

KENTUCKY UNITED NATIONS ASSEMBLY 2019

SECURITY COUNCIL ISSUES

At KUNA, the Security Council will address **3 Issues** pertaining to international security in a specialized debate format. This year's issues are as follows:

- **Human Rights**
- **Resource Conservation**
- **Cybersecurity**

Each issue includes a resource guide with the following sections:

- **Background on Issue**
Summary and background information on the issue
- **Questions to Address**
Guiding questions/problems to address in position papers and resolutions
- **Sources**
Links to research, articles, and other resources on the issue

All Security Council members - both Middle School and High School - will prepare and submit a **Position Paper** stating the position of their country on each of these 3 issues prior to KUNA. You must submit a position paper, or your country risks losing its vote during Security Council debate.

Position Papers are submitted using the link below (NOT on your delegation's registration form), and are due by the registration deadline for your Assembly:

www.kyymca.org/kuna/security-council

The page above also includes links to the Security Council Resource Folder, which contains additional resources and templates for preparing for your role as a member of the Security Council.

At the Assembly, members of the Security Council will work together to draft, debate, and vote on **Resolutions** addressing each of the issues.

Our High School Security Council will also participate in a **Crisis Scenario**, which will be facilitated by the President of the Security Council President and YMCA Staff. Details regarding the scenario will be revealed at KUNA.

Security Council | Issue 1

Human Rights

AUTHOR: Jake Vaught, Security Council President, HS KUNA 1

BACKGROUND ON ISSUE

Human rights are those rights which apply to all people simply due to the fact that they are a human being. These rights disregard race, gender, sexual orientation, or any disability. After the horrific events brought upon human life during World War II, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was enacted to protect the invariable rights of each and every human being. With these laws, every person in the world is protected and able to live their life with equal opportunity. Whether it be commonly discussed issues such as human trafficking to more overlooked problems such as women's rights, the enforcement of human rights is an incredibly pressing dilemma that must be addressed.

Despite common belief, there are dozens of millions of people trapped in various forms of slavery throughout the world today. Modern Slavery includes labor slavery, child slavery, sex slavery, and forced marriage slavery. To give some statistics: 12.5% of people are in sex slavery, 37.5% in forced marriages, 25% of children are in the trade, and about 50% of people are in some form of labor slavery. Modern slavery is an enormous industry across the world, generating \$150 Billion each year. The surplus of human population has not only made the slave trade more dangerous, but unfortunately also more available. According to *Disposable People: New Slavery in the Global Economy*, a slave is \$90 in today's economy, almost 450 times cheaper than a slave during the 1800's. In many cases, a country's economy won't be capable of keeping up with its population, leaving many people economically vulnerable and exposed to vicious moneylenders who force them into the slave trade. This issue is most prevalent in 3rd World Countries, where government has less control over the enforcement of human rights. This issue requires international involvement to provide support to the countries whose police forces aren't capable of eliminating the slave trade in their areas.

Women's Rights is an issue that affects all females everywhere to some degree. In 1st world countries, women face the longstanding issue of unequal pay. According to a study by the Chartered Management Institute, equal pay for men and women won't be reached in the United States until 2067, 89 years after Equal Pay Laws were established. In the UK, a man in the same managing position makes about £10,031 more than their female counterparts. In some 2nd and 3rd world countries, women have little to no reproductive rights. Some countries force women to have children, while others restrict them to one child (some governments even require them to get rid of the child if it isn't of the proper preference). With many 3rd world countries, women are objectified and lack numerous human rights. Females are forced into marriages where they have little to no voice in their society (including voting and education) and are abused, maimed, and even killed if they break the status quo. The most famous case of the suppression of women's rights being in 3rd world countries is Malala Yousafzai, a Pakistani woman who was shot in the head because she attended school and spoke out in support of equal education for men and women.

However hard our society tries to ignore the wrongs in our world, we must face the facts and address these issues before they become an even greater threat to humanity. All countries contribute to some part of the issue; however, all countries can also contribute to a solution. Through international coordination and determination, the UN can create a world where the security of each and every human being can not only be promised, but protected.

QUESTIONS TO ADDRESS IN POSITION PAPERS (3)

1. How does my country struggle with enforcing human rights and how can my country fix it?
2. Should 1st and 2nd world countries economically/militarily support 3rd world countries who struggle with human rights?
3. Should countries be sanctioned for not properly implementing human rights laws in their respective territories?

SOURCES FOR RESEARCH (5)

1. Global Issues and Women's Rights

<http://www.globalissues.org/issue/137/human-rights-issues>

2. Worst Human Rights Abusers

<https://www.voanews.com/a/article-17-countries-top-list-of-worlds-worst-human-rights-abusers-122958138/160303.html>

3. Equal Pay for Women

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk/2010/aug/19/equal-pay-women-2057>

4. Modern Slavery

<https://www.freetheslaves.net/about-slavery/slavery-today/>

5. Malala Yousafzai

<https://www.biography.com/people/malala-yousafzai-21362253>

Security Council | Issue 2

Resource Conservation

AUTHOR: Nathalie Sanchez, Security Council President, HS KUNA 2

BACKGROUND ON ISSUE

Natural resources all across the globe are being consumed at rates faster than the environment can continue to produce them. As the world's population continues to increase, the global demand for food, water, and energy is projected to grow by 50% by the year 2030. This crisis can be seen in many developing and third-world countries.

For example, between one-quarter and one-half of interstate wars since 1973 have been caused, at least in part, by oil. The linkages between oil and international conflict are growing increasingly important in light of the changing suppliers of oil in developing countries. As fracking of shale oil and gas accelerates, energy imports are projected to decline. Because the rest of the world remains dependent on global oil markets, the fracking revolution will do little to reduce many oil-related threats to international security. The emergence of aggressive, revolutionary leaders in petrostates (a state whose wealth stems from oil sales) would likely continue to pose threats to regional security causing them to continue being weakly institutionalized and thus subject to civil wars, creating the kind of security problems that demand responses by the international community.

Another example would be water shortages across the globe causing increasingly heightened global security threats. According to a United Nations report in 2015, about 2.9 billion people in 48 countries will be facing water shortages within 10 years that could destabilize and jeopardize the "very existence" of some countries. By 2030, there will be a global supply shortfall of 40% and it could pose a major threat to global security. Global warming is causing extreme weather events that are nudging water supply issues from bad to desperate. United States intelligence agencies consider the prospect of water shortage a threat to be considered alongside terrorism and weapons of mass destruction. The main problem with water is not volume, but distribution. The ability to distribute water to meet these demands is largely a function of wealth. While affluent countries are generally able to manage the resources to meet demand, poorer countries frequently lack the infrastructure to deliver clean, safe water. Their economies also tend to rely disproportionately on deregulated and dirty extractive industries like coal mining that contaminate already-scarce water supplies. Impoverished nations are already suffering from serious water woes. Three-quarters of a billion people lack access to clean water, and water-related disease takes the lives of about 840,000 a year, according to Water.org. It's increasingly clear that even rich countries cannot keep their water supplies safe from the consequences of climate change and extreme weather events —or from the instability that follows. In recent years California has experienced its worst drought in recorded history, which has rippled through both the local and national economy. Floods in the Canadian province of Manitoba in 2011 and 2014 caused the government's budget deficit to swell and ultimately led to political leaders resigning, according to the U.N. report.

Fighting over resources contributes to violent conflict that is not over power, but over survival. This issue affects both wealthy and poor countries alike, however, the poorer countries are suffering drastically. Resources on earth are global and should be shared, therefore the international community needs to address this together as it is destabilizing numerous countries and threatens the security of everyone.

QUESTIONS TO ADDRESS IN POSITION PAPERS (3)

1. What global efforts can my country make to minimize the impact of global warming on water supplies?
2. What sanctions should be placed to regulate the supplies amongst countries?
3. Should heavily impacted countries receive help from larger, wealthier countries?

SOURCES FOR RESEARCH (5)

1. Direct Connection

(<https://www.conservation.org/projects/Pages/Promoting-Economic-National-and-Global-Security-Direct-connection.aspx>)

2. Protecting Nature

(<https://blog.conservation.org/2013/04/protecting-nature-is-critical-to-maintain-global-security/>)

3. Oil Conflict

(<https://www.belfercenter.org/publication/oil-conflict-and-us-national-interests>)

4. World Economic Forum

(<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2015/03/the-threat-to-global-security-from-water-shortages/>)

5. Sahel and West Africa Club

(<http://www.oecd.org/swac/publications/global-security-risks.htm>)

Security Council | Issue 3

Cybersecurity

AUTHOR: Maggie Mitchell, Security Council President, HS KUNA 3

BACKGROUND ON ISSUE

During a speech at the White House Cyber Security Summit at Stanford University, President Obama compared cyberspace to the “wild, wild west.” Indeed, due to its existing influence and potential for growth, a 2010 report by the UN Group of Governmental Experts determined that cybersecurity threats are among the most serious challenges of the 21st century.

Cyber warfare allows war to be waged in a whole new way — cyber attacks can have extensive effects on computer networks, whether that’s by disabling them or by gaining access to their information. As more systems become digitized, it puts critical aspects of life and governance at risk, such as banking and healthcare systems, power grids, and government databases. Use of these weapons isn’t just limited to rich and powerful countries, however. Cyber Weapons are relatively cheap to develop and easy to use, so as technology becomes more prevalent on the global stage, it provides more opportunities for global conflict.

Because of the lack of regulation, countries today use cyberattacks as a way to gain political influence with little repercussions for their actions. Although the United Nations has addressed cyber warfare in the past, there are no cyber Geneva Conventions to govern it. Without any such international regulations or agreements about what is justifiable, cyber attacks remain prevalent as a tool to cripple enemy states without ever having to set foot on their land.

In 2010, Iran’s nuclear facilities were inexplicably failing — the centrifuges were spinning too fast, destroying the machines. It was the work of Stuxnet, a sophisticated worm developed by the United States and Israel. Stuxnet was able to infect computers involved in uranium enrichment and force the centrifuges to spin too fast, destroying the equipment. In a time of peace, the U.S. and Israel were able to impede the manufac

The online world is borderless and globally connected, and the very same features that give the internet its appeal are also what make cybersecurity so challenging on a global scale. Attackers can remain anonymous by using computers in countries that have poor defense capabilities — one country that is unable to defend their networks puts the whole global system at risk. This issue is especially pertinent in developing countries that often lack the infrastructure to protect themselves from cyber threats. As other countries become more and more adept at protecting themselves, threats to cybersecurity find their homes in countries with less advanced defense capabilities.

According to the UN’s Global Cybersecurity Index, only about half of the countries in the world have or are developing a cybersecurity plan. The problem is growing at a rapid pace — as our digital world expands, so do the vulnerabilities to cyber attacks. International cooperation is essential for protection from this new global threat: to address an issue that transcends borders, we must have cooperation that transcends borders as well.

QUESTIONS TO ADDRESS IN POSITION PAPERS (3)

1. What forms of global conventions should be created to govern cyber warfare?
2. How can the Security Council enforce any such regulations?
3. How can the Security Council prevent or mitigate the impact of cyber warfare?

SOURCES FOR RESEARCH (5)

1. Significant Cyber Incidents
(<https://www.csis.org/programs/cybersecurity-and-governance/technology-policy-program/other-projects-cybersecurity>)
2. Cybersecurity Bibliography
(<https://carnegieendowment.org/2017/01/11/international-relations-and-cyber-security-carnegie-contribution-to-oxford-bibliographies-pub-67672>)
3. Cyberwarfare

(<https://www.rand.org/topics/cyber-warfare.html>)

4. Theft and Reuse of Cyberweapons

(<https://www.cfr.org/blog/theft-and-reuse-advanced-offensive-cyber-weapons-pose-growing-threat>)

5. Cyberspace: The New Frontier in Warfare

(<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2015/09/cyberspace-the-new-frontier-in-warfare/>)