

# Historic UN Security Council

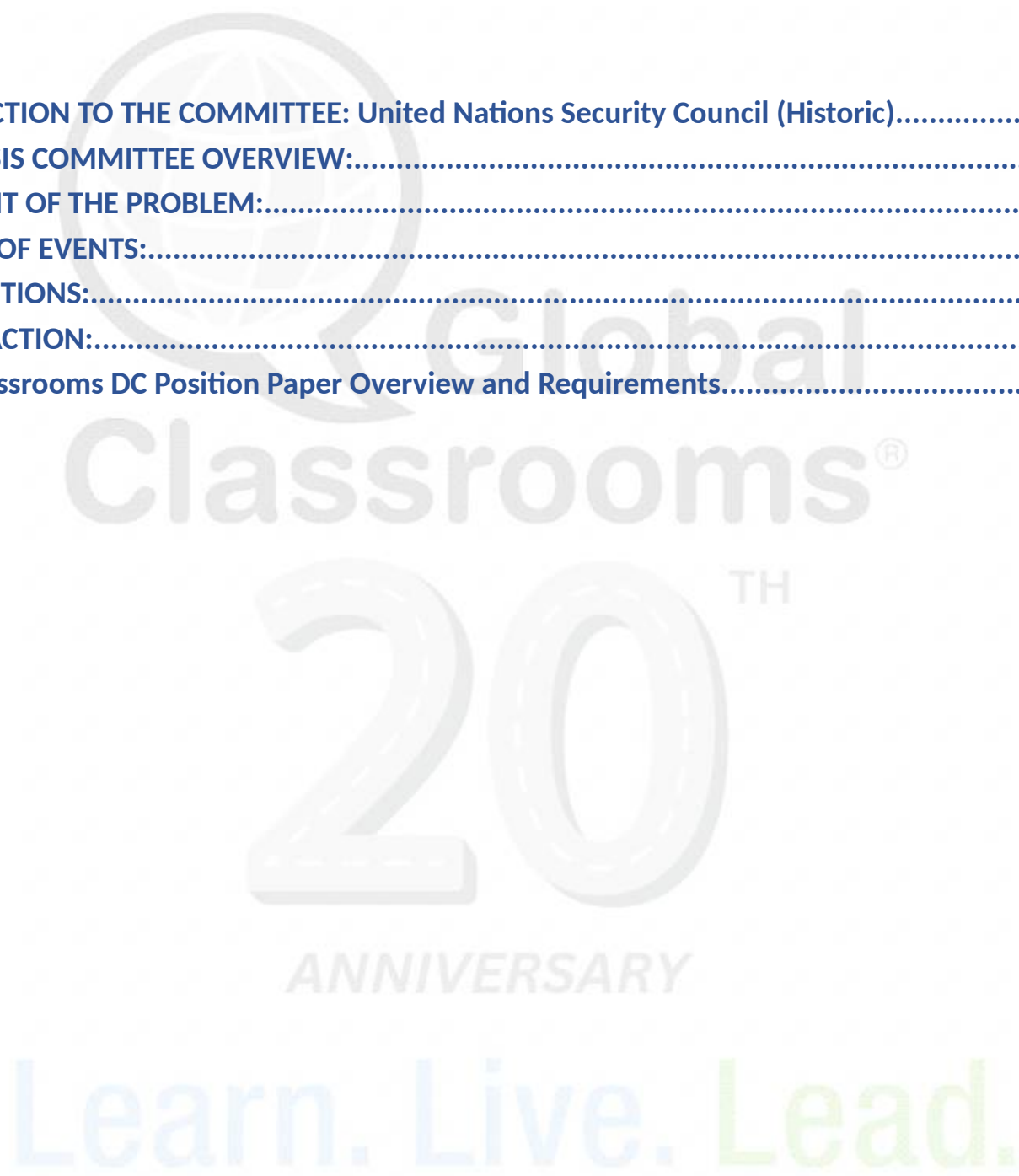
2001 Invasion of Afghanistan and the Global Response to Terrorism

**GLOBAL CLASSROOMS DC**  
**SPRING 2024 MODEL UN CONFERENCE**



# CONTENT TABLE

INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMITTEE: United Nations Security Council (Historic).....	2
UNSC CRISIS COMMITTEE OVERVIEW:.....	3
STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:.....	3
TIMELINE OF EVENTS:.....	4
BLOC POSITIONS:.....	6
PAST UN ACTION:.....	7
Global Classrooms DC Position Paper Overview and Requirements.....	18



## INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMITTEE: United Nations Security Council (Historic)



The United Nations Security Council is one of the **six main organs** of the United Nations as established by the United Nations Charter. The primary purpose of the security council is to maintain international peace and security.<sup>1</sup> The charter states that the security council has four purposes: to maintain international peace and security, to develop friendly relations among nations, to cooperate in solving international problems and promoting respect for human rights, and to be a center for harmonizing the actions of nations. All members of the United Nations are expected to follow and carry out the orders of the security council. The security council is

unique because it has the authority to make decisions which other member states must act on. Most other UN bodies can only make suggestions to member states.<sup>2</sup>

The committee convenes when a member state brings a complaint before the Security Council about an issue that may jeopardize global peace. Under normal circumstances, the council recommends that the disputing parties settle matters peacefully. To achieve this, the council can dispatch missions or special envoys, establish possible rules for a peaceful settlement, initiate official investigations or mediations, and take further actions as necessary.<sup>3</sup> When these solutions fail to prevent disputes, ending the conflict becomes the council's new priority. To achieve this, the council has the right to issue ceasefires or dispatch peacekeepers to diffuse the situation. Additionally, the Security Council possesses the power to enact enforcement measures such as financial penalties, travel bans, blockades, termination of diplomatic relations, and even collective military action, undertaken by the member states rather than the UN itself.<sup>4</sup>

The Security Council is overseen by the "**P5**" - consisting of the United States, United Kingdom, Russia, France, and China. These nations, having been key allies during World War II, were granted permanent seats on the Council at the establishment of the United Nations. Any permanent member of the Security Council holds the power to veto any resolution, resulting in its automatic failure. Additionally, the Council includes **ten non-permanent members** elected by the General Assembly for two-year terms. As of 2001, these non-permanent members are Bangladesh, Colombia, Ireland, Jamaica, Mali, Mauritius, Norway, Singapore, Tunisia, and Ukraine.<sup>5</sup>

The United Nations Security Council holds permanent residence in the New York City headquarters. It has held meetings in other places like Panama City and Geneva, but council meetings are usually held in New York. At least one representative from each member nation must be present at the United Nations headquarters at all times so that the council can convene whenever necessary.

<sup>1</sup> "What Is the Security Council? Security Council," United Nations, accessed July 28, 2023, <https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/what-security-council>.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> "Membership of Principal United Nations Organs in 2001," United Nations, accessed July 1, 2023, <https://press.un.org/en/2001/org1323.doc.htm>.



## GCDC Spring 2024: Crisis Committee Parliamentary Procedure:

This committee will operate as a crisis committee – delegates will work on *committee directives* instead of a draft resolution and will have a crisis director along with their dais. Delegates will **NOT** have individual powers, but will be able to request for crisis updates regarding developments (facts and figures). In addition, there are some unique rules that apply to the Security Council at the 2024 GCDC Spring Conference. First, delegates that are representing the P5 (USA, UK, France, Russian Federation and China) have the option for a motion for *fait accompli*. This motion can only be made by a P5, does not require a second, and only P5 members can vote on this motion (requires a simple majority to pass).

This motion acts like an unmoderated caucus (P5 delegate that makes this motion must specify the time limit). Bear in mind that while this is occurring, debate can continue in the Security Council, as Quorum for the Council is 5 delegations present to continue debate.

This motion can only be made after draft resolution/directive blocs have been formed, and when the Chair/Dais is aware of various blocs currently working. The goal of the *fait accompli* is for the P5 members to discuss the various draft blocs, and how to ensure that during voting procedures, members do not initiate a veto.

All voting procedures in the Security Council on substantive matters (passage of draft committee directives) require a simple majority for passage, and all votes will be conducted as Roll Call Votes. Simple placard votes and motions to adopt by consent/acclamation will **NOT** be entertained.

### STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:

6



On October 15th, 1999, the United Nations Security Council adopted resolution 1267. This resolution created the al-Qaeda and Taliban sanctions committee, which declared the organizations as terrorist entities and severely restricted their arms shipments, travel, and funding.<sup>7</sup> Up to this point, al-Qaeda had been on the rise since the 1980s, with their leader, Osama bin Laden, overseeing their operations in many places, including Sudan, Pakistan, and Afghanistan.<sup>8</sup> The Taliban was able to provide sanctuary to al-Qaeda after coming to power in the recent Afghan civil war following the collapse of the Soviet Union.<sup>9</sup>

Two days before the 9/11 attacks, al-Qaeda operatives assassinated Ahmad Shah Massoud. Massoud was the leader of an anti-Taliban force known as the Northern Alliance. The loss of Massoud as a guerilla tactician heavily impeded the anti-Taliban resistance in Afghanistan. Some experts claim a deal was struck between the Taliban and al-Qaeda, assuring bin Laden's security in the country following the U.S. attacks in exchange for the elimination of Taliban opposition. The killing of Massoud was effectively a green light for 9/11.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>6</sup> Ensor. "Al-Qaeda Welcomes Taliban's Defeat of U.S." Telegraph, 2021.

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/world-news/2021/09/01/al-qaeda-welcomes-talibans-defeat-us-imperialism-urges-supporters/>.

<sup>7</sup> Security Council Resolution 1267, S/RES/1267 (15 October 1999) available from [https://www.undocs.org/S/RES/1267%20\(1999\)](https://www.undocs.org/S/RES/1267%20(1999))

<sup>8</sup> "Timeline: U.S. War in Afghanistan," Council on Foreign Relations, accessed July 28, 2023, <https://www.cfr.org/timeline/us-war-afghanistan>.

<sup>9</sup> [https://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/eoir/legacy/2014/01/16/Af\\_chronology\\_1995-.pdf](https://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/eoir/legacy/2014/01/16/Af_chronology_1995-.pdf)

<sup>10</sup> Peter Bergen, "Ahmad Shah Massoud," Time, November 13, 2006, <https://content.time.com/time/subscriber/article/0,33009,1555018,00.html>.



On September 11th, 2001, four planes were hijacked and crashed into the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon in Washington DC. The fourth was diverted by passengers and landed in a field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania. The attacks resulted in almost 3,000 casualties. While al-Qaeda was based in Afghanistan at the time, none of the 9/11 hijackers were born in Afghanistan. Mohammed Atta, a native Egyptian, led the hijackers, and most of the group originated from Saudi Arabia.<sup>11</sup> United States President George W. Bush responded to the attack by declaring a “war on terror,” targeting al-Qaeda and bin Laden in Afghanistan. President Bush later made remarks calling on the Taliban to deliver the al-Qaeda leaders to the United States or suffer the consequences.<sup>12</sup>

One week after the attacks on the United States, President Bush signed legislation authorizing the use of force against the parties responsible for 9/11.<sup>13</sup> This joint resolution would serve as the legal foundation for armed forces mobilization in the Middle East, the detention facility in Guantanamo Bay, and the Patriot Act, which allowed the executive branch to spy on US citizens without prior legal authorization.<sup>14</sup>

The United States, in cooperation with the United Kingdom, began a bombing campaign against Taliban forces on October 7th, launching what the United States calls Operation Enduring Freedom, with robust international support. The starting operations for the invasion thus far have mainly involved U.S. air strikes on al-Qaeda and Taliban forces.<sup>15</sup> These strikes have been assisted by a coalition of around one thousand US troops, the Northern Alliance, and a number of Pashtun anti-Taliban groups. The first wave of boots-on-the-ground forces arrived twelve days after the initial air strikes, with most of the combat up to that point being between the Taliban and Afghan opponents such as the Northern Alliance.<sup>16</sup>

In the wake of global terror attacks and the invasion of Afghanistan, it is pertinent that the United Nations Security Council members take adequate measures to fulfill their mandate of achieving lasting peace. Security Council members must assess various aspects of this issue. They must evaluate the humanitarian consequences of the invasion and also focus on the protection of civilians amidst military operations. Delegates should explore the provision of aid, adherence to international humanitarian law, and efforts to minimize collateral damage during the conflict. Delegates should consider how the council can address the evolving security situation and mitigating conflict escalation. Concurrently, it is pertinent that delegates address the threat of global terrorism, and effectively combat terrorism in order to ensure the safety of liberal-democracies.

## TIMELINE OF EVENTS:

**The committee will take place on October 25th, 2001. These are the events that have transpired since the invasion.**

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<sup>11</sup> “The 9/11 Commission Report,” National Commission On Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States, accessed July 28, 2023, <https://govinfo.library.unt.edu/911/report/911Report.pdf>.

<sup>12</sup> “President Declares ‘Freedom at War with Fear,’” National Archives and Records Administration, September 2001, <https://georgewbush-whitehouse.archives.gov/news/releases/2001/09/20010920-8.html>.

<sup>13</sup> “Public Law 107 - 40 - Authorization for Use of Military Force,” U.S. Government Printing Office, accessed July 28, 2023, <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/PLAW-107publ40/pdf/PLAW-107publ40.pdf>.

<sup>14</sup> “Timeline: U.S. War in Afghanistan,” Council on Foreign Relations, accessed July 28, 2023, <https://www.cfr.org/timeline/us-war-afghanistan>.

<sup>15</sup> Kenneth Katzman and Clayton Thomas, “Afghanistan: Post-Taliban Governance, Security, and U.S. Policy,” Congressional Research Service, December 17, 2017.

<sup>16</sup> “Timeline: U.S. War in Afghanistan,” Council on Foreign Relations, accessed July 28, 2023, <https://www.cfr.org/timeline/us-war-afghanistan>.



Starting on October 7th, the United States began the opening phase of the war with a series of preplanned strategic airstrikes on al-Qaeda and Taliban targets. A total of thirty-one targets were hit, with an emphasis on al-Qaeda training sites and Taliban military fixtures.<sup>17</sup> The strikes took place in the surrounding areas of Kabul, Kandahar, Shindand, Herat, Mazar-e Sharif, and Sheberghan with the goals of crippling Taliban air defense infrastructure such as early warning systems, airfields, communication facilities, and aircraft.<sup>18</sup> Frontline positions were not targeted.

The attacks were mainly carried out using crewed stealth bombing aircraft. B-1B and B-52 bombers were deployed from air bases like Whiteman in Missouri and the Diego Garcia island base in the Indian Ocean.<sup>19</sup> In addition, aircraft carriers stationed closer in the Arabian Sea dispatched Navy F-14 and F/A-18 fighters to carry out some of the attacks. There were also a handful of tomahawk missiles fired by US Navy destroyers and cruisers, as well as British and American submarines.<sup>20</sup>

The purpose of these strikes was complete domination of Afghan air space by coalition forces, and the operations were largely successful.<sup>21</sup> But US planners also wanted to soften Taliban resistance efforts on the ground by targeting tanks, artillery, and training sites in Kabul and Kandahar after the first day of bombings.<sup>22</sup> These actions set a clear path for upcoming ground troops to make their way into the country and begin skirmishes with the Taliban's ground forces.

23



Coinciding with the initial airstrikes were food and medical supplies flown in from C-17 Globemasters out of the German Ramstein Air Base. As promised by President Bush, these Humanitarian Daily Rations, or HDRs, were supposedly meant to alleviate the suffering of the Afghan population that had been left impoverished by previous civil wars and would inevitably feel the effects of the US and coalition invasion.<sup>24</sup> However, these airdrops have been met with a bit of controversy. Non-government and international organizations have questioned the efficacy of the rations, calling them inefficient and expensive. There are also concerns that the rations are part of an ongoing American psychological operation to make native Afghans sympathetic to the US cause, and to make matters worse, the packages

are similar in color to those of clusterbombs.<sup>25</sup>

On October 8th, President Bush made a statement on American television that he had ordered the strikes on the Taliban and al-Qaeda. On October 12th, Air Force planes dropped 5,000-pound laser-guided bombs on top of al-Qaeda mountain cave sanctuaries.<sup>26</sup> Over the course of the next few weeks, the US and its allies began having difficulty finding new Taliban and al-Qaeda infrastructure to hit. They did not have many headquarters or

<sup>17</sup> Carter Malkasian, *The American War in Afghanistan: A History* (Oxford University Press, 2021).

<sup>18</sup> Donald P. Wright, *A Different Kind of War: The United States Army in Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF), October 2001-September 2005* (Fort Leavenworth, Kansas: Combat Studies Institute Press, US Army Combined Arms Center, 2010).

<sup>19</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>20</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>21</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>22</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>23</sup> "Afghanistan: Visualizing the Impact of War." Aljazeera, <https://interactive.aljazeera.com/aje/2021/afghanistan-visualising-impact-of-war/index.html>.

<sup>24</sup> Donald P. Wright, *A Different Kind of War: The United States Army in Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF), October 2001-September 2005* (Fort Leavenworth, Kansas: Combat Studies Institute Press, US Army Combined Arms Center, 2010).

<sup>25</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>26</sup> Carter Malkasian, *The American War in Afghanistan: A History* (Oxford University Press, 2021).



strongholds to begin with, and the Afghan opponents have begun making use of the country's notoriously mountainous terrain to hide and take shelter.<sup>27</sup> Because of this, the coalition forces geared up to put boots on the ground and advance on harder-to-reach hideouts of the Taliban and al-Qaeda.

One week later, on October 19th, the first US special forces teams arrived in Afghanistan. Three twelve-man squads arrived at Mazar-e-Sharif, Panjshir, and Takhar, and there are ongoing efforts by the United States to send up to a dozen more twelve-man teams to reinforce the Mazar-e-Sharif front, Uruzgan, Herat, Kandahar, and Tora Bora.<sup>28</sup> The US special forces, or "Green Berets," are made up of highly trained units specializing in working with local militaries, capturing enemy leaders, and guerilla warfare. These twelve-man teams include medics, intelligence experts, snipers, and air controllers capable of calling in air strikes. Part of their training is to undergo courses that familiarize them with the region and teach them local languages.<sup>29</sup>

Four days ago, on October 21st, the first major battle of the invasion began. A large chunk of the Northern Alliance forces are Uzbek fighters under the command of Abdul Rashid Dostum. He and 3,000 men have been fighting Taliban forces south of Mazar-e-Sharif for months with little signs of progress.<sup>30</sup> CIA and special forces operatives joined Dostum's men four days ago in an ongoing battle involving infantry, air strikes, and cavalry on horseback to provide greater maneuverability in the rough terrain. Early reports suggest that this battle will continue well into November when other offensives near Kandahar, Kunduz, and Kabul are being planned.<sup>31</sup>

## BLOC POSITIONS:

The **United States** and the **United Kingdom**'s initial invasion in October has been justified as an act of self-defense under Article 51 of the United Nations Charter.<sup>32</sup> Both countries have expressed concerns regarding the capabilities of the Taliban and al-Qaeda to carry out further attacks and are wary of Osama bin Laden's stated campaign against the United States. For these reasons, potential United Nations actions against the Taliban-al-Qaeda threat have received almost unanimous Security Council support.

Hence — distinct bloc positions for the invasion of Afghanistan are hard to distinguish. The resolution passed a day after 9/11, Resolution 1368, effectively authorized member states to respond to the attacks. This resolution passed fifteen to zero in favor and did one of two things, authorized military force in response to the 9/11 attacks provided nations received later security council approval as required under Chapter VII of the UN Charter, or functioned as the requisite approval for member states to take action as they deemed necessary, similar to an invasion.<sup>33</sup> Since resolution 1368 passed unanimously, it could be argued that each member of the security council is pro-invasion. However, it would have been hard for the members to know the exact scope of the planned military actions by the US and UK.

As NATO countries, France and **Norway** have a particular responsibility to view 9/11 not only as an attack on the United States but as an attack on the NATO alliance.<sup>34</sup> Nevertheless, **France** has historically been critical of American foreign policy, specifically in Europe, and it is entirely possible that these sentiments return in later

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<sup>27</sup> Ibid.

<sup>28</sup> Ibid.

<sup>29</sup> Ibid.

<sup>30</sup> Ibid.

<sup>31</sup> Ibid.

<sup>32</sup> Ben Smith and Arabella Thorp, "The Legal Basis for the Invasion of Afghanistan" (House of Commons Library, February 26, 2010).

<sup>33</sup> Ibid.

<sup>34</sup> Jeremy Shapiro, "The Role of France in the War on Terrorism" (Center on the United States and France, Brookings Institution, June 2016).



phases of the war.<sup>35</sup> **Ireland** began its temporary presidency of the Security Council on October 1, and allied themselves with the US and its allies in efforts to end global terrorism.<sup>36</sup> **Bangladesh, Colombia, Jamaica, and Ukraine** are all current Security Council members that lost citizens in the attacks on the U.S.<sup>37</sup> This gives them further incentive to support UN actions like resolution 1368.

In this way, many Security Council members are showing similar solidarity with the position of the US and UK. The president and prime minister of **Singapore** each expressed their condolences to President Bush personally. Nourredine Mejdoub of **Tunisia** described a 200-year friendship with the United States while pledging solidarity and condemning the attack. Representatives from **Mali** and **Mauritius** have made similar statements.<sup>38</sup>

That being said, some Security Council members seem regretful that the US has interpreted the resolution as giving them free rein. Veto powers **Russia** and **China** have expressed concerns about the potential large-scale invasion and have stated that they would rather have the US return to the Security Council for more specified approval of their military action.<sup>39</sup> It is also worth noting the general hostilities between Russia, China, and the West. Once the anti-terror fervor has died down, it is unclear how supportive they will be of extended Western operations in the region, especially since Afghanistan and China share a small border.

#### PREVIOUS UN ACTION:

The 2001 invasion of Afghanistan by the United States, Great Britain, Germany, New Zealand, and more resulted in a tremendous conflict. The Security Council, up to this point, has passed a number of resolutions regarding the situation in Afghanistan leading up to 9/11 and terrorism in the Middle East more broadly.<sup>40</sup> Many of these documents have called for the withdrawal of troops from the country or an end to conflicts such as the Afghan Civil War of 1996. In 1980, resolution 462 was passed in order to call a special session of the general assembly on the withdrawal of USSR forces from Afghanistan.<sup>41</sup> At the outset of the 1996 civil war, a resolution called for the parties to settle the conflict peacefully, a sentiment that would be echoed in another resolution two years later.<sup>42</sup> It also condemned the treatment of women during the war.<sup>43</sup> Later in 1998, Resolution 1214 mentioned the Taliban by name, calling for them and other parties to hold a ceasefire and resume negotiations, and once again asserted that the Afghanistan situation was a threat to international security.<sup>44</sup>

Amidst the resolutions aimed at facilitating peaceful ends to the conflicts in Afghanistan were documents highlighting the humanitarian crisis and calling into effect numerous aid efforts. In 1988, Resolution 622 established the United Nations Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan (UNGOMAP), a program

<sup>35</sup> Ibid.

<sup>36</sup> Rory Miller, "From 11 September 2001 to the War in Iraq: Irish Responses to the Global 'War on Terrorism,'" Jstor, 2005, <https://www.jstor.org/stable/30001940>.

<sup>37</sup> The Coalition Information Centers, "The Global War on Terrorism: The First 100 Days," U.S. Department of State, 2009, <https://2001-2009.state.gov/s/ct/rls/wh/6947.htm>.

<sup>38</sup> "Security Council Condemns, 'in Strongest Terms', Terrorist Attacks on United States | UN Press," United Nations, September 12, 2001, <https://press.un.org/en/2001/sc7143.doc.htm>.

<sup>39</sup> Maggie Farley, "Some at U.N. Want U.S. to Channel Its Response," Los Angeles Times, September 25, 2001, <https://www.latimes.com/archives/la-xpm-2001-sep-25-mn-49514-story.html>.

<sup>40</sup> "UN Security Council Resolutions," United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, April 30, 2023, <https://unama.unmissions.org/un-security-council-resolutions>.

<sup>41</sup> Security Council resolution 462 (1980), *Deciding to Call an Emergency Special Session of the General Assembly on the Afghanistan situation*, S/RES/462(1980) (9 January 1980), available from <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/11053?ln=en>

<sup>42</sup> Security Council Resolution 1193 (1998), S/RES/1193 (28 August 1998), available from <http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/Afgh%20SRES1193.pdf>

<sup>43</sup> Security Council Resolution 1076, S/RES/1076 (22 October 1996), available from <http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/Afgh%20SRES1076.pdf>

<sup>44</sup> Security Council Resolution 1214, S/RES/1214 (8 December 1998), available from <http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/Afgh%20SRES1214.pdf>





designed to enact and enforce peace settlements in the countries.<sup>45</sup> Two years later, the Security Council authorized the mobilization of military officers for the project.<sup>46</sup>

There have also been previous actions by the UN to condemn and end the actions of terrorist cells. Resolutions 1189 and 1368 drew international attention to the terrorist bombings in eastern Africa in 1988 and the 9/11 attacks on the US, respectively.<sup>47</sup> Resolution 1368 also called upon member states to bring justice to the perpetrators and supporters of the attack.<sup>48</sup> Around the turn of the century, there were a number of resolutions passed that mobilized task forces to monitor the activities and impose sanctions on the Taliban and al-Qaeda.<sup>49</sup> These were bodies such as the al-Qaeda and Taliban Committee, the Monitoring Group (MG), and the Sanctions Enforcement Support Team.<sup>50</sup>

## QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

- Evaluate the security, economic, and strategic implications of the invasion of Afghanistan on your country, and consider how this might affect your response.
- Has your country been personally affected by global terrorism? In what way does this affect your response to the escalating invasion in Afghanistan?
- How do you balance the imperative of ensuring security against terrorism with the protection of human rights and civil liberties, both domestically and internationally?
- What steps can the Security Council take to foster regional cooperation and stability in addressing security challenges emanating from Afghanistan? How do you mitigate tensions between neighboring countries and address the influence of external actors in the region?

## GLOBAL CLASSROOMS DC POSITION PAPER OVERVIEW AND REQUIREMENTS

### What is a Position Paper?

A position paper is a short document that outlines a country's opinion on an issue. The paper includes a short summary of what the issue or problem is, explains why the country is interested in the issue, and communicates the country's stance on what should be done to address the issue. A position paper is written as if you were the actual representative of the country stating its position. Your personal opinions on the issue should not be included. A position paper is not a summary of your country's GDP, government, economy, languages, etc. unless directly relevant to the issue. Only one position paper is written per country, per grade school committee; if there are 2 or 3 delegates representing the same country on a committee, they should write the paper together.

### Why write a Position Paper?

<sup>45</sup> Security Council Resolution 622, S/RES/622 (31 October 1988), available from <http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/Afgh%20SRES622.pdf>

<sup>46</sup> Security Council Resolution 647, S/RES/647 (11 January 1990), available from <http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/Afgh%20SRES647.pdf>

<sup>47</sup> Security Council Resolution 1189, S/RES/1189 (13 August 1998), available from <http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/Afgh%20SRES1189.pdf>

<sup>48</sup> Security Council Resolution 1368, S/RES/1368 (12 September 2001), available from <http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/Afgh%20SRES1368.pdf>

<sup>49</sup> Security Council Resolution 1333, S/RES/1333 (19 December 2000), available from <http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/1267%20SRES%201333.pdf>

<sup>50</sup> Security Council Resolution 1363, S/RES/1363 (30 July 2001), available from <http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/1267%20SRES%201363.pdf>



Writing a position paper will help you organize why an issue matters to your country and what your country wants done on the issue. The first thing you will likely do in committee is present an opening speech about your country's position. You should be able to pull portions of a well written position paper into an introductory speech on your country's perspective. Also, your delegation is not eligible to win best / outstanding delegation without the submission of a position paper. There are separate awards given for best position paper.

### **How to Write a Position Paper**

- (1) Research the Issue. The questions you want to answer are:
  - How does this issue affect your country?
  - How does this issue affect your country's neighbors or allies?
  - Is this a global problem that impacts everyone?
  - What would your country like to see done on this issue?
  - Are there countries or groups of people who will be particularly sensitive to addressing this issue?
  - Are there any conventions or resolutions on the topics that your country has signed or ratified?
  - What are UN actions on the issue? Has your country supported or opposed these actions?
  - Keep in Mind: What a country says, and what it actually believes should be done may be different. Also, some countries may believe that no action should be taken on an issue. They may disagree with how others feel or may not want international involvement. It is okay if your position is that the international community should do nothing, but you will need to explain why.
- (2) Brainstorm Specific Actions. Come up with 3-4 specific things that can be done to reach the outcome your country desires. For example: "The United States believes we should send a peacekeeping mission to monitor human rights abuses in Syria and encourage talks between both sides." You will present these ideas in committee as possible solutions to the problem and attempt to pass a resolution which includes these actions.
- (3) Outline Your Paper. Make an outline of what points you want to cover in your paper and the order in which you would like to address them. Remember a good paper should briefly explain the problem, explain why your country cares about the issue, and inform others what your country should like to see done. If you know other countries favor a solution that you will disagree with, make sure to include why your country disagrees.
- (4) Write your Paper. Position papers should be no more than one page long and be written from the perspective of the country you are representing. Rather than being a report on the topic, a position paper should explain what your country wants to see done to address the issue. Start by giving a brief summary of the issue and how it impacts your country. Then explain the specific actions you would like to see taken. Close by summarizing your country's overall position. Proper grammar and spelling are a must.

### **Award Criteria and Eligibility**

- Each Committee is giving out the following awards – Honorable Mention, Outstanding Position Paper, and Best Position Paper.
- The ideal position paper will have a clearly defined and summarized topic with your country's position clearly outlined. Points are also awarded for organization, style and correct grammar.
- GCDC Staff will be fact checking position papers, so be sure to include the most up to date information and a bibliography (if using in text citations, a Works Cited page MUST be included)
  - Proper source citation: if an idea or quote came from another source, you must provide a footnote / citation.
- Papers will be disqualified if the conference staff has discovered that students did not write their



own papers or that content has been plagiarized.

- Make sure your position paper must have the required header below! Do not create any additional title pages - points will be deducted for improper format.
- Formatting Requirements: 500 words minimum, 1,500 words maximum. Times New Roman font, 12-point size
- **POSITION PAPERS MUST BE SENT IN AS A PDF ATTACHMENT TO [gcdc@unanca.org](mailto:gcdc@unanca.org) by APRIL 22nd, 2023 AT 11:59 PM EST (deadlines will be granted on a case by case basis, and must be requested beforehand).**

#### **REQUIRED POSITION PAPER HEADER**

**Committee:**

**Country:**

**Topic**

**School:**

**Delegate Name(s)**