



VIRTUAL
INTERNATIONAL MODEL
UNITED NATIONS

*Connecting
The World Through MUN*



HRC
Chair Report
Published on:
11/07/2020





Chair Report for The VIMUN Human Rights Council

“The Annexation of Palestinian Land”

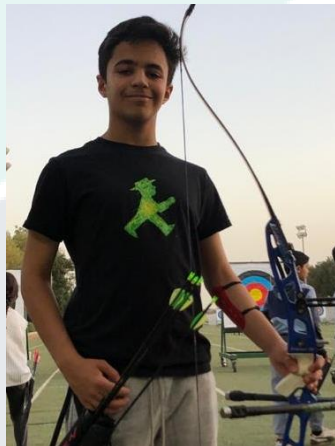
Introduction from the Secretariat:

Secretary General – Abdul Baasit Abdul Razique

My name is Abdul Baasit Abdul Razique and I will be the Secretary General of the VIMUN Summer Human Rights Council Conference. I am from India and study in British International School Riyadh. I have attended many conferences before. I have a passion for MUN and love discussing politics, economics etc. It helps us develop leadership qualities and gain confidence. It makes us strong diplomatic students. For the next 3 days, we will be discussing the topic of The Annexation of Palestinian Land. I hope we have a fruitful debate!



Chair - Abdulaziz Althukair



Hello! My name is Abdulaziz Althukair and I will be your chair for the VIMUN Summer HRC Conference. We will be discussing The Annexation of Palestinian Land this conference and I am very excited to see what you will all be able to create and take out of this debate. I am from Saudi Arabia and am a rising junior in the American International School of Riyadh, of which I am also a veteran member of the MUN club, joining it roughly 5 years ago now. I have attended 9 conferences, 2 of which have been international and 2 of which I have chaired. I have had much experience in MUN and am very grateful for the skill that I've gained over the years, now being able to chair in the first VIMUN Conference. Personally, my hobbies include Archery and Game development. I have been competitively shooting for over 5 years now at an Olympic training level and am currently developing my first officially licensed game for the app/google play store. I've been looking for something fun and productive to do over the summer and I am more than excited to be a part of this!

Chair – Aamna Asim

Hi everyone! My name is Aamna Asim and I'll be one of your co-chairs for the conference. I'm from Pakistan but I live in Qatar and study at The Next Generation School. I have always been very passionate about MUN since middle school and have attended 11 conferences. Talking about global issues and coming up with solutions has always been one of the things I am very enthusiastic about and I can't wait to see what this conference holds for us. I wish you all the best of luck!



Committee Introduction

Welcome to the Human Rights Council. The Human Rights Council is a linked body of the United Nations, namely referred to as the UNHRC. The Council was established in March 2006 by the General Assembly through passed resolution 60/251, and currently entertains 47 elected General Assembly member nations, and as the name states, is directly linked to the safety and security of humans and human rights worldwide. The HRC investigates breaches and abuse of human rights worldwide, facing global issues harming not governments or corporations, yet those that threaten the quality of life and opportunity of individuals worldwide. Issues commonly fought consist of topics linked with ethnic and racial equality, gender equality, freedom of speech and press, freedom of expression, freedom of religion, extreme poverty, and escaped citizens of war-riddled nations. The HRC commonly holds meetings three times a throughout a year, however, may at any time call emergency conferences regarding serious events. The HRC commonly entertains several events and organizations outside of its tri-annual conferences in order to maintain peace and security of human rights worldwide. Most commonly linked with the HRC is the UPR, or the Universal Periodic Review, in which the HRC examines all 193 member states utilizing information from said states, or possibly from willing NGOs, to determine their ability and success in maintaining quality of life. The HRC has also permitted the use of task forces ever since 2013, due to its dedication toward eliminating conflicts that create a massive population of displaced individuals. Ever since said conflicts have been increasing in major locations in the world, the HRC was ultimately granted task forces to aid in eliminating said threats.

In context of this MUN, you should now be fairly familiar with the HRC and it's strengths. As a delegate you will be able to take advantage of the several benefits of the HRC, from it's deep-rooted connection to NGOs to several task forces. Deep knowledge of the HRC and the UN will certainly allow for an engaging and fruitful debate.

For this VIMUN conference, your **main submitters** will be the **UNITED STATES** and **PAKISTAN**. We recommend you side with either one, in the context of your assigned country.

I. The Situation in Palestine (intro)

Israel has decided to annex a part of the West Bank, Palestine. Annexation is the term applied when a state unilaterally proclaims its sovereignty over other territory. It is forbidden by international law. Israel claims historical and religious rights to the West Bank as the ancestral land of the Jewish people. It also says its presence there - especially in the Jordan Valley - is strategically vital for its self-defence.

It says settlements are not an obstacle to peace and that they would remain part of Israel under any peace deal with the Palestinians, whether they are annexed now or not.

II. History of the Topic

Early History

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict can be dated back to late 19th and early 20th centuries. This is when conflicts between major Jewish and Arab nationalist movements about attaining sovereignty in the Middle East had begun. When World War I ended in 1918 the British took control of Palestine. They were given the task of establishing a Jewish homeland in Palestine by the League of Nations, in 1923.

The Palestinian nationalism emerged after the Franco-Syrian War in the 1920s. The tensions between the Jewish and Arab upon the emergence the Palestinian nationalism escalated into the Sectarian conflict in Mandatory Palestine in the 1930s and 1940s, which was the civil, political and armed struggle between Palestinian Arabs and Jewish Yishuv. This later expanded into the well known Arab-Israeli conflict.

These Palestinian Arab nationlists were led by a man named Haj Amin al-Husseini. As soon as they emerged in the region, Amin al-Husseini declared the Jewish national movement as the only enemies to their cause of building a national home for the Palestinain Arabs. He incited riots and violence against the Jewish in 1920 in Jerusalem and other regions. As a result of all this violence the Jewish populace established a paramilitary force, Haganah, which later became the core for IDF (Israel Defence Forces).

From 1936 to 1939, there was a revolt in Palestine against the British and the Jews by the Arabs. Most of the Arab groups were defeated and many leaders expelled.

The Partition of Palestine

In 1947, the United Nations proposed a plan to partition Palestine into two sections: an independent Jewish state and an independent Arab state, with Jerusalem as internationalised territory. It did not take long for the violence to erupt again. The Arabs were opposed to the plan proposed by the UN. In just a few months a civil war had started and by 1948 it was clear that the Arab forces were slowly deteriorating which led to the large-scale refugee problem of Palestinian Arabs.

Israel Becomes a State

Around this period, the British had withdrawn from Palestine and Israel became an official state. Between 700,00 - 900,000 Palestinians fled or were forced to leave their land. Almost immediately a war broke out between the Arabs and Jews in the region. The 1948 Arab-Israeli War involved Israel and five Arab nations - Jordan, Iraq, Syria, Egypt and Lebanon. This war led to huge casualties of about 15,000 and a cease fire. At this point Israel held much of the land. Jordan occupied the West Bank and Egypt took over the Gaza Strip.

The Establishment of PLO

In 1964, the Palestine Liberation Organization was formed, and it immediately won support of the Arab League governments. A well-known Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat became the chairman of PLO.

The Six-Day War

Israel attacked Egypt, Jordan and Syria and this conflict led to a six day war that lasted from June 5 to June 10, 1967. Israel gained military control of the West Bank from Jordan and the Gaza Strip from Egypt. The aftermath of this war led to even more conflicts that continued for decades.

The First Intifada and the Oslo Accords

In 1987, the first Palestinian uprising as a response to the violence and occupation. In the early 1990s, the international community started to take action to negotiate peace. Eventually these efforts led to Oslo Accords of 1993, which allowed the Palestinian government to obtain parts of Gaza and the West Bank. However, these Accords were heavily opposed by radical Islamic groups based in Palestine, such as Hamas. These groups further incited violence. These incidents led to even more unrest and conflict.

The Second Intifada

In September 2000, the Second Palestinian Intifada began. The violence continued and escalated into an open conflict between the Palestinian National Security Forces and the IDF. This period of violence lasted almost five years and had almost 130 casualties.

Hamas

In 2006, Hamas won in the Palestinian parliamentary election. Hamas and Israel fought each other in many violent and bloody battles including Operation Cast Lead in December 2008, Operation Pillar of Defense in November 2012 and Operation Protective Edge in July 2014. In April 2014, Hamas and Fatah agreed to a deal that would form a unified national Palestinian government.

III. Key Terms

A. Historic Terms

1. The end of WW1 and the Treaty of Versailles, allowing Palestine under the control of the British and beginning the confusing conflict on the Palestinian Holy land
2. The Franco-Syrian War, the approximate emergence of modern Palestinian nationalism
3. Haj Amin al-Husseini, an original Palestinian advocate and leader of Palestinian nationalism
4. The Arab-Israeli conflict, the main conflict containing the Palestinian land situation
5. Israel Defence Forces, the main Israeli force taking charge in the conflict
6. The Palestine Liberation Organization, created in 1946 in support of Arab nations
7. The Jordan West Bank and Egyptian Gaza Strip, sizable chunks of land seized by the IDF in 1967
8. The Oslo Accords, the accords allowing Palestine to regain most of its territory lost during 1967

B. Definitions and Modern terms

1. Hamas, an extremely passionate radical Islamic group that calls for Israel's destruction. Hamas would go on to win several seats in the high Palestinian government
2. Nakba, meaning catastrophe, meant as the 1940 Palestinian eviction that caused a refugee crisis.
3. Zionism, Israel's ideology and political stance, claimed to be detached from religious views
4. The Yishuv, the main Jewish party against Palestine regarding its land
5. The Gaza, a strip of land surrounded by Israeli's, yet occupied but Palestinians. It seems to be a large source of conflict in the area.

IV. Position and Research Tips

1. Delegates participating in this conference must understand their country's opinions, history, and actions taken on this issue. They must also know how they have supported or have been against this topic
2. Delegates should be aware of the committee they are in and debate accordingly. Due to this debate being part of the HRC, debate will largely circle around the safety and protection of human lives in the Palestinian conflict
3. Delegates should not attempt to "Dominate" the conference by simply acting controversial or speaking at every possible chance. Awards and placard preference (the preference of a delegate to be chosen to speak) will be decided on well-formed arguments, additions, and ability during the conference
4. Delegates should try and keep their mindset on their country's views and not take the issue on with their opinions. Everything must be from the country's opinion and not their own
5. Delegates should understand how this topic affects their country and how their country would act if presented with these issues
6. If the delegate's country is not engaged with this topic or simply not large enough then they can research the opinions and actions of an allied country that may have information regarding to the topic

7. You should try to prepare for counter arguments or points against your country's views to make sure you have a good debate
8. Delegates should research about past ideals, treaties, agreements, documents, ETC, that may point the delegate to the true stance and opinion of a country
9. Statistics and quotes are very good and persuasive ways of telling a point, try and gain many of those

V. Useful Internet Resources

We've compiled a list of databases and sources to aid you on your research. Wikipedia articles have also been linked for their valuable footnotes, only researching on Wikipedia may not be the best of ideas.

A. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Nations_Human_Rights_Council

Wikipedia article describing the HRC

B. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Israeli%E2%80%93Palestinian_conflict

Basic knowledge of the Palestinian Conflict

C. <https://www.vox.com/2018/11/20/18079996/israel-palestine-conflict-guide-explainer>

Useful database of Palestinian descriptions, accounts, and everything you need to know

D. <https://news.un.org/en/tags/palestine>

Recent UN News articles regarding Palestine

E.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_United_Nations_resolutions_concerning_Palestine

A list of UN Resolutions regarding Palestine

F. <https://www.un.org/unispal/data-collection/un-resolutions-and-decisions-on-palestine/>

UN database of information regarding Palestine