in Afghanistan and later Iraq, aimed at dismantling terrorist networks, including Al-Qaeda and the Taliban, and addressing the root causes of terrorism. However, over two decades later, the war on terror has had complex and far-reaching consequences.

The war on terror has not only led to prolonged military conflicts but has also fueled cycles of violence, displacement, and economic instability in affected regions. While some terrorist organizations have been dismantled, new groups have emerged, often thriving in areas of weak governance, poverty, and political instability. Efforts to counter terrorism have also raised concerns about human rights violations, erosion of state sovereignty, and the use of excessive military force.

As the Security Council, we are tasked with maintaining international peace and security. The UNSC has long recognized the links between terrorism and instability and has passed numerous resolutions addressing counter-terrorism, including Resolutions 1373 (2001) and 2396 (2017). However, addressing the root causes of terrorism—such as socio-economic disparities, political repression, and regional instability—remains an urgent challenge.

History The Security Council has been at the forefront of addressing terrorism through resolutions, sanctions, and international cooperation. In the wake of 9/11, UNSC Resolution 1373 established the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) to enhance the capacity of member states to combat terrorism. Since then, the UNSC has expanded its focus to include the financing of terrorism, the use of technology by terrorist groups, and the role of non-state actors in fueling instability.

Historically, terrorism has been rooted in socio-political grievances and exacerbated by global inequalities. For example, the emergence of Al-Qaeda and later ISIS highlighted how fragile states and regions experiencing conflict can become breeding grounds for extremism. The U.S. invasion of Iraq in 2003 led to the destabilization of the region, creating a vacuum that allowed terrorist groups to flourish.

In regions like Sub-Saharan Africa, terrorism has become intertwined with other issues, such as organized crime and resource exploitation, further complicating efforts to maintain peace. In countries such as Mali, Nigeria, and Somalia, terrorist groups exploit weak governance and local grievances to recruit members and establish control over territories.

The UNSC has recognized the importance of addressing the underlying factors that drive individuals and groups toward terrorism. Resolutions such as UNSC Resolution 2178 (2014) on foreign terrorist fighters emphasize the need to combat radicalization and recruitment. Despite these efforts, challenges remain, as the global impacts of the war on terror, including refugee crises, economic instability, and human rights violations, continue to affect nations worldwide.

**Analysis** The war on terror is a multi-faceted issue deeply intertwined with political, economic, and social factors. Addressing its root causes requires a comprehensive approach that goes beyond military action. Weak governance, corruption, and political instability often create power vacuums that are exploited by terrorist groups, while socio-economic disparities, including poverty, unemployment, and lack of access to education, drive individuals toward radicalization. Marginalized communities facing systemic discrimination or ethnic tensions are particularly vulnerable to extremist propaganda.

On a global scale, the impacts of the war on terror are significant, leading to mass displacement, humanitarian crises, and refugee flows from conflict zones. The erosion of civil liberties and human rights in the name of counter-terrorism has sparked international concern, while terrorist groups' increasing use of technology and social media poses a rapidly evolving threat. Additionally, economic instability in affected regions disrupts development and creates fertile ground for the resurgence of extremism.

These challenges highlight the need for coordinated international action that addresses both the immediate threats of terrorism and the underlying conditions that allow it to thrive.

### Questions a Resolution Must Answer:

1. How can the Security Council address the socio-economic and political root causes that drive individuals toward terrorism?
2. What measures can be implemented to prevent the use of emerging technologies by terrorist groups?
3. How can the global community balance counter-terrorism efforts with the protection of human rights and state sovereignty?
4. What strategies can the UNSC adopt to strengthen international cooperation in combating terrorism while addressing regional differences in its manifestations?

#### Subtopics

- Examining the role of poverty, unemployment, and lack of education in fueling radicalization.
  - Addressing the role of state and non-state actors in perpetuating cycles of violence in conflict zones.
- Exploring the intersection of terrorism and organized crime, including drug trafficking and arms smuggling.
- Assessing the long-term impacts of counter-terrorism policies on political stability and civil liberties.

#### Bibliography

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## Topic 2: Addressing the humanitarian and security crisis in Sudan

### Introduction:

Sudan has long been a nation marked by political instability, conflict, and humanitarian crises. The recent outbreak of violence in April 2023 between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) has plunged the nation into chaos, exacerbating pre-existing challenges. Civilians face daily atrocities, including indiscriminate violence, displacement, and widespread food and water shortages. The situation has created a multifaceted crisis, affecting security, governance, and basic human rights in the region.

The Security Council, as the primary body for maintaining international peace and security, plays a crucial role in addressing the situation in Sudan. This crisis not only destabilizes the country but also has regional and global implications, with neighboring countries bearing the brunt of refugee flows and economic disruptions. The international community must act decisively to address the humanitarian catastrophe, protect civilians, and restore peace and stability in Sudan.

History Sudan has a turbulent history shaped by decades of conflict and political unrest. From the 1983-2005 civil war that resulted in the secession of South Sudan in 2011 to the Darfur genocide in the early 2000s, the nation has repeatedly faced humanitarian and security challenges. The overthrow of Omar al-Bashir in 2019 gave hope for a democratic transition, but political factions failed to reach consensus, leading to further instability.

The current crisis erupted due to a power struggle between the SAF and the RSF, plunging Sudan into violent conflict. Civilians have borne the brunt of the violence, with reports of targeted killings, sexual violence, and destruction of infrastructure.

The conflict has displaced over 5 million people internally and forced nearly 1.2 million to flee to neighboring countries like Chad, Egypt, and South Sudan, straining their resources.

Historically, the United Nations has responded to crises in Sudan through peacekeeping missions, including the United Nations-African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID), which operated until 2020. However, the current crisis has seen limited international intervention, creating an urgent need for the Security Council to address the escalating violence and its humanitarian consequences.

### **Analysis:**

The crisis in Sudan represents a complex interplay of humanitarian and security challenges. The conflict has devastated civilian populations, with reports of mass killings, sexual violence, and the destruction of hospitals, schools, and other critical infrastructure. The blockade of humanitarian aid and deliberate targeting of aid workers have worsened the plight of millions, leaving nearly half of Sudan's population in dire need of assistance.

On a regional level, the conflict threatens to destabilize neighboring countries. Refugee flows into Chad, South Sudan, and Egypt strain already fragile economies and risk triggering further instability. Armed groups operating in Sudan could exploit the conflict to strengthen their foothold, posing security threats across the Sahel and Horn of Africa regions.

Economically, Sudan's collapse has implications for global food security, as the country is a significant producer of agricultural goods. The disruption of trade routes and agricultural activities exacerbates global inflation and food shortages, particularly in vulnerable regions.

To address these challenges, the Security Council must focus on both immediate and long-term solutions. Immediate efforts should prioritize a ceasefire, protection of civilians, and unhindered access to humanitarian aid. Long-term measures should include fostering political dialogue, supporting institution-building, and addressing the root causes of instability, such as ethnic tensions and economic disparities.



