

XXVIII

TECMUN Jr.

International Court of
Justice

XXVIII TECMUN Jr.
Horario de sesiones

Miércoles 18 de noviembre

Ceremonia de Inauguración	9:00 – 10:00 h.
Receso	10:00 – 10:30 h.
Primera Sesión	10:30 – 12:00 h.
Receso	12:00 – 12:30 h.
Segunda Sesión	12:30 – 14:00 h.
Comida	14:00 – 15:00 h.
Tercera Sesión	15:00 – 16:30 h.

Jueves 19 de noviembre

Conferencia Magistral	8:30 – 9:30 h.
Receso	9:30 – 10:00 h..
Cuarta Sesión	10:00 – 11:30 h.
Receso	11:30 – 12:00 h.
Quinta Sesión	12:00 – 13:30 h.
Comida	13:30 – 14:30 h.
Sexta Sesión	14:30 – 16:00 h.

Viernes 20 de noviembre

Séptima Sesión	8:00 – 9:30 h.
Receso	9:30 – 10:00 h.
Octava Sesión	10:00 – 11:30 h.
Receso	11:30 – 12:00 h.
Novena Sesión	12:00 – 14:00 h.
Comida	14:00 – 15:00 h.
Ceremonia de Clausura	15:00 – 17:30 h.
TECMUN GLOOM ¹	18:00 – 19:00 h.

¹ TECMUN GLOOM es una experiencia únicamente para los delegados donde habrá actividades en las que los delegados y las mesas se podrán conocer.

XXVIII TECMUN Jr.

Agenda

Secretaria General: Nuria Vidal Castillo

ASAMBLEA GENERAL

Subsecretaria General: Aiko Valeria Aguilar Jiménez

Sesión Plenaria de la Asamblea General

Presidente: Javier Márquez Saucedo

- A) Medidas para controlar la creciente crisis social en Estados Unidos de América con enfoque al reciente movimiento *Black Lives Matter*
- B) Estrategias para la erradicación de los combates en el territorio de Libia provocados por los grupos del Gobierno de Acuerdo Nacional y el Ejército Nacional Libio

Primera Comisión de Desarme y Seguridad Internacional

Presidenta: Daniela Mejía Salgado

- A) Medidas para regular la fabricación, comercialización y el uso de armas letales autónomas (LAWS) para evitar una futura carrera armamentística a través de un marco legal a nivel internacional
- B) Estrategias para evitar la militarización del océano Ártico como producto de nuevas rutas de navegación

Organización Internacional para las Migraciones

Presidente: Manuel Alejandro Rosales Portillo

- A) Medidas para asegurar la integridad del pueblo migrante de Rohingya en su proceso de traslado hacia Bangladesh
- B) Problemáticas de la migración norcoreana causadas por el gobierno de la República Popular Democrática de Corea

United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Presidente: Germán Osvaldo Nuñez Benitez

A) Suppression from the government of the People's Republic of China upon human rights, focusing on the use of economic power, censorship, indoctrination and heavy surveillance in Xinjiang

B) Oppression of women, the LGBT+ community and civil society activists in Iran, focused on the extreme measures applied by the national penal code and the Supreme Court

Organización Mundial de la Salud

Presidente: Ángel Daniel González Jasso

A) Estrategias para una segura reactivación de la economía en países de América Latina y El Caribe ante la reciente crisis causada por el COVID-19

B) Medidas para mejorar los servicios de salud pública en Yemen a causa de la presente catástrofe humanitaria

United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Presidenta: Alejandra Bañuelos González

A) Measures for the regulation of space tourism and passenger safety

B) The increasing threat to the global astronomic and space observation community from the rise of satellite constellations and the number of space debris

CONSEJO ECONÓMICO Y SOCIAL

Subsecretario General: Armando Daniel Navarro Sánchez

Fondo de las Naciones Unidas para la Infancia

Presidenta: Sofía Victoria Solís Uribe

A) Estrategias para brindar apoyo y medidas adecuadas de salubridad y nutrición a niños desterrados a causa del conflicto bélico en la República Árabe Siria

B) Medidas para prevenir la existencia del matrimonio infantil forzado y sus consecuencias en las niñas con enfoque en África Occidental

Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente

Presidente: Arturo Rubio Díaz Vázquez

- A) Medidas para evitar la sexta extinción masiva de fauna silvestre con énfasis en los incendios del bosque tropical de la Amazonia y el bosque de Malacura en Australia
- B) Medidas para disminuir la pérdida de agua potable causadas por el fenómeno de la industria de la moda rápida en la República Popular China y la República Popular de Bangladesh

International Criminal Police Organization

Presidenta: Andrea Michelle Martínez Lozano

- A) Measures to contain and dismantle the triads, the Korean criminal organizations, and groups of organized crime in the Golden Triangle
- B) Strategies to prevent radical acts that involve the use of chemical and nuclear weapons by extremist groups, focusing on the Middle East

Commission on the Status of Women

Presidenta: María Fernanda Casillas Monroy

- A) Measures for the attention of female victims of acid attacks due to its accessibility in the Middle East and United Kingdom with emphasis on the social consequences
- B) Measures to provide opportune prevention and support for women affected by female genital mutilation as sexual repression in regions of Northern and Western Africa

Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura

Presidenta: Samaria Sánchez Ramírez

- A) Acciones para garantizar un avance en materia de equidad e igualdad de género educativa ante situaciones de crisis en países de América Latina y el Caribe
- B) Medidas para asegurar la libertad de expresión y estabilidad artística, como parte de la diversidad cultural, ante la pandemia de COVID-19 con enfoque en América Latina y el Caribe

United Nations World Tourism Organization

Presidenta: Rebeca Ávila Delgado

- A) Measures to improve the development of alternative touristic areas in Latin American local communities and get rid of overtourism
- B) Measures to reactivate the Latin American tourism sector after the global pandemic caused by the spread of COVID-19

Commission Économique des Nations Unies pour l'Europe

Presidenta: Lianny Hernández Pérez

- A) Stratégies pour la protection et le placement des réfugiés Syriens en Europe pour éviter des problèmes sociaux et économiques dans l'Union Européenne, en mettant l'accent sur la République Fédérale d'Allemagne
- B) Le développement des politiques pour soutenir la promotion de l'indépendance économique des femmes et l'éradication du fossé salarial dans les pays sous-développés de l'Europe du sud-est

AGENCIAS ESPECIALIZADAS Y ORGANISMOS REGIONALES

Subsecretaria General: Montserrat Olivas Ramos

Organización de los Estados Americanos

Presidenta: Paola González Zapata

- A) Repercusiones sociales y políticas tras la censura de medios de comunicación en México, con énfasis en la persecución de periodistas por grupos de narcotráfico
- B) El neocolonialismo como un obstáculo para el desarrollo económico de las comunidades indígenas en América Latina

Comisión de Prevención del Delito y Justicia Penal

Presidente: Victor Daniel Meza Castillo

A) Estrategias para mejorar el estado de derecho y reducir la impunidad de las autoridades latinoamericanas con enfoque en la violación de derechos humanos y la ineficacia de las garantías constitucionales presentes en los movimientos sociales

B) Medidas para erradicar las prácticas de tortura en las cárceles africanas con base en Las Reglas Mínimas de las Naciones Unidas para el Tratamiento de Reclusos

United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation

Presidente: Santiago Makoszay Castañón

A) Measures to ensure radiation protection in case of a nuclear reactor accident. A study based on novel information on the effects and risks of radiation exposure due to the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station

B) Assessment of the biological mechanisms relevant to the inference of cancer risk after exposure to low-dose radiation

North Atlantic Treaty Organization

Presidenta: Mariana Cortés Gallardo

A) Political and military measures to prevent further naval and territorial conflicts between Ukraine and Russia

B) Reaffirm diplomatic and military strategies to increase the security of Afghanistan's inhabitants facing the current terrorist attacks by the Taliban

Security Council

Presidenta: Vanessa Arroyo Jerez

A) Strategies to suppress the resurgence of the Islamic State in the Syrian Arab Republic and the Republic of Iraq

B) Prevention mechanisms against the illicit trafficking of nuclear material within the Black Sea region

International Court of Justice

Presidenta: Carolina Elizabeth Vásquez Regalado

- A) Relocation of the United States Embassy to Jerusalem (Palestine v. United States of America)
- B) Application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (The Gambia v. Myanmar)

“Make the most of yourself by fanning the tiny, inner sparks of possibility into flames of achievement”.
-Golda Meir.

Delegada/o, Ministra/o, Juez,

Lo peor que puedes hacer es subordinarte al contexto en el que resides. Esta es tu oportunidad de demostrarte que por medio de tu investigación, ideas, trabajo e innovación puedes y vas a cambiar al mundo. Entre más conocimiento adquieres, más te das cuenta de que la sociedad en la que vivimos está lejos de ser perfecta. Lo que necesita un mundo en crisis es a personas como tú que están dispuestas a alzar la voz en contra de injusticias, violencia, inequidad, fobias, machismo, entre muchas otras cosas. Necesita a personas que, a pesar de vivir durante una pandemia mundial, toma tres días para participar en un modelo en línea. Sé esa persona que el mundo anhela, esa persona que va siempre un paso más allá.

Este modelo es una muy pequeña representación de lo que en verdad está sucediendo alrededor del mundo y que decidimos ignorar porque vivimos en una posición de privilegio donde podemos asumir que nada ni nadie nos va a hacer daño; Sin embargo, como el último año nos ha demostrado, esto puede cambiar en cuestión de segundos. Así que aprovecha y toma ventaja de tu posición de privilegio y de todas las oportunidades que se te presentan gracias a ella. Porque si decides ignorar los problemas, te conviertes en una gran parte de ellos. Pelea con todo lo que tengas por lo que crees y sé la voz por los que son silenciados. Cualquiera puede quitarte lo que sea, menos el poder de alzar tu voz.

Delegada/o Ministra/o, Juez, es tu oportunidad de pensar fuera del estatus quo, de romper tus estándares y esos de toda la gente que te rodea, de ser tú misma o mismo, de romper o mejorar el sistema, de expresar tus ideas únicas y creativas y de salir de tu zona de confort que lo único que te está haciendo es nublarlo. Sí, da miedo, pero no dejes que esos pensamientos frenen tu capacidad de expresarte; Úsalos a tu favor y véncelos, porque la falta de confianza, la duda y el miedo siempre van a ser las cosas más difíciles de sobrellevar, pero, el hacerlo genera el verdadero cambio. Espero que confíes en el modelo y en el Secretariado, pero especialmente, espero que confíes en ti, que abras tu mente, que aprendas sobre una gran variedad de temas, que salgas de este modelo con una visión completamente distinta del mundo a la que tenías antes. Quiero que salgas con la capacidad de analizar críticamente y empatizar con otras personas y situaciones para que llegues a tener la habilidad de resolver estos problemas de la mejor manera posible no solo dentro de las salas de debate, sino en la vida real.

Finalmente, quiero que aproveches el momento, tu momento. Lucha contra el problema y haz la diferencia en esa sala de debate, porque esta es una simulación del mundo real, y lo que hagas ahí dentro representa lo que haces y harás por el mundo si no permites que se quede en esas 4 paredes. Recuerda que no hay experiencias que se repitan dos veces y que la que estás a punto de vivir, te marcará de por vida. Confío en ti y en tu capacidad, porque estás aquí por una razón; porque hay una chispa en ti esperando ser encendida y puede que esta sea tu única oportunidad de hacerlo. El mundo está en las manos de ti, de la juventud; si no aprendemos a tomar ventaja de esto y hacer del planeta un mejor lugar, nadie lo va a hacer. Encuéntrate en esta experiencia y cree en ti, en lo que puedes aportar al modelo y en el gran impacto que esto tendrá en las personas, porque yo te aseguro que confío ciegamente en ti.

Nuria Vidal Castillo
Secretaría General para el
XXVIII TECMUN Jr.

“Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better, It's not.”

-Dr Seuss, The Lorax.

Dear judges, delegates, ministers and doctors,

Welcome to another edition to the best thing that happened in my life, another edition of a model that marks paths in the life of many ones that are or were part of it, another edition of the forum where you can raise your voice and advocate for a better world, welcome to TECMUN. Thank you all for being here in the AEOR division, the most unique part that this model has. Prepare yourself to take on this new challenge. During three days in these virtual mode, you are going to be the agent of change that is going to make a difference. They are so many atrocities occurring nowadays. Crimes against humanity, genocides, war crimes and aggression happening in Sudan, Peru, Colombia, South Africa, Mexico, and all around the world, reflect what we as human beings are doing wrong. Now is the time change, to take the reins, step out of our comfort zone and do something to fix our mess up world.

“There comes a time when we hear a certain call when the world must come together as one [...]” Few people listen to this call, and fewer are the ones that answer to it. As individuals with privileges, it's our duty to attend this call, to stand for rights things and fight for it, to make a better place for both weak and strong. Maybe sometimes we feel minuscule compared to the magnitude of the atrocities or simply unable to solve them. Sometimes we feel that our voice will not be heard or that our actions aren't going to transcend and we are not going to make a change. Throughout my short life, I discover that we are the only ones that limit our potential, maybe for others we are like superheroes at the time we think we aren't enough. It's only when someone believes in us and gave us support, at that moment we recover our confidence, we open our eyes and have faith in ourselves. We start to make a change because we know we are enough and capable of it. In this moment for these three days I want to be that someone for you, you are immense to me. You just have to believe in yourself to begin the change. Take advantage of the privilege you were born with and make more people have the same opportunities that you have now. Don't let all your work on a resolution paper or an empty verdict, attend the call. I really hope you are ready to face this big challenge, becoming the responsible one of our world and reality.

Montserrat Olivás Ramos

Subsecretary for the Special Agencies and Regional Organisms

for the XXVIII TECMUN Jr.

"Our life is not measured in years, but
in the lives of those we impact" - Suzanne Collins.

Dear judge, agent:

Throughout these years, people have asked me why we do this for; what's its objective? All I can say, for sure, is that TECMUN is so many things that it can't be defined as a sole. It is a change for good, a belief, a spark of hope; but most of all, it is the sum of moments that have made me the person who writes this letter to you. It is where I have found my voice and people that inspire me day by day, where I hope you find your own as well. Today, right where you are sitting, I want you to know that you are making history; I know that you may be uncertain, and even afraid, trust me, I felt the same way five years ago, holding a nameplate for the first time. And, although it is true that our lives are different now and will forever be, I want you to know that above all things you can be, you are brave. It takes enough courage to raise your voice for what it's right, and even more in the times we live in nowadays, but, beyond everything, people like you and I have the privilege of being heard, and it is our duty to speak out for those who do not have it; be the reason someone feels heard, seen and as somebody.

Day by day we face the world we live in, we all struggle with its challenges whether if we are willing to accept them or not; these, make us question ourselves and realize where we are. It scares me to think about the fact that there are those who will never question themselves about anything in their life; but as long as there are people like us, those who dare to ask and wonder why we do this for, there can be a difference. Today I will ask you for the biggest favor there will ever be, be true to yourself. Be fearless in the pursuit of your voice, your ideas, and whatever that sets your soul on fire; risk everything for what you believe, for the adventure of being alive. I hope these words may stay with you not only for the three days you will be in this court but for the rest of your life because no matter what anybody tells you, your words and ideas can change the world.

Carolina Elizabeth Vásquez Regalado
President of the International Court of Justice
for the XXVIII TECMUN Jr.

International Court Justice Background

The International Court of Justice (hereinafter referred to as ICJ), is the main judicial organ of the United Nations to solve legal disputes between States and give advisory opinions on legal questions referred to it by authorized United Nations organs and specialized agencies. Based in The Hague since 1945 and began work in April 1946, the ICJ was created in order to give continuity to the Permanent Court of International Justice, under a Statute formed in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and adopted by 193 States. As a whole, the ICJ, through 15 judges from across the globe, represents the main legal system of the world by fairly and impartially settling international disagreements, the ICJ contributes to the advancement of the rule of law and stable, peaceful societies.

Jurisdiction and Faculties

The ICJ may intervene over two types of instances: contended cases between states in which the court produces binding rulings between the ones that have agreed to submit to its judgement; like so, advisory opinions, which provide reasoned decisions on properly submitted questions of international law, at the request of United Nations organs, such as the General Assembly or the Security Council. In like manner, when requested, the ICJ settles judgment upon international disputes of legal nature between States parties, such as land or maritime boundaries, territorial sovereignty, the right of asylum, nationality or economic rights, diplomatic relations, violation of the international humanitarian right, these are submitted by States and no state can be sued before the court unless it consents to such action; therefore, the ICJ may either clarify and redefine the rules of the international law, apply economic banns or request the withdrawal of troops, as deemed appropriate, in order to get to an agreement between States.

Topic A

Relocation of the United States Embassy to
Jerusalem (Palestine v. United States of
America)

By: Carolina Elizabeth Vásquez Regalado

Elías Dávila Martínez

Fernanda Valentina Martínez Reyes

Outline

In 1947, the United Nations General Assembly designated that the State of Palestine, then ruled under the British Mandate, should be partitioned into an Arab state and a Jewish state and, in like manner, recognized that Jerusalem had special status and proposed an international rule for the city as a *corpus separatum*² to be administered by the United Nations. Since that, in 1948, the Middle East War, which remains nowadays, arose in opposition to the Jewish state. Even though Palestine considers itself a state, neither the United States nor the whole international community agrees to do the same, as well as it happens with Israel's sovereignty over Jerusalem, which has never been recognized either. Thenceforth, on May 14th, 2018, the United States by decision of the current president, Donald Trump, relocated its embassy on the disputed territory of East Jerusalem and recognized it as Israel's capital, meaning a violation of international law.

Palestine's social, political and economic background

Palestine was the designated name, until 1948, by the former British rule used to recognize the geographic region between the Mediterranean Sea and the Jordan River. By the time this rule ended, in 1947, as a designation of the United Nations General Assembly, Israeli forces seized East Jerusalem and annexed it. Since then, the occupation of Palestinian territory by Israel, in 1948 and which continues nowadays, pursues to deepen the economic and social hardship for Palestinians, since the Israeli army continues to mount military operations in the

² **corpus separatum:** latin term used to refer to a city or region which is given a special legal and political status different from its environment, but which falls short of being sovereign, or an independent city state (Spanish Language Division, 2018).

occupied territory of Palestine by employing arbitrary detention, disproportionate use of force, house demolitions, severe mobility restrictions, and closure policies³.

The Israeli closure system remains as a primary cause of poverty and humanitarian crisis in Palestine, given that it restricts civilians to access health and education services, markets, and social as well as religious networks. Is so, that in 1988, the Palestinian National Council approved the Palestinian Declaration of Independence in Algiers, Algeria. Thenceforth, in 2011, the former President of the Palestinian National Authority, Mahmoud Abbas, along with its Prime Minister, Salam Fayyad, declared the intention to proceed with the request for recognition of statehood⁴ from both the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council, as well as the international community. Nevertheless, numerous issues such as political obstacles, unemployment, and poverty, remain to be settled by Israelis and Palestinians before an independent State of Palestine emerges.

United States of America's social, political and economic background

Numerous indigenous cultures formed the thirteen British colonies that nowadays are known as the United States of America; and, throughout its history, the United States has been characterized by being one of the largest economies, constituting 24 % of the gross world product, as well as it is one of the leading of the world. Besides, the United States has a continuous and active role in the Middle East's conflict. In 2011, relations between the United States and Palestine, worsened as the Palestinians sought United Nations membership as a State, which the former president of the United States, Barack Obama, along with Israel, regarded as a unilateral act.

³ **closure policy:** The decision to reduce, suspend, or close all or part of a territory for reasons defined by the governor or his/her designee (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d.).

⁴ **statehood:** the condition of being recognized as a country or a part of a large country that has its own government (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d.).

As the current president of the United States, Donald Trump, took office in 2017, the United States has taken a series of measures that have been criticized as racist and discriminatory against the Palestinian people. Since 2018, Trump's administration has increasingly sided with the Israeli government regarding domestic matters; alike, President Trump formally recognized Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, contradicting nearly seven decades of American foreign policy and setting in motion the relocation of the embassy to the controversial Holy City of Jerusalem. This decision isolates the United States on one of the world's most sensitive diplomatic issues.

The Middle East War

After the end of World War I in 1918, the former League of Nations, handed over the Palestine State to the British Mandate. The end of this, in 1948, became a decisive moment in a conflict that continues to this day causing an endless number of deaths and has been largely ignored. The Israeli-Palestinian conflict arose at end of the nineteenth century, primarily as a conflict over territory being that both parties consider Jerusalem as sacred and part of their history; since the United Nations General Assembly designated Palestine's territory as both an Arab and Jewish state. Ever since Jerusalem has been denominated by the international community as not technically owning any land.

Since 2014, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has resulted in the deaths of at least 5,500 civilians along with West Bank and the Gaza border. Throughout these years, people all around the territory have held protests to raise their voices and show the non-conformity feeling given the situation they live in. On May 2018, one last protest took place at the Gaza Strip; this, coincided with the seventieth anniversary of the *Nakba*⁵, aside with the relocation

⁵ **nakba:** arabic term used to in order to refer to a catastrophe, often used to designate the Palestinian exodus (Oxford Dictionary, n.d.).

of the U.S. embassy to the disputed city of Jerusalem; according to the United Nations, this turned out in 183 demonstrators⁶ were killed and over 6,000 wounded by live ammunition.

In accordance to the article, *History Shows What's Wrong With the Idea That War Is 'Normal' in the Middle East*, written by Stephennie Mulder, an associate professor of Islamic Art and Architecture at the University of Texas, and published by the magazine Time, the coming of political modernity in the 19th century introduced new revolutionary ideas about equal citizenship, and transformed the older systems that had traditionally kept tensions in check by questioning them. Moreover, modern colonialism under the major European powers aside from post-colonial conflicts has meant the imposition of external interventions that often outcome in this ongoing internal violence.

Recognition of Palestinian Statehood and sovereignty over Jerusalem

Throughout of decades-long conflict, several critical issues have prevented Israel and Palestine from concluding a lasting peace, since several legal organizations dismiss the Palestinians' right to self-determination⁷ and statehood, by recalling the fact that Palestine lacks a legitimate sovereign and claiming that the remaining of Israeli forces in Palestinian territory is what must be done. Besides, some legal experts hold that even though Palestine may emerge from the ongoing peace process as a nation, statehood has not been established. According to criteria of statehood outlined in the Montevideo Convention of 1993, Palestine doesn't fully satisfy the four main criteria of this, that affirms: "a State must count on with a permanent population, a defined territory, a government, and the capacity to enter into relations with other states" (Seventh International Conference of American States, 1993).

⁶ **demonstrator:** a person who marches or stands with a group of people to show that they disagree with or support something or someone (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d.)

⁷ **self-determination:** right of people to freely determine their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development (Unrepresented Nations and People's Organization, 2017)

In 1969, the United Nations General Assembly recognized the Palestinian Liberation Organization (hereinafter referred to as PLO), to be the representative of the Palestinian people, and their right to self-determination. Between 1967 and 1973, the United Nations Security Council adopted the 242 and 338 Resolutions, which imply that the right to self-determination involves rights that result to a *de facto state*⁸, including claims to sovereignty, territorial integrity, and independence; on that account, it calls for an end to Israeli occupation in its territory by affirming the sovereignty of the Palestinian people over their territory occupied since 1967. As for the status of Jerusalem, its border has become a particular issue. In 1947, the General Assembly restated its intention to put Jerusalem under the direct responsibility of the United Nations and therefore no nation could have sovereignty over the territory; claiming that Israel possesses no right or sovereignty over Jerusalem and the presence of either Israeli ministries or its forces in Jerusalem constitutes a defiance⁹ of the will of the civilized world.

Al-Aqsa intifadah

Intifadah is the popular name used to refer to the outgoing rebellions along the West Bank against Israel, known to have as main objective combat the occupation of the Palestinian territories by Israel. Three uprisings *Intifadas* have taken place throughout the time, having a wide impact on Israeli-Palestinian relations. The second *intifadah*, also known as al-Aqsa, started in 2000 as response campaigns to the constant Israeli harassment, turning the conflict into an endless violence cycle. This led to a violent dispute in which suicide bombings, rocket attacks, and sniper fire were perpetrated by Palestinians and with deadlier force by the Israelis, that resulted in the collapse of the peace process, and led to provocations to the

⁸ **de facto state:** political entities that possess control of territory but lack international recognition (PONARS, 2015).

⁹ **defiance:** behaviour in which it is refused to obey someone or something (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d.).

Palestine people and Israeli policies with violations to the international law and deprivation of Palestinians of their basic human rights; five years of armed conflict left about 1,000 Israelis and 3,200 Palestinians dead. As an outcome of the second *intifadah*, the UN Security Council created The Quartet, a group of member states created in order to facilitate the Middle-East Peace Process negotiations. The Quartet was welcomed in United Nations Security Council resolution 1397 and adopted in 2002. Thereafter, in 2016, its first report treating major threats to the peace-building process and providing recommendations to advance a two-state solution was released.

Palestinian-Israeli violence in Gaza since the ceasefire of 2006

Gaza is a self-governing Palestinian region on the east coast of the Mediterranean Sea, which borders with Israel on the east and north. Due to its location, the land known as The Gaza Strip has been fought over from time to time since 1948, being claimed by the *de jure*¹⁰ sovereign State of Palestine. Despite all this, the territory continues to not be officially recognized by the United Nations as a State. It continues to be considered as occupied Palestinian territory by the international community, notwithstanding the 1993 Oslo Accords, a pair of agreements between the Government of Israel and the PLO, which aim to achieve a peace treaty based on the fulfilling of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, as well as despite the 1988 Declaration of Palestinian Independence, and Israel's withdrawal from Gaza as part of the 2005 Israeli unilateral disengagement¹¹ plan.

In 2006, the conflict escalated aside with the election of the Islamist political party *Hamas* in The Gaza Strip which led to the split of the Palestinian government. Over the years, this turned out in armed conflicts, intensifying the tension and fear in the population of at

¹⁰ **de jure:** having a right or existence as stated by law (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d.).

¹¹ **disengagement:** the withdrawal of military forces or political influence over a territory (Oxford Dictionary, n.d.).

least 1.5 million Palestinians who live along with the territory. These violent acts, such as the regular fire of missile, have had a significant impact on the people's lives, since an estimated 1,300 people, many of them civilians, were killed in Gaza before the ceasefire¹² of 2006 was declared, and more than 4.6 million Palestinians were forced out of their homes and moved to the neighboring countries of Syria, Jordan, and Lebanon to become refugees by the help of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). This has meant Israel's primary means of dealing with security concerns in The Gaza Strip, by cooperating with the Palestinian Authority's security forces, aiming to reduce the outgoing wave of violence in the zone.

Implications upon the relocation of the United States' embassy

In 2017, the Holy City of Jerusalem was recognized by the United States as Israel's capital, doing so within the framework¹³ of the Jerusalem Embassy Act of 1995, a law that called for Jerusalem to remain an undivided city and which its purpose was to set aside funds for the relocation of the Embassy of the United States. As a result, the relocation of the United States' embassy from Tel Aviv, the major city and economic center of Israel, to Jerusalem was announced, being Donald Trump's reason to set a peace proposal to work towards a lasting agreement. In 2018, the United States inaugurated its embassy in the Holy City, causing several Palestinian protests, turning out in the death of at least 60 people only one day after the embassy's relocation was announced, increasing political tensions.

Under the United Nations General Assembly's Resolution ES-10/19, adopted in 2017, after the Security Council's failure to maintain international peace, and which states

¹² **ceasefire:** a temporary suspension of fighting, typically one during which peace talks take place (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d.)

¹³ **framework:** a system of rules, ideas, or beliefs that is used to plan or decide something (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d.).

that “all acts and decisions that alter the character, status, or demographic composition of Jerusalem have no legal effect, are null and void” (United Nations General Assembly, 1980), Trump’s administration policy shift constitutes a violation of international law. In like manner, it called upon all states to refrain from establishing diplomatic missions in Jerusalem. Thenceforth, the international community announced its recognition of only Western Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

International Court of Justice within the affair

On January 2009, the government of Palestine turned to the International Court of Justice (hereinafter referred to as ICJ), with a declaration voluntarily accepting its jurisdiction. According to the Article 34(1) of the ICJ in which it is stated that only states may be parties in cases before the Court; however, as to for purposes of Article 34(1), the ICJ does not need to determine whether Palestine is a state or not, since an entity may task as a state for the functional purposes of certain treaties and procedures, and such procedures have no implications for the legal status of the entity under general international law. Even so, nowadays Palestine’s statehood is recognized by the UN General Assembly, the European Parliament, and 137 United Nations States.

Though relocating the United States’ embassy is intended to increase stability and reach peace, at least 6,000 civilians have been murdered and thousands of others have been wounded as well by these governments throughout the territory. Since that, the ICJ settles its jurisdiction upon this affair since it is an international dispute over both territorial sovereignty and diplomatic relations. Under Article 73 of the Charter of the United Nations, which states: Members of the United Nations which have or assume responsibilities for the administration of territories whose

peoples have not yet attained a full measure of self-government recognize the principle that the interests of the inhabitants of these territories are paramount and accept as a sacred trust the obligation to promote to the utmost, within the system of international peace and security established by the present Charter, the well-being of the inhabitants of these territories (United Nations, 1945).

Taking into account the actual situation of the case, the ICJ concludes that the dispute englobes the breach of international law committed by the United States of America, the allegations that Palestine is not recognized as an official state and the fact that the international community considers East Jerusalem as occupied territory; alike, the embassy's relocation and a self-styled diplomatic mission from the United States threatens both the region's security and the state of Israel itself.

Requests and submissions

The State of Palestine requests the following:

- Declare that the relocation of the US Embassy to the city of Jerusalem is in breach of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations;
- Order the United States to withdraw the diplomatic mission from the city of Jerusalem and to conform the international obligations flowing from the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations;
- Order the United States to take all necessary steps to comply with its obligations, to refrain from taking any future measures that would violate its obligations and to provide assurances and guarantees of non-repetition of its unlawful conduct.

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Topic B

Application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (The Gambia v. Myanmar)

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Outline

On August 2017, Myanmar's army, under a self-styled purpose of strengthening security as well as defusing¹⁴ tensions among civilians, systematically attacked numerous villages throughout the Rakhine province, where the Rohingya ethnic group is settled; by causing fires, raping women and massacring thousands of villagers. This, turned out in 10,000 deaths and the displacement of more than 700,000 Rohingya people, adding up a cipher of, approximately, 1,000,000 civilians who have been dislodged due to the constant waves of State-sponsored violence which started in 2016. Since then, The Gambia, a nascent State who advocates for human rights across the African continent, has spoken out on genocide against the Rohingya and the fact that those responsible haven't been prosecuted as they should, going largely unpunished.

Myanmar's social, political and economic background

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar located in Southeast Asia, was invaded and occupied by the Japanese Empire from 1941 to 1942, bringing the former British rule to an end, and thus, the country's independence in 1948. In 1962, the then democratic government became a 48-year military-based government starting with General Ne Win's mandate, turning out in a deteriorated economic situation of the country by the policies applied, where a black-market economy soon seized. Hence, a process known as *burmanization* took place, where the government prioritizes the Burman ethnic majority based in Buddhism, whilst ethnic minorities such as the Anglo-Burmese, Panthay, and the Rohingya, are suppressed and marginalized.

¹⁴ **defusing**: reduce the danger or tension within a difficult situation (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d.)

In 1988, the widespread corruption and food shortages¹⁵ led to mass protests, along with the foundation of the National League for Democracy (hereinafter referred to as NLD), the main opposition party under Daw Aung Suu Kyi's leadership. In 1990 the NLD won the elections, nevertheless, the military government refused to acknowledge it and continued to suppress any opposition. At last, in 2011, the military junta officially dissolved and established a civilian parliament, where Prime Minister Thein Sein was elected as president and marked a period of reform and the return of international engagement. Nevertheless, current president, U Win Myint, encounters problems addressing Myanmar's biggest issue, the management of its geographically fractured and ethnically diverse border areas since, constitutionally, the NLD cannot control the military the ongoing internal violence against ethnic minority groups, becoming a humanitarian crisis.

Gambia's social, political and economic background

The Republic of Gambia is located in West Africa, surrounded by Senegal and the Atlantic Sea with the outfall of the Gambia River. Throughout its history, Gambia has been under European rules due to colonization, predominantly by France. In 1889, resulting from a conference in Paris, that France ceded the control as a protectorate to Britain, and it was until 1965, within the Commonwealth of Nations, that The Gambia declared its independence from the United Kingdom. Nowadays, Gambia is a presidential republic with a multi-party system, where the president is head of the State, that vests a parliament. After the 1994 *coup d'état*¹⁶ against the declining legitimacy of the government and its ineffectiveness, the 1970 constitution was suspended, and so the government divided into independent branches.

¹⁵ **shortages:** a state or situation in which something needed cannot be obtained in sufficient amounts (Merriam-Webster Dictionary, n.d.).

¹⁶ **coup d'état:** the sudden and violent overthrow or defeat of a government through illegal force by a small group, often a military one (Merriam-Webster Dictionary, n.d.).

Gambia's economy is a mixed system that majorly relies on traditional subsistence agriculture, precisely on the export of peanut as there isn't many other minerals or natural resources, combined with a weak economic centralized planning and government regulation. In like manner, its population is divided into several ethnic groups: Malinke, Wolof, Fulani, Soninke, and a settlement of the Rohingyas who have suffered from genocidal actions in the past few years. These dislodgements have had an impact on the economical and social fields since there is no fixed income¹⁷ to the country other than the help provided by the Economic Community of the West African States (ECOWAS). Since that, more people need to immigrate to other territories, and although the State has taken actions to handle the situation, some matters continue to have a wide impact on the country.

Convention on the Prevention and Punishment on the Crime of Genocide

The Convention on the Prevention and Punishment on the Crime of Genocide (hereinafter referred to as CPPCG), is a document from the United Nations approved by the United Nations General Assembly by the 260th Resolution in 1948 as a consequence to the atrocious¹⁸ crimes committed by the Nazis during the Second World War and adopted by 152 States. The Convention is compounded by 19 articles, in which it is established that State parties shall implement preventive measurements to genocidal acts, as well as disputes between the States shall not involve genocidal acts of any kind and that the lack of punishment to these will lead to prosecution with the International Court of Justice. As a crime, genocide is difficult to determine, although, under the second Article of the CPPCG, genocide can be determined as:

¹⁷ **fixed income:** an investment that returns a payment on a regular schedule (The Balance, 2019).

¹⁸ **atrocious:** horrifyingly wicked, extremely bad or unpleasant (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d.).

Any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such: (a.) killing members of a group; (b.) causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of a group; (c.) deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part; (d.) imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group; and (e.) forcibly transferring children of the group to another group (Convention on the Prevention and Punishment on the Crime of Genocide, 1948).

In recent years, Myanmar's armed forces have attempted against Rohingya people settlements in both The Gambia's territory and its own. Regarding this, The Gambia submitted to the Court allegations on the lack of punishment from the breach on the Genocide Convention from Myanmar. As hereby referred, all State parties are in duty to cease violent acts that may result in genocide and irreparable harm. Nevertheless, the situation and lifestyle of the Rohingya ethnic minority depend on the retirement and prosecution of Myanmar's armed forces crimes.

The Rohingya

The Rohingyas are an ethnic group formed by around one million people in 2017, concentrated in the northern Rakhine, near the border with Bangladesh, and different from 90% of Myanmar's population, who profess Buddhism, Rohingya people are Muslim. Rohingya people are one of Myanmar's many ethnic minorities that has been largely marginalized and discriminated, since they are not considered as citizens, and have neither recognition nor freedom of movement. Further, they have been described by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres as one of, if not the, most discriminated ethnic group in the world.

According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the crisis of the Rohingya people is one of the longest in the world and also one of the most neglected¹⁹. Since Myanmar's independence, in 1948, Rohingya people have been victims of torture, negligence, and repression, living apart from the rest of society to the point that they cannot either marry or travel without permission from the country's authorities and have no right to have land or other properties, which greatly limits their possibilities of a worthy and stable life; a situation that has worsened over the years. In 2017, Rohingya's latest exodus²⁰ began when violence erupted in the province of Rakhine, Myanmar, forcing more than 723,000 civilians to seek refuge in Bangladesh, of which over 40 % refugees are children under the age of 12. This situation has led to killings, gang rapes, torture, forced displacement, as well as to other grave rights violations, and has remained unchanged being that Myanmar has failed to fully investigate allegations or criminalize genocide.

Tatmadaw militia

Tatmadaw is the common name used to refer to Myanmar's armed forces, which have seized power from the civilian government since it was first established in 1961. For almost half a century, the military has kept the country isolated, by periodically closing universities, imprisoning political opponents for decades, and denying citizens full access to information. The Tatmadaw has killed an estimated 3,000 pro-democracy demonstrators since 1988, and suppressed peaceful uprisings such as the Saffron Revolution led by Buddhist Monks in 2007, thus maintaining the government's control and becoming the country's only viable institution in the unceasing fighting with ethnic minorities. Ever since, the Tatmadaw militia has displaced millions of people while taking billions of dollars in profit from jade mines,

¹⁹ **neglect:** to not give enough care or attention to people or things that someone is responsible for (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d.).

²⁰ **exodus:** a mass departure of people, especially emigrants (Merriam-Webster Dictionary, n.d.).

teak forests, among many other natural resources from the non-Burman armed forces territories.

Succeeding the 1990 elections, restrictions on human rights and privileges have grown across the country, such as land confiscations, militarization, and both recruitment and forced child labor of children under fifteen in armed conflicts by the Tatmadaw continues to be an exception from punishment, notwithstanding that the issue has been recognized by Human Rights Watch and other international agencies. Since the quasi-civilian government took office in 2011, the number of armed conflicts between the rebel groups and the Tatmadaw significantly arose. In accordance with the United Nations, an estimated of more than 340,000 people uprooted²¹ by years of conflict living in camps in Bangladesh and Thailand between 2016 and 2017. Nevertheless, the Tatmadaw militia continues to assault against ethnic minority groups, despite the fact that the militia already faces accusations, submitted by international agencies, of crimes against humanity, war crimes, and genocide acts committed against the Rohingya minority.

2020 Myanmar's elections

In 2020, Myanmar is scheduled to hold its third general election, these are meant to be a development in the country's democracy after years of a military dictatorship. Ever since the Tatmadaw militia committed full-scale attacks on civilians in 2017, Rohingya people seemed forced to look after a refugee in neighboring countries. As the ongoing wave of violence worsens, Rohingya refugees don't seem likely to return to Myanmar in the near future, having a wide impact and creating logistical challenges for the 2020 elections that'll be held in November. Beyond, the greatest challenge for Myanmar's elections is the one to ensure the

²¹ **uproot:** to remove someone from his or her home or usual surroundings (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d.).

right to vote for the 60,000 Rohingya people that still inhabit in the country as well as for those who are refugees.

In accordance to the article *For Myanmar's Elections to Be Free and Fair Rohingya Must Get the Right to Vote*, written by Matthew Smith, a fellow at the Center for Human Rights Policy at Harvard University and co-founder of the non-profit human rights organizations, Fortify Rights, and published by the magazine Time, Rohingya's right to vote is not only about democracy but about dignity and protection as civilians of Myanmar and the world. In like manner, the United Nations, together with the international community and other international agencies and organizations such as the Arakan Rohingya Society for Peace and Human Rights (ARSPH), must labour in order to ensure the Rohingya's right to freely vote.

International Court of Justice within the affair

In January 2020, the International Court of Justice (hereinafter referred to as ICJ) issued its jurisdiction on the request for provisional measures in the case. This, submitted by the small Muslim-majority of nascent country of The Gambia, who called for emergency measures to punish genocide crimes against the Rohingya people, as well as against the Tatmadaw militia. Even though it is established that inter-state cases can only be submitted by the parties involved in the affair, the ICJ determines that the what it is stated in the CCPCG must be fulfilled by its States Members as well as by the international community as a whole. Following Article 55 of the Charter of the United Nations which states:

With a view to the creation of conditions of stability and well-being which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, the States parties of the

United Nations shall promote: (a.) higher standards of living, full employment, and conditions of economic and social progress and development; (b). solutions of international economic, social, health, and related problems; and international cultural and educational cooperation; and (c). universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion (United Nations, 1945).

Even though the Court hasn't determined either that Myanmar has committed genocide or not, it has attended the urgent request by The Gambia and authorized it to take provisional measurements as orders to prevent the commission of genocidal acts as well as to ensure the preservation of evidence of mass atrocity crimes to prevent irreparable harm. Thereby, under Articles 3 and 8 of the CPPCG, in which it is stated that all acts linked to genocide, either directly or indirectly, shall be punishable; likewise, any party may call upon the competent organs of the United Nations to take such action under the Charter of the United Nations as they consider appropriate for the prevention and suppression of acts of genocide or any other acts associated to it. It is, therefore, since both The Gambia and Myanmar are State parties of the 1948 Convention, both of them must prevent as well as punish genocide acts.

Requests and submissions;

The Gambia's government requests the following:

- The fact that the State Myanmar declares that it has violated the provisions of the Genocide Convention;
- Any acts that violate the Convention must cease, but also its obligation to prevent genocide must be implemented;

- Individuals who committed acts in violation of the Genocide Convention must be held accountable within its domestic legal system;
- Myanmar must remunerate the Rohingya victims, and allow them to return to Myanmar, reinstating their citizenship as well as undertaking protection of the group's human rights;

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Preambulatory Phrases

Preambulatory Phrases are used at the beginning of every Resolution Paper in order to give context about the resolutions made for the topic. Preambulatory Phrases must be written in italics followed by a sentence that gives said context. For each Resolution Paper there must be five sentences beginning with a Preambulatory Phrase.

Affirming	Desiring	Noting with deep concern
Alarmed by	Emphasizing	Noting with satisfaction
Approving	Expecting	Noting further
Bearing in mind	Expressing its appreciation	Observing
Believing	Fulfilling	Reaffirming
Confident	Fully aware	Realizing
Contemplating	Further deploring	Recalling
Convinced	Further recalling	Recognizing
Declaring	Guided by	Referring
Deeply concerned	Having adopted	Seeking
Deeply conscious	Having considered	Taking into consideration
Deeply convinced	Having examined	Taking note
Deeply disturbed	Having received	Viewing with appreciation
Deeply regretting	Keeping in mind	Welcoming

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Glossary for Resolution Papers

Operative Clauses

Operative Clauses are used at the beginning of every resolution within the Resolution Paper on the debated topic. It must be written in italics and bold.

Accepts	Endorses	Notes
Affirms	Draws the attentions	Proclaims
Approves	Emphasizes	Reaffirms
Authorizes	Encourages	Recommends
Calls	Expresses its appreciation	Regrets
Calls upon	Expresses its hope	Reminds
Condemns	Further invites	Requests
Confirms	Further proclaims	Solemnly affirms
Congratulates	Further reminds	Strongly condemns
Considers	Further recommends	Supports
Declares accordingly	Further requests	Takes note of
Deplores	Further resolves	Transmits
Designates	Has resolved	Trusts