



VIRTUAL  
INTERNATIONAL MODEL  
UNITED NATIONS

*Connecting  
The World Through MUN*



***Security Council  
Chair Report***  
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## VIMUN 3.0 SECURITY COUNCIL

### *Chair Report*

### **“The Armenia Azerbaijan War”**

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#### **I. Meet the Secretariat**

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##### **President of Security Council and VIMUN SG- Abbas Akbari**

Welcome to the Security Council! My name is Abbas Akbari, Secretary General of VIMUN and President of the Security Council. I am 18 years old and I am in my final year of school in the British International School Riyadh. I was born and raised in Saudi Arabia, but I am originally from Pakistan. Initially, I was not interested in Model United Nations due to the complications within politics. However, as I grew, I realised the importance as well as beauty of politics, which was: countries or political parties meet to debate on issues, but when it comes to cooperation, they do not fail to amuse me. We are currently living in unprecedented times and we cannot continue living our lives oblivious to the world and its sorrows. Consequently, I decided to lay the foundations of VIMUN; to not only diversify my skill palette, but to also provide everyone with a comfortable and safe platform to practice their MUN skills during the pandemic. I will be leading the Secretariat of the Security Council and I hope I can live up to your expectations. I wish you the best of luck and hope you have a fruitful MUN experience!

##### **Chairperson- Abdulaziz Althukair**

Hey everyone! My name is Aziz, and I will be chairing in this conference regarding the Armenian-Azerbaijan War. I am a junior at AIS-R, and currently live and am from Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. This will be my 4th time chairing a conference, having done so before in several online and offline conferences over the years. I am an experienced MUN member, being in several international conferences, online and offline, as well as winning several awards at my school's MUN at AIS-R. The point is that I know what I'm doing, and I really hope that this experience will help me guide and manage this debate in a fashion that allows for a fruitful and fun debate. I never really liked getting interested in politics, but through my love for debate and public speaking, I found MUN and politics to be such an interesting and fun topic, while also being necessary for us as a species to progress forward in the world.

That's why I love MUN, it's not just a room of politics-obsessed high schoolers yelling at each other, it's a way for people to debate and learn of issues around the globe, and realistic ways to resolve not only these issues, but conflict in general. I've been at VIMUN since the first conference, and am more than happy to be chairing one more!

### **Chairperson- Yusra Haroon**

Hello, I'm Yusra Haroon, currently a junior at the American International School of Riyadh. I was born in the United States, my parents are from Pakistan, however since the age of 5, I have grown up in Riyadh. I started to get familiar with MUN in 7th grade. I was very interested in how nations interacted in international affairs, and which techniques ensure the most efficient resolutions to problems. I believe that in theory, the United Nations is an incredibly important foundation to insure peace among the many clashes nations face. Therefore, the Model UN was a platform for me to experience the process of delegations. This will be my fourth year taking part in MUN and my 5th conference that I am chairing, but it will be my first time chairing a virtual MUN conference. I am incredibly pleased that amidst the current situations of COVID, MUN will proceed through VIMUN. I hope that I am able to successfully chair the conference, and ensure that all delegations gain effective skills from the Virtual International Model UN conference.

### **Chairperson- Iman Bhat**

Hello, my name is Iman Bhat and I'm a junior at the American International School of Riyadh! I was born and raised in the United States, however, my parents are originally from Kashmir. I have followed international political conflicts for years which has got me interested in politics and pursuing this ambition, hence I decided to join the Model United Nations club. This is my fourth year in MUN and this will be my 18th conference. I truly enjoy discussing political conflicts and issues that could and are immensely impacting our world today. It's an honor to be chairing the Security Council of VIMUN. I believe that the SC is an integral part of the United Nations as it deals with keeping peace in international conflicts and ensuring the security of nations. I really hope that all the delegates will have a fruitful debate when addressing *The Armenian-Azerbaijan War*.

# *Armenia-Azerbaijan War*

## **II. Committee Introduction**

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Welcome to the VIMUN Security Council. Our Security Council is very much similar to the original United Nations Security Council. Initially, the Security Council consisted of eleven members, five permanent members (the Republic of China [Taiwan], France, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom and the United States) and six non-permanent members chosen for two-year terms by the United Nations General Assembly. In 1965, an amendment to the UN Charter expanded the membership of the council to 15, including the initial five permanent members and 10 non-permanent members.

The People's Republic of China replaced the Republic of China as a permanent member in 1971, and the Russian Federation followed the Soviet Union in 1991. In general non-permanent members are picked for equal balance between regional areas, with five members originating from Africa or Asia, one from Eastern Europe, two from Latin America and two from Western Europe or other regions. Per year, five out of the 10 non-permanent members are elected by the General Assembly for two-year terms and five retire annually. Each member holds the presidency in rotation for a span of one month.

There's one vote each participant has. The Council's decisions on all "procedural matters, the concept of which is often in question, are made by an affirmative vote of nine of its members. Substantive matters, such as the investigation of a conflict or the implementation of fines, often require nine votes in the affirmative, including those of the five veto-powered permanent members. However in fact, a permanent member could abstain without undermining the legitimacy of the vote. Given the uncertain situation with global security, each member of the Security Council must be represented at all times in the United Nations headquarters in New York City.

The composition of the Security Council, especially after the end of the Cold War, has been a controversial matter. The Security Council and its five permanent members, some have claimed, represent the power system that prevailed at the end of the Second World War, when most of the world was under colonial control. Reform attempts have remained vague, but have concentrated on making the Security Council's role more open and on requiring major non-permanent members, such as Brazil, Germany, India and Japan (the so-called G-4), to gain permanent membership, or at least to have a special position within the Security

Council. One of the proposals put forward by the G-4 countries was to lift the membership of the Security Council to 25 seats by adding six additional permanent members, one for themselves and two for Africa, respectively.

Any state, even if it is not a member of the UN, may bring to the attention of the Security Council a conflict to which it is a party. The council first discusses the prospect of a negotiated settlement when there is a complaint. Pending further talks, multinational peacekeeping powers could be allowed to hold warring parties apart. If the Council finds that there is a legitimate danger to peace, a violation of peace or an act of aggression (as specified in Article 39 of the Charter of the United Nations), it may invite the representatives of the United Nations to impose diplomatic or economic sanctions. The UN Charter permits the Security Council to take armed measures against the offending country if these approaches prove insufficient.

The work of the council shall be facilitated, in addition to other standing and ad hoc commissions, by the Military Personnel Commission, the Sanctions Committees for each of the States subject to sanctions, the Peacekeeping Powers Committees and the International Tribunals Committee.

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### III. Topic introduction

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The Armenia-Azerbaijan War, also known as the Nagorno-Karabakh War, is an ethnic dispute between the States of Armenia and Azerbaijan. This was a serious conflict that lasted for six years, from 1988 till 1994. In these years, this dispute turned into a full-on war, but ended with a ceasefire agreement and victory for Azerbaijan and a bitter loss for Armenia. Recently, the 2020 Nagorno-Karabakh War arose with the intentional burning of Armenian houses, killing of Armenian and Azerbaijan soldiers, and the death of many civilians. Moreover, two Russian soldiers died by the Azerbaijan military and although it was a mistake, it raises an alarm in the international community.

This topic is integral to discuss in the Security Council as this conflict threatens the peace, security, and sovereignty of both Azerbaijan, Armenia, and now, their surrounding nations. This also impacts the international relations these two States have with other countries, which could overall affect their trade relations (not with each other, but with other nations), leading these countries to an economic crisis. For example, both of these nations have military trading connections with Russia and because of the death of the Russian soldiers, Azerbaijan's relationship with Russia may be deteriorating slowly. Moreover, the humanitarian crisis in Nagorno-Karabakh has worsened which has affected the peace as well as the security of this territory. Armenian's in this place have started to burn their houses down before fleeing to Armenia as they do not want to associate with the Azerbaijan forces. In a bigger picture, this would lead the territory in becoming a failed part of Azerbaijan. Hence, it is the Security Council's responsibility to find an agreement in which the peace, security, and sovereignty of these States are restored as well as make a final decision on the Nagorno-Karabakh territory.



## IV. Historical background

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The Armenia-Azerbaijan war is over the region of Nagorno-Karabakh, recognized internationally as Azerbaijan, but claimed by ethnic Armenians. To start, the present Armenia and Azerbaijan became part of the Soviet Union in the 1920s. Although Nagorno-Karabakh was majorly populated with Ethnic Armenians, the Soviets gave control of the region to Azerbaijani jurisdiction. However, in the late 1980s, the Soviet Union was beginning to collapse and the parliament of Nagorno-Karabakh demanded to start a separatist movement to be part of Armenia. Although Armenia supported the Nagorno Karabakh's want for separation, Azerbaijan condemned the movement. The disagreement resulted in ethnic discord and later war, after Armenian and Azerbaijani independence from Moscow. The full-scale war preceded the death and displacement of millions, with accusations of ethnic cleansing conducted by both the Azerbaijanis and Armenians. The ordeal resulted in the 1994 ceasefire orchestrated by Russia after Armenian forces had control over Nagorno-Karabakh. The ceasefire resulted in Nagorno-Karabakh persisting as part of Azerbaijan. However, it did not dismantle the ethnic Armenian separatists which declared themselves as the ruling body of power. Which additionally saw the separation of Armenian and Azerbaijani forces.

Since then, there have been efforts for peace talks mitigated by the 1992 UN organized Organization of Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) - chaired by Russia, the UN, and France. However, the conflict arose again in 2016 leading to the deaths of many troops. The conflict is heightened by the circumstances of the nation's relations. In 1991 Turkey was the first to recognize the independence of Azerbaijan, with former president Heydar Aliyev stating that the two states share "Turkic culture and populations". With this said, Turkey has no relations with Armenia, showed especially by the border blockade from Armenia in 1993, as Turkic support for Azerbaijan. It must also be noted that with all historical ceasefires, there has been no peace treaty to help manage the conflict. Armenia seeks support from Russia, with Vladimir Putin sharing relations with Azerbaijan. Armenia went through peaceful revolutions in 2018, making Nikol Pashinyan the Prime Minister. Nikol Pashinyan agreed with Ilham Aliyev, Azerbaijan's president, seeking to minimize the disputes by creating a military hotline between the nations. This agreement was furthered in 2019 with the declaration of "taking concrete measures to prepare the populations for peace."

Unfortunately, the hopeful agreements were not enough to resolve the years of resentment. Although it is unclear who resumed the conflict, 2020 saw the escalation of tensions over the disputed region of Nagorno-Karabakh. The violence



starting in July has resulted in immense casualties. With that said November 2020 saw the end of the fighting with the agreement between both countries to sign the “Rissuan-brokered peace deal”. The terms were the following, Armenia will withdraw the majority of its troops, while Azerbaijan will continue to have control over the majority of Nagorno-Karabakh.

## V. Key terms

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1. **Armenia**
2. **Azerbaijan**
3. **Nagorno-Karabakh-** a landlocked region in the South Caucasus, within the mountainous range of Karabakh. Lies near Armenia and Azerbaijan. Both countries claim it as their own.
4. **Soviet Union-** officially the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, was a federal socialist state in Northern Eurasia that existed from 1922 to 1991.
5. **Collapse of the Soviet Union**
6. **Turkey**
7. **Separatism-** the belief held by people of a particular race, religion, or other group within a country that they should be independent and have their own government or in some way live apart from other people.
8. **Ethnic cleansing-** the organized, often violent attempt by a particular cultural or racial group to completely remove from a country or area all members of a different group
9. **OSCE-** Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
10. **Ceasefire-** an agreement, usually between two armies, to stop fighting in order to allow discussions about peace
11. **Nikol Pashinyan-** Prime Minister of Armenia
12. **Ilham Aliyev-** President of Azerbaijan
13. **Karabakh peace deal-** The 2020 Nagorno-Karabakh ceasefire agreement is an armistice agreement that ended the 2020 Nagorno-Karabakh war. It was signed on 9 November by the President of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev, the Prime Minister of Armenia Nikol Pashinyan and the President of Russia Vladimir Putin, and ended all hostilities in the Nagorno-Karabakh region from 00:00, 10 November 2020 Moscow time. However, has the conflict really ended?
14. **The “Line of Contact”**
15. **Christian/Muslim**

## VI. Guiding questions

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1. Who are your allies and enemies? (ESSENTIAL QUESTION)
2. Does your country stand with Armenia or Azerbaijan?
3. What specific steps, if any, has your country taken in order to resolve this issue?
4. Should Russia and Turkey have intervened in this conflict? Did they really bring anything beneficial to this issue or not?
5. If the United States was called to intervene in this conflict, would it have been better for the people or worse?
6. Given Russia's history, do you think it had an ulterior motive to intervene in this issue?
7. Is it important to consider the affect on the lower-class populace in conflict or not?
8. How has this conflict affected the future of both Armenia and Azerbaijan? Have they spent too much of their budget on funding the army rather than serving their people?
9. Do the accusations of corruption against the Azerbaijani government change your country's stance on this issue?
10. If this conflict was to escalate, would your country provide a safe home for any refugees affected by this conflict?
11. Has the Karabakh peace deal really ended this conflict, given the history?
12. Will Armenia rest after Azerbaijan having control over Nagorno-Karabakh?
13. Should Azerbaijani's feel safe now that they have all their land back?
14. Has your country affected this issue at all? If not, has it affected your allies?

**PLEASE ENSURE YOU HAVE GONE THROUGH ALL  
TRAINING PRESENTATIONS AND THE GUIDEBOOK  
BEFORE THE CONFERENCE!**

## VII. Bibliography (i.e. links used for research)

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