



Background
Guide



UNSC:
CURRENT SITUATION
OF UKRAINE

2023

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STUDY GUIDE - Orpheus MUN'23

Committee: United Nations Security Council(UNSC)

Agenda: Current Situation in Ukraine

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Letter from the Executive Board

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to Orpheus MUN 2023!

We are pleased to welcome you as this year's delegates of the Orpheus Model United Nations, United Nations Security Council (UNSC). While detailed knowledge of the committee is provided in the study guide, to give you a brief introduction, we feel the need to set this committee up because there is a need for putting a check on international security, analyzing its status and understanding the solution it presents to modern-day conflicts. Throughout the committee, the board would be helping you to understand the traits of diplomacy, logical analysis and argumentative debating. This guide, although very comprehensive and factual, provides only a basic idea of the agenda. The delegates under no circumstances should limit their research to this guide.

We expect from members of this committee that you respect everyone's views, maintain general decorum and most importantly, understand the gravity of these issues and discuss effective solutions. Besides, the Dais is solely responsible to moderate the committee on the day of the conference. We look forward to seeing you!

Best Wishes,

The Executive Board,

UNSC, Orpheus MUN,

2023 Vansh Teotia

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2. Description of the Committee:

Following World War II, an organization called the United Nations was established in order to serve as a forum for international discussion and the formulation of universally accepted values. To carry out these judgments, the Security Council was established. The UNSC's authority and duties were outlined in the UN Charter, although they have subsequently been clarified. The only seats that are always filled on the Security Council belong to the Allies, who also have the veto power. The United States, France, the United Kingdom, Russia, and China make up this group of five members. These five states have a special authority to regulate international action since any one of their vetoes can stop a resolution from passing.

There is a significant power imbalance in the Security Council because the other temporary ten members lack this authority. These ten nations, which alternate every two years, represent various parts of the globe.

The UNSC has few tools at its disposal and relies on the resources of states to take action, thus the extent of its authority is still up for debate. The Security Council's general authority is outlined in the UN Charter, but in the absence of concrete actions, these powers are frequently ambiguous. Many smaller nations have sought the UNSC to mediate conflicts, but occasionally more powerful states have to designate a more constrained role for the council.

The function of the UNSC is further complicated by the fact that states frequently act unilaterally, multilaterally, or through regional organizations in response to crises. Although there is disagreement concerning the UNSC's function, it has a wide variety of tools at its disposal for handling crises, including the ability to impose sanctions, dispatch peacekeepers, break off diplomatic ties, and mediate conflicts.

Mandate:

The Security Council is one of the six primary UN bodies that were formed by the UN Charter. The Security Council, which may convene whenever peace is threatened, is given primary responsibility for preserving world peace and security.

The Charter lists the following four goals for the UN:

- to uphold world peace and security,
- foster amicable relations between states,
- work together to resolve global issues and advance respect for human rights,
and
- serve as a hub for coordinating international action.

The Security Council's decisions are accepted and will be implemented by all UN members. Merely the Security Council has the authority to adopt decisions that member states are

subsequently required to execute in accordance with the Charter, whereas other UN entities can only offer recommendations to member states.

The Council's initial course of action when a complaint regarding a threat to peace is presented before it is often to suggest that the parties attempt to come to an agreement through peaceful methods.

The Council has a number of options, including laying down the groundwork for such an accord,

- sending a mission,
- appointing special envoys,
- conducting an inquiry, or
- asking the Secretary-General to use his influence to settle the conflict amicably.

When a dispute escalates into violence, the Council's top priority is to put an end to it as quickly as possible. In that situation, the Council may: issue orders for a cease-fire that can assist stop the conflict from getting worse; send military observers or a peacekeeping force to help lower tensions, separate opposing troops, and create a calm where peaceful solutions may be pursued.

Agenda Briefs:

Current Situation:

Following the beginning of a military attack by the Russian Federation on February 24, 2022, the security situation in Ukraine swiftly worsened. At least eight oblasts (regions) saw an increase in armed conflict, including Kyivska oblast, the nation's capital, and the already-conflicted eastern oblasts of Donetsk and Luhansk.

As key services and supplies are interrupted and civilians leave the fighting, the intensification of the conflict has resulted in an immediate and sharp increase in humanitarian needs. According to UN projections, 12 million Ukrainian citizens will need aid and protection, and more than 4 million Ukrainian refugees may also require safety and support in nearby nations in the near future.

In order to provide immediate humanitarian assistance to citizens of Ukraine and refugees in neighboring countries, the UN and humanitarian partners launched synchronized Flash Appeals on March 1, 2022, asking for a total of \$1.7 billion.

The plan calls for \$1.1 billion in order to cover the rising humanitarian needs of the more than six million Ukrainians who will be impacted and displaced by military activities over the course of the next three months. The UN asked for \$551 million outside the nation to assist Ukrainians who had crossed borders, mostly to Poland, Hungary, Romania, and Moldova.

According to a new poll issued on Wednesday by the Food and Agriculture Organization, rural households are being compelled to scale back or stop agricultural activity more often nine months after Russia invaded Ukraine (FAO).

According to the results, 1 in 4 of the 5,200 respondents had scaled back or discontinued agricultural output as a result of the violence. According to the research, 25% of rural Ukrainians who were engaged in agriculture had to halt their operations or reduce their output as a result of the conflict, according to Pierre Vauthier, head of FAO's Ukraine Country Office.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has already had a profound impact on not just those countries but on the rest of the region and the whole globe, underscoring the necessity of a global safety net and regional agreements to protect economies.

There are already definite indications that the war and the ensuing increase in the price of necessities will make it more difficult for policymakers in some countries to strike the delicate balance between controlling inflation and assisting the economic recovery from the pandemic, even though some effects may not become fully apparent for many years.

Global Impacts:

Beyond the hardship and humanitarian disaster brought on by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, slower development and higher prices will have an impact on the whole world economy.

There are three basic avenues via which impacts will move. One is that increased inflation due to increasing pricing for basic necessities like food and electricity will erode the purchasing power of earnings and reduce demand. Two, a historic increase in refugee movements will put a strain on nearby economies, which will

have to deal with interrupted supply chains, remittances, and commerce. Third, lower asset values will result from investor uncertainty and lowered company confidence, tightening financial conditions and perhaps causing capital outflows from developing countries.

Major producers of commodities, Russia and Ukraine have seen their prices surge due to interruptions, particularly for natural gas and oil. Food prices have increased, with wheat prices reaching a record, with Ukraine and Russia accounting for 30% of world exports.

Countries with direct trade, tourist, and financial exposures will face extra pressures on top of global spillovers. Although some exporters, such as those in the Middle East and Africa, may gain from higher prices, economies that rely on oil imports would see greater fiscal and trade deficits and increased inflation pressure.

In some areas, including Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, the Caucasus, and Central Asia, steeper price rises for food and gasoline may lead to a larger risk of instability, while food insecurity is likely to worsen in several areas of Africa and the Middle East.

In addition to global spillovers, additional pressures will be placed on nations with direct trade, tourism, and financial exposures. Economies that rely on oil imports would have bigger fiscal and trade deficits as well as higher inflation pressure, despite the fact that certain exporters, such as those in the Middle East and Africa, may benefit from higher prices.

Sharper increases in food and fuel prices may increase the danger of instability in some regions, such as Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, the Caucasus, and Central Asia, while food insecurity is expected to get worse in many parts of Africa and the Middle East.

Some of the Identified Regions (Donetsk, Luhansk, Kherson, Zaporizhzhia):

Early in 2014, when Russia annexed Crimea, armed warfare broke out in eastern Ukraine. The previous year, state security forces violently suppressed demonstrations in Kyiv, the capital of Ukraine, protesting President Viktor Yanukovich's decision to reject an agreement for closer economic integration with the European Union (EU). President Yanukovich left the nation in February 2014 as the unrest grew and the violence intensified.

Russian military seized control of the Ukrainian territory of Crimea one month later, in March 2014. Vladimir Putin, the president of Russia, underlined the requirement to defend the rights of Russian nationals and speakers in Crimea and southeast Ukraine. After Crimeans cast their ballots in favour of joining the Russian Federation in a contentious local referendum, Russia legally seized the peninsula. Pro-Russian rebels in the eastern Ukrainian regions of Donetsk and Luhansk staged their own independence referendums two months after the conflict widened ethnic tensions.

Armed combat between the Ukrainian military and troops supported by Russia rapidly erupted in the local areas. Russia denied any military engagement, although both Ukraine and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) noted a buildup

of Russian forces and military hardware close to Donetsk as well as Russian cross-border firing just after Crimea was annexed. The battle developed into an active standoff, with frequent shelling and clashes taking place along the frontlines dividing the areas of the east held by Russia and Ukraine.

France, Germany, Russia, and Ukraine made an effort to initiate talks to stop the bloodshed through the Minsk Accords beginning in February 2015. The basis of the deal contained clauses calling for a halt to hostilities, the removal of heavy weapons, and complete Ukrainian government authority over the whole combat area. However, diplomatic efforts to find a compromise and a satisfying outcome were mainly ineffective.

In an effort to thwart any potential Russian assault elsewhere on the continent, notably in the Baltic States, NATO announced in April 2016 the deployment of four battalions to Eastern Europe, with troops rotating through Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Poland. To strengthen NATO's presence in the area, the US also sent two U.S. Army tank brigades to Poland in September 2017.

New sanctions were put in place by the US in January 2018 against twenty-one people, including a number of Russian officials, and nine firms involved in the fighting in eastern Ukraine. The first supply of deadly weapons since the start of the war occurred when the

U.S. Department of State authorized the shipment of anti-tank weapons to Ukraine in March 2018. In a series of massive air drills in western Ukraine in October 2018, Ukraine participated alongside the US and seven other NATO nations. The exercises followed Russia's own yearly military drills, which were the biggest since the collapse of the Soviet Union, in September 2018.

A White House briefing with U.S. intelligence, military, and diplomatic leaders on a nearly certain mass-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine took place in October 2021 after months of intelligence gathering and observations of Russian troop movements, force build-up, and military contingency financing. The only remaining uncertainties were the date of the strike and the US's ability to persuade allies to take preventive action. On February 24, 2022, Russian soldiers invaded an entirely unprepared Ukraine after Russian President Vladimir Putin approved a "special military operation" against the nation. Putin asserted that the operation's purpose was to demilitarise, de-nazify, and put an end to the supposed slaughter of Russians on Ukrainian territory.

The Joe Biden administration took the unorthodox choice to loosen information-sharing restrictions and permit a wider disclosure of intelligence and results, both with friends (including Ukraine) and publicly, in the days and weeks prior to the invasion. This plan's objectives were to strengthen ally defences and deter Russia from acting aggressively. In November and December 2021, commercial satellite images, social media posts, and public information showed tanks, missiles, and other heavy hardware heading into Ukraine without a formal justification from the Kremlin. More than 100,000 Russian troops were stationed close to the Russia-Ukraine border by the end of 2021, and U.S. intelligence agencies issued a warning

about a Russian invasion in early 2022.

The Joe Biden administration made the unconventional decision to relax information-sharing constraints and allow a greater exposure of intelligence and outcomes, both with friends (including Ukraine) and publicly, in the days and weeks leading up to the invasion. The goals of this plan were to fortify ally defenses and discourage Russia from behaving forcefully. Tanks, missiles, and other heavy equipment were seen entering Ukraine in November and December 2021 according to commercial satellite pictures, social media posts, and public information. The Kremlin has not provided any official explanation for this action. By the end of 2021, there were over 100,000 Russian soldiers stationed not far from the Russia-Ukraine border, and American intelligence services warned of a Russian attack in early 2022.

Due to Russia's expanding military position near the Russia-Ukraine border, the United States issued a warning in late February 2022 that Russia intended to attack Ukraine. President Putin then sent soldiers to Luhansk and Donetsk on the pretext that they were needed for "peacekeeping." A few days later, the United States retaliated by placing

penalties on the areas and the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline. U.S. and Ukrainian authorities, however, were at odds on the nature and plausibility of an armed Russian threat in the days before the invasion, with Ukrainian officials downplaying the prospect of an incursion and delaying the mobilization of their soldiers and reserve forces.

The United States issued a warning that Russia intended to attack Ukraine in late February 2022 as a result of Russia's growing military presence close to the Russia-Ukraine border. Then, under the guise of "peacekeeping," President Putin dispatched troops to Luhansk and Donetsk. A few days later, as retaliation, the United States imposed sanctions on the regions and the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline. However, in the days leading up to the invasion, U.S. and Ukrainian authorities disagreed on the nature and likelihood of an armed Russian threat, with Ukrainian officials downplaying the possibility of an invasion and delaying the mobilization of their military and reserve forces.

Ukraine has also become the target of thousands of cyberattacks more often after the invasion of Crimea in 2014. More than 225,000 people in Ukraine lost power as a result of an attack on energy production companies in December 2015; similarly, a similar attack on a Ukrainian utility business resulted in another power outage in some areas of Kiev in December 2016. The NotPetya cyberattack, which has been blamed on Russia, struck Ukrainian government and commercial computer systems in June 2017. The assault extended to computer systems throughout the world and resulted in billions of dollars in losses. Alongside the Russian invasion in February 2022, distributed denial-of-service operations were launched against the websites of the Ukrainian government, including those of the defense and interior ministries, financial institutions, and other related organizations.

Press Release:

A press release is a statement issued to the media on behalf of the Security Council's 15 members by the president. It is released in both English and French as a news release from the UN.

Refer to the link below for samples:

- <https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/press-statements-0#:~:text=A%20press%20statement%20is%20a.release%20in%20English%20and%20French.>

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