

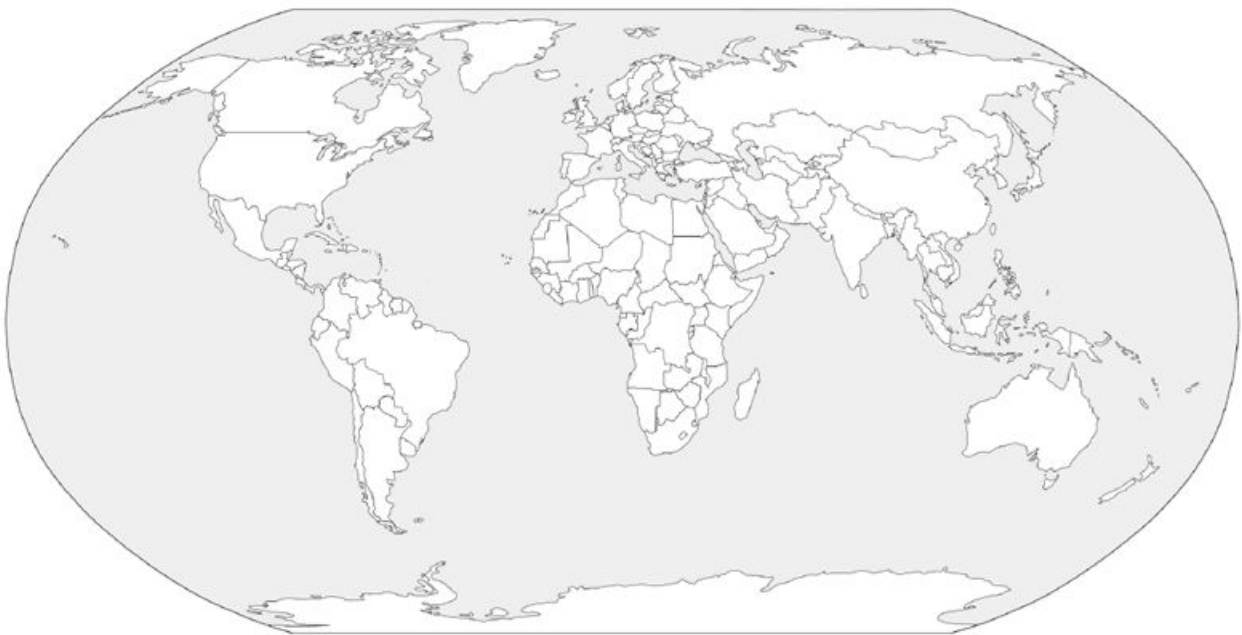
KUNA Country Research Booklet

Directions: This country research guide is a wonderful tool to help your students learn about their country as they prepare for participation in KUNA. All students should complete the research to help ensure that they are able to represent the status and perspective of their country during diplomacy and debate.

The CIA World Factbook is a great general resource for country research. Other resources for more specific information are also provided in this booklet. Please note that some questions may not apply to specific countries and some countries may not be included in standard world rankings for some topics.

We hope you find this guide useful and productive in your preparations for the KUNA conference. Advisors are encouraged to utilize this booklet with their delegations to monitor the progress of their conference preparations.

Map of the World Showing Major Countries



Country Name: _____

I. Geography

1. On the map above, locate and shade in the borders of your country.

2. On what continent is your country located?

3. Go to <https://mapfight.appspot.com/>. Use this tool to compare the size of your country to some other locations (Kentucky; the US; China; etc.) and find the size in square miles.

*What is the size of your country (sq/mi)?_____

4. If applicable, name the countries bordering your country.

5. What, if any, bodies of water are bordering your country?

6. List the 3-5 most important natural resources of your country:

7. Describe the climate. Does the country experience seasonal weather changes?

8. List 3 or 4 major environmental issues in the country.

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II. History

1. When was the country founded? When did the country gain independence? Think of the U.S. It was colonized in the 16th century, but did not declare independence until 1776. Consider the change in control over the last one hundred years.

2. List any major conflicts in the last 50 years. How did those conflicts change the country?

3. List three major events that have occurred in the last 50 years.

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4. List the most important event in the history of the country. Briefly explain the event.

5. Describe your country's national flag and the symbolic importance of its design.

III. Government

1. Briefly explain the organization of the government. How are legislative, executive, and judicial powers distributed? Do checks and balances exist? Is it a democracy? Is there a constitution?

2. Who has the right to vote in the country? Are elections considered fair?--For more information regarding free and fair elections, go to <http://www.ipu.org/cnl-e/154-free.htm>

3. Who is the current leader of the country? How long has this leader been in power? How did this person come to have ruling authority? Is this leader affiliated with a particular political party? If so, which one?

4. List the major political parties in the country and briefly describe the platform of the top two.

5. Who were the most influential political leaders in the history of the country?

6. Is the current government considered stable? If not, explain some of the issues facing the government.

IV. Population

1. What is the total population of the country?

Provide the percentages for the following

i. Males.....

ii. Females.....

iii. Age Distribution:

v. Unemployed....

2. List the major ethnic groups.

i. Do conflicts exist between any of these ethnic groups? If so, explain.

3. List the top 5 religions in the country, with percentage of practitioners:
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
 - 5.
4. Does the government allow people to freely practice any religion?
5. What is the average annual income of the country in U.S. dollars?
5. What percentage of the country is considered to be living in poverty?
6. What is the average income of the upper class? What percentage of the population are considered wealthy?
7. What city has the highest population density?

V. Education

1. Does the country provide education to all citizens? If not, who has access to education?
2. List the literacy rate of the country.
3. Are male and females granted equal access to education? If not, explain.
4. What percentage of the population completes primary school? Secondary school? University?
5. According to PISA (Program for International Student Assessment), what is the ranking of the literacy and math scores? (Not all countries are ranked, therefore, some countries may skip this question) <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2011/2011004.pdf>

IV. Culture

1. List the top 5 languages spoken in this country:

- * _____
- * _____
- * _____
- * _____
- * _____

2. What, if any, are the officially recognized languages for government purposes?

3. What are some cultural activities that are considered particularly important or that the country may be well-known for? (food, music, sports, art, etc.)

4. What are some natural or architectural landmarks that are considered nationally significant or for which the country is well-known? (monuments, buildings, mountains, etc.)

5. List 3-5 national holidays that are of particular importance to citizens of this country.

- * _____
- * _____
- * _____
- * _____
- * _____

V. Current Issues

1. What percentage of the population in this country has access to the internet?

For more information go to <http://www.itu.int/en/Pages/default.aspx>

2. Describe the condition of the infrastructure. Are roads and bridges well maintained? Are buildings earthquake proof? Is this country prepared for a natural disaster?

3. Describe the current healthcare system. Are the hospitals well-equipped to handle an emergency? Do they have enough beds? Are doctors accessible in all parts of the country?

i. Has the country experienced a major health crisis in the last 10 years?

ii. What is the leading cause of death?

iii. List the infant mortality rate.

iv. What percentage of the population is experiencing some kind of food insecurity?

v. What is the average life expectancy for this country?

4. List the top three greatest issues facing this country.

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5. What are the major exports and imports of this country?

6. List any human rights violations. For more information, go to the Center for Economic and Social Rights website: <http://www.cesr.org>

VI. Strategic/Economic Alliances

1. Who are considered the allies of the country?
2. Which countries are considered a threat to this country?
3. Does this country receive any aid (financial or otherwise) from other countries?
If so, provide specifics.
4. In the event that this country is attacked as an act of war, which country is most likely to come to its aid?
5. What is this country's most important trading partner?
5. In what year did this country join the U.N.
6. Where does this country rank on the Global Fire Power rankings?
<https://www.globalfirepower.com/> Some countries may not be ranked.

Are citizens required to join the military?

VI. In 50 words or less, describe this country.