



AHP MUN

September 25-26



DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE (DISEC)



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AHPMUN September 25th and 26th

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Letter From the Secretariat

Letter From the Secretariat

Dear Delegates,

On behalf of the entire Secretariat, we are thrilled to welcome you to the twelfth session of AHPMUN! This year, we've worked harder than ever to make AHPMUN bigger and better than any conference before it, and we cannot wait to share it with you.

As the executive team—Arina Petrushina, Jonathan Schwartz, and Mason Cohen—alongside our dedicated faculty advisor, Mr. Mark Gruskin, we've poured countless hours into building two days of challenging debate, meaningful collaboration, and global problem-solving that you'll remember long after the gavel falls.

Model UN isn't just an extracurricular for us — it's genuinely our favorite part of high school, and that passion is exactly why we've pushed so hard to make this year's conference the best one yet. Every detail, from committee topics to logistics, was built with you in mind.

At AHPMUN, we hold every delegate to a high standard of **integrity, respect, and diplomacy**. Please remember that **plagiarism and prewritten material are strictly prohibited**. Your work should be your own, and your words should reflect thoughtful research and genuine engagement with your committee's topics.

Respectful and constructive debate is expected at all times — our goal is to foster a space where ideas can be challenged, but people are never disrespected.

Position papers are required to be eligible for awards, and should be submitted on time. That said, we want to stress that awards aren't the heart of this conference. What matters most is that you grow as delegates, thinkers, and global citizens. We cannot wait to see the energy, enthusiasm, and creativity you bring to this year's conference. Whether you're a first-time delegate or a seasoned veteran, AHPMUN XII is for you, and we hope it becomes a true highlight of your MUN journey.

See you soon!

Sincerely,

Arina Petrushina, Jonathan Schwartz, and Mason Cohen

AHPMUN XII Executive Team

Mr. Mark Gruskin

Faculty Advisor





Letter From the Chair

Dear Distinguished Delegates,

Welcome to DISEC! My name is Jonathan Schwartz, and it is an honor to serve as your Chair for AHPMUN 2026. Whether this is your first conference or you have been competing in Model UN for years, I am excited to welcome you to what I hope will be one of the most engaging committees of the weekend.

Model UN has always been one of my favorite activities because it allows people from different backgrounds to tackle some of the world's most difficult problems together. While awards are exciting, I have found that the best committee experiences come from the debates themselves: when a speech changes someone's perspective, an unexpected alliance forms, or a compromise transforms competing ideas into a stronger resolution. This year's topics demonstrate just how difficult maintaining international peace and security can be. Tensions between India and Pakistan continue to present significant security concerns, while the crisis in Sudan demonstrates how instability within one nation can have international consequences. Neither topic has an easy solution, and I encourage you to embrace that complexity.

As you prepare, remember that this guide is only a starting point. The strongest delegates do not simply memorize facts; they understand why countries act the way they do. Consider your country's security concerns, alliances, history, and political priorities. Remaining true to your country's interests will make committee both more realistic and rewarding.

During committee, I encourage you to speak often, but listen even more. Do not be afraid to approach delegates you disagree with, as you might find common ground where you least expect it. Thoughtful contributions and meaningful collaboration will always leave a stronger impression than speaking simply for the sake of speaking.

Most importantly, I want DISEC to be both competitive and welcoming. Regardless of your experience level, raise your placard, share your ideas, and challenge yourself. Every experienced delegate was once attending their first conference.

At the end of the day, DISEC is about more than discussing conflict; it is about exploring how diplomacy can prevent it. I hope you leave committee with a greater appreciation for debate, negotiation, compromise, and the difficulty of global decision-making.

Thank you for participating in AHPMUN 2026.



Letter From the Chair

I look forward to seeing the research, creativity, and diplomacy you bring to committee. Best of luck with your preparation, and I cannot wait to meet you all this fall!

Sincerely,

Jonathan Schwartz

Chair, Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC)

AHPMUN 2026



Letter From the Chair

Dear Distinguished Delegates,

Welcome to DISEC at AHPMUN 2026! My name is Mason Cohen, and I am incredibly excited and grateful to serve as your Chair this year. Whether you are completely new to Model UN or have attended countless conferences, I hope this committee gives you an opportunity to challenge yourself, meet new people, and most importantly, enjoy the experience.

DISEC is one of the most interesting committees because the issues we discuss rarely have straightforward answers. Our topics, the Kashmir conflict and the ongoing crisis in Sudan, involve competing national interests, questions of security and sovereignty, humanitarian concerns, and decades of history. As you prepare, I encourage you to look beyond the surface of these conflicts and understand the motivations behind different countries' actions.

While this guide provides a foundation for your research, your preparation should not end here. Take the time to learn about your country's policies, allies, interests, and priorities. Remember that you are not representing your personal opinions; you are representing a nation with its own goals and limitations. The best delegates can defend their country's position while still finding opportunities to work with others.

Once committee begins, I encourage you to be confident and involved. Raise your placard, make your voice heard, and do not be afraid to propose an idea that differs from everyone else's. At the same time, remember that Model UN is just as much about listening and negotiating as it is about speaking. Some of the strongest solutions come from delegates who initially disagree but are willing to find common ground.

I also want DISEC to be a committee where everyone feels comfortable participating. If this is your first conference, do not be intimidated by experienced delegates. If you have been doing Model UN for years, I challenge you to help create an environment where newer delegates can find their voice. A great committee gives everyone the opportunity to contribute.

At the end of the day, I hope you leave DISEC with more than an award or a well-written resolution. I hope you leave with a better understanding of diplomacy, international security, and the difficulty of finding compromise when countries have fundamentally different interests.



Letter From the Chair

Most importantly, I hope you have fun along the way.

Thank you for joining us at AHPMUN 2026. I cannot wait to see the ideas, debates, negotiations, and energy you bring to committee. Good luck with your preparation, and I look forward to meeting you all!

Sincerely,

Mason Cohen

Chair, Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC)

AHPMUN 2026





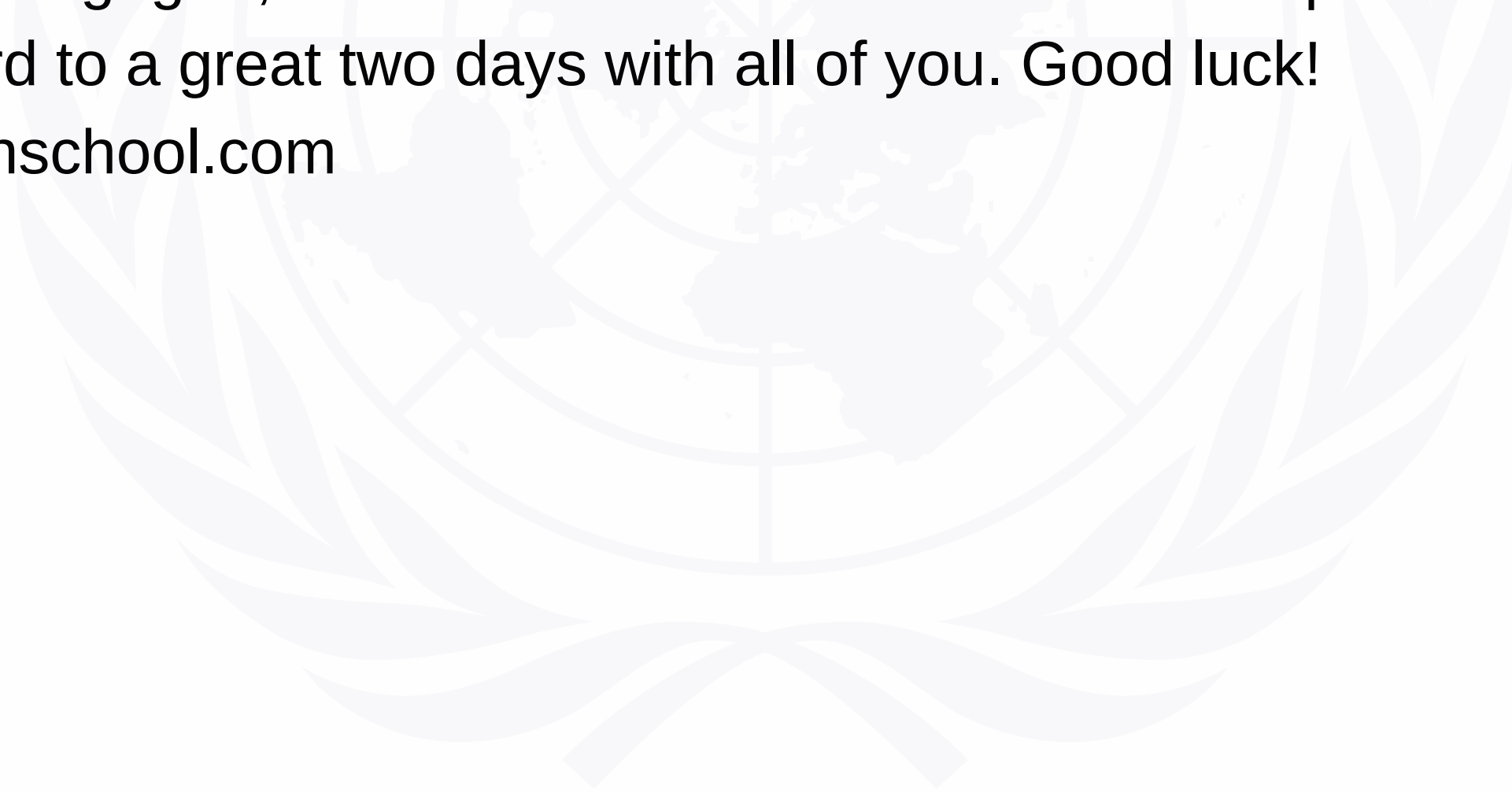
Letter From the Co-Chair

Hello everyone! My name is Alan Joseph, and I'm thrilled to be co-chairing DISEC for AHPMUN 2026. This will be my 3rd year on the Heritage MUN team, and between DECA, Model UN, and just about every debate-adjacent activity I could find, this committee is genuinely where I feel most in my element. I've sat exactly where you're sitting, nervous placard in hand, more times than I can count. My best advice to you is to give it your all by speaking the most, keeping your head up even if you stutter, and staying confident.

My goal as co-chair is simple: I want debate that's sharp, well-researched, and genuinely fun to be part of. Don't be afraid to disagree, to push back on a bloc's logic, or to change your mind mid-committee — some of my best MUN memories came from conversations that started as arguments. If you're new to this, don't overthink it; if you've done this before, I'll expect great things. Either way, come prepared, stay engaged, and don't hesitate to reach out with questions.

Looking forward to a great two days with all of you. Good luck!

pl1006929@ahschool.com



Letter From the Co-Chair

Hello delegates! My name is Aarav Verenkar, and I'm excited to be serving as one of your co-chairs for AHPMUN 2026. Model UN has given me the opportunity to improve my public speaking, think quickly under pressure, and meet people with completely different perspectives. I know that walking into a committee room can feel intimidating, especially if this is one of your first conferences, but my biggest advice is to get involved early. Raise your placard, contribute to debate, and don't be afraid of making a mistake. The more you participate, the more confident you'll become.

As your co-chair, I hope to create a committee that is competitive, engaging, and most importantly, enjoyable. Strong delegates aren't just the ones who speak the most, they're the ones who listen, respond to other arguments, work with their bloc, and help move the committee toward realistic solutions. Don't be afraid to challenge another delegate's ideas or defend your own, as long as you remain respectful and diplomatic.

Whether you've been doing Model UN for years or this is your first conference, come prepared, stay involved, and make the most of these two days. I'm looking forward to meeting all of you and seeing what you bring to committee. Good luck, and I'll see you at AHPMUN 2026!

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Conference & Committee Policies

Conference Policies:

AHPMUN is committed to providing a welcoming, inclusive, and professional environment in which all delegates can participate confidently, develop their skills, and enjoy the conference experience. Every participant is expected to treat fellow delegates, chairs, members of the Secretariat, staff, and guests with respect and courtesy throughout the conference.

Delegates are expected to engage in debate in a diplomatic and constructive manner. Delegates must respect differing opinions and any form of bullying, harassment, discrimination, intimidation, or any personal attack will not be tolerated at AHPMUN. Professional conduct and respectful language should be maintained at all times, both during formal committee sessions and in informal interactions.

All participants must follow these conference rules, committee procedures, and any other instructions given by the Secretariat or committee chairs. Behaviour that disrupts committee proceedings or negatively affects the experience of any other participants will not be tolerated.

By attending AHPMUN, all delegates agree to uphold these standards and contribute to a respectful, collaborative, and enjoyable conference for everyone.

Thank you, and we look forward to a wonderful conference!

DISEC Committee Policies:

- The DISEC committee will operate following standard Model UN General Assembly parliamentary procedure.
- To open the conference, delegates will give opening speeches advocating for a certain topic to be selected. Delegates will then vote on a topic to address throughout the weekend.
- Delegates will work in groups called blocs to write resolution papers addressing the chosen topic. There will be working papers, mergers, and final papers with author's panel (Q&A and presentation).
- While this background guide serves to give delegates a baseline understanding of both topics, delegates are both allowed and encouraged to perform additional research on the topics at hand.

Topic A: Addressing the Kashmir Conflict and Its Implications for Regional Security

Introduction

For nearly eight decades, the Kashmir conflict has remained one of the world's most enduring and volatile territorial disputes. Situated in the northern Himalayas, the former princely state of Jammu and Kashmir has been contested by India and Pakistan since the partition of British India in 1947. Both countries claim the territory in its entirety while administering separate portions, and China also administers territory claimed by India. Over the years, the dispute has evolved beyond a disagreement over borders into a complex geopolitical issue involving questions of sovereignty, self-determination, terrorism, nuclear deterrence, human rights, and regional stability. ([UNMOGIP](#))

The significance of Kashmir extends far beyond South Asia. India and Pakistan possess two of the world's largest militaries and are both nuclear-armed states. Any escalation along the Line of Control (LoC)—the de facto boundary separating Indian- and Pakistani-administered Kashmir—carries the potential to trigger broader regional instability. Since both nations have fought multiple wars over Kashmir and continue to maintain substantial military deployments in the region, even isolated incidents have the capacity to evolve into major diplomatic or military crises. ([United Nations Peacekeeping](#))

The dispute has also generated persistent humanitarian concerns. Civilians living in Kashmir have experienced decades of violence, displacement, restrictions on movement, and economic uncertainty. Allegations of human rights abuses have been raised by multiple international organizations, while militant attacks and counterterrorism operations continue to affect everyday life. Delegates must therefore recognize that the committee is not simply examining a territorial disagreement, but a multifaceted conflict with significant consequences for millions of people. ([Human Rights Watch](#))

DISEC: BACKGROUND TOPIC A

The international community has historically played a limited yet important role in addressing the conflict. Shortly after the first Indo-Pakistani War, the United Nations Security Council established the United Nations Commission for India and Pakistan (UNCIP) and later the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) to monitor ceasefire agreements and encourage peaceful dialogue. However, political disagreements regarding the role of outside mediation, coupled with competing interpretations of international law and bilateral agreements, have complicated diplomatic efforts for decades. ([UNMOGIP](#))

Recent years have demonstrated that the conflict remains highly dynamic. Constitutional changes implemented by India in 2019 significantly altered the governance of Jammu and Kashmir, prompting widespread international debate. Meanwhile, periods of military escalation—including the crisis following the 2025 Pahalgam attack—have reinforced concerns that localized violence can rapidly threaten regional peace between two nuclear powers. ([Congress.gov](#))

As members of the Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC), delegates are not tasked with determining which state's territorial claim is legally superior. Instead, they must evaluate how the international community can reduce military tensions, protect civilian populations, encourage confidence-building measures, strengthen regional security, and prevent future conflict while respecting the principles of the United Nations Charter. Effective diplomacy requires balancing state sovereignty, international security, humanitarian considerations, and the realities of an increasingly interconnected geopolitical environment.

Understanding the Kashmir conflict requires examining the political circumstances surrounding the partition of British India in 1947. Prior to independence, the Indian subcontinent consisted of directly administered British provinces as well as more than 560 princely states, each governed by hereditary rulers under British oversight. When Britain decided to end colonial rule, these princely states were granted the option to accede to either the newly created Dominion of India or the Dominion of Pakistan, generally taking into account geographic continuity and demographic realities. ([UNMOGIP](#))

DISEC: BACKGROUND TOPIC A

Among these princely states was Jammu and Kashmir, a strategically significant territory encompassing mountains, fertile valleys, glaciers, and major river systems. Although approximately three-quarters of the state's population was Muslim, it was ruled by Maharaja Hari Singh, a Hindu monarch who initially sought to maintain independence rather than join either India or Pakistan. His decision reflected concerns that accession to either country would provoke domestic unrest while sacrificing Kashmir's political autonomy. (UNMOGIP)

This position quickly became untenable. In October 1947, armed tribal militias originating from Pakistan's North-West Frontier entered Kashmir in support of local uprisings against the Maharaja's government. Facing the rapid advance of these forces toward Srinagar, Hari Singh requested military assistance from India. The Indian government agreed to intervene only after the Maharaja signed the Instrument of Accession, legally acceding Jammu and Kashmir to India. India maintains that this accession permanently established its sovereignty over the territory, while Pakistan disputes both the legitimacy and circumstances surrounding the accession, arguing that the people of Kashmir were denied the opportunity to determine their own political future. (UNMOGIP)

The accession immediately sparked the First Indo-Pakistani War (1947–1948). Fighting continued for more than a year before India referred the dispute to the United Nations Security Council in January 1948. The Security Council adopted Resolution 39 establishing the United Nations Commission for India and Pakistan (UNCIP), followed several months later by Resolution 47. Resolution 47 recommended a three-stage process: Pakistan would withdraw tribesmen and military personnel from the territory; India would subsequently reduce its military presence to the minimum level necessary for maintaining law and order; and finally, the people of Jammu and Kashmir would participate in a UN-supervised plebiscite to determine the region's future. However, disagreements regarding the sequencing and implementation of these provisions prevented the plebiscite from ever taking place. Both India and Pakistan continue to offer differing interpretations regarding why the resolution was never implemented. (UNMOGIP)

DISEC: BACKGROUND TOPIC A

A ceasefire eventually took effect on January 1, 1949, establishing a ceasefire line that divided the territory between areas administered by India and Pakistan. To monitor compliance with the ceasefire, the United Nations created the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP), which continues to operate today despite differing views between India and Pakistan regarding its present-day mandate. ([United Nations Peacekeeping](#))

Although the 1949 ceasefire ended large-scale fighting, it did not resolve the underlying dispute. Instead, Kashmir became a persistent source of political tension, military competition, and diplomatic disagreement between India and Pakistan. Over the following decades, both countries strengthened their territorial claims while the conflict became increasingly intertwined with Cold War geopolitics, regional nationalism, and, eventually, nuclear deterrence.

The Second Indo-Pakistani War (1965)

By the early 1960s, relations between India and Pakistan had deteriorated significantly. Pakistan believed that dissatisfaction among Kashmiri Muslims with Indian administration could create an opportunity to alter the territorial status quo. In August 1965, Pakistan launched Operation Gibraltar, sending thousands of infiltrators into Indian-administered Kashmir with the expectation that local residents would rise against Indian rule. Instead, the infiltration prompted a large-scale Indian military response, rapidly escalating into the Second Indo-Pakistani War. The conflict expanded beyond Kashmir itself as both countries fought along the international border in Punjab and Rajasthan. ([United States Institute of Peace](#))

After several weeks of intense combat, the United Nations called for an immediate ceasefire through Security Council resolutions. Hostilities formally ended in September 1965, and both governments later signed the Tashkent Declaration in January 1966 with Soviet mediation. While the agreement restored pre-war territorial positions and committed both nations to peaceful relations, it failed to resolve the central issue of Kashmir. Consequently, military confrontation remained a recurring feature of Indo-Pakistani relations.

DISEC: BACKGROUND TOPIC A

The 1971 War and the Simla Agreement

The next major conflict between India and Pakistan arose not directly from Kashmir, but from the political crisis in East Pakistan (present-day Bangladesh). Following Pakistan's military crackdown on Bengali independence movements, millions of refugees fled into India, creating severe humanitarian and security pressures. India intervened militarily in December 1971, leading to Pakistan's defeat and the creation of Bangladesh.

Although the war centered on East Pakistan, its aftermath significantly influenced the Kashmir dispute. In 1972, Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and Pakistani President Zulfikar Ali Bhutto signed the **Simla Agreement**, one of the most significant diplomatic documents governing Indo-Pakistani relations today.

The agreement transformed the 1949 Ceasefire Line into the **Line of Control (LoC)** and committed both countries to resolving disputes through bilateral negotiations rather than international intervention. India frequently cites the Simla Agreement as evidence that Kashmir should be addressed exclusively through direct negotiations between New Delhi and Islamabad. Pakistan generally supports bilateral dialogue but argues that international organizations, particularly the United Nations, continue to possess an important role because earlier Security Council resolutions remain relevant. This disagreement over the proper forum for negotiations continues to shape diplomatic discussions within the United Nations today.



DISEC: BACKGROUND TOPIC A

The Siachen Conflict

During the early 1980s, another territorial dispute emerged in the Siachen Glacier, one of the highest battlefields in the world. Because the Line of Control established under the Simla Agreement ended at map coordinate NJ9842 before extending northward with the phrase "thence north to the glaciers," India and Pakistan interpreted the undefined boundary differently.

In 1984, India launched Operation Meghdoot, occupying key positions overlooking the glacier before Pakistan could do so. Pakistan subsequently deployed forces of its own, beginning an ongoing military confrontation in one of the harshest environments on Earth. Although relatively little territory changed hands, thousands of soldiers have died over the years—primarily because of avalanches, extreme temperatures, and high-altitude conditions rather than direct combat.

The Siachen dispute illustrates how even seemingly remote portions of Kashmir possess immense strategic significance because they overlook important mountain passes connecting India, Pakistan, and China.

The Insurgency of 1989

The modern phase of the Kashmir conflict began in 1989 when a large-scale insurgency erupted in Indian-administered Jammu and Kashmir. Multiple factors contributed to growing unrest, including allegations of political disenfranchisement, disputed elections, economic frustrations, and increasing support from militant organizations operating across the border.

Several armed groups sought either independence for Kashmir or accession to Pakistan. India responded by deploying substantial military and paramilitary forces throughout the region under special security legislation, including the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA).

The insurgency dramatically changed the nature of the conflict. Rather than primarily involving conventional warfare between two states, violence increasingly consisted of terrorist attacks, counterinsurgency operations, cross-border infiltration, and clashes between security forces and militant organizations.

DISEC: BACKGROUND TOPIC A

This period also produced significant humanitarian consequences. Hundreds of thousands of Kashmiri Pandits, a Hindu minority community, fled the Kashmir Valley after facing intimidation, targeted killings, and militant violence. At the same time, numerous international organizations documented allegations of enforced disappearances, arbitrary detention, excessive use of force, torture, and restrictions on civil liberties affecting civilians throughout the region. India has generally maintained that its security operations are necessary to combat terrorism and preserve public order, while Pakistan has consistently argued that Kashmiris possess a right to self-determination. Human rights organizations have criticized abuses committed by both militant groups and state actors. (United States Institute of Peace)

Nuclearization and the Kargil War

The strategic environment fundamentally changed in 1998 when both India and Pakistan conducted successful nuclear weapons tests. India carried out the Pokhran-II series of tests in May, followed shortly thereafter by Pakistan's Chagai nuclear tests. The emergence of two openly declared nuclear powers transformed Kashmir from a regional territorial dispute into an issue of global strategic concern.

Only one year later, the world witnessed the Kargil War. During the winter of 1998–1999, Pakistani soldiers and militants occupied mountain positions on the Indian side of the Line of Control near Kargil. India launched a major military campaign to recapture the territory, leading to several months of intense fighting.

Unlike previous wars, India deliberately avoided crossing the international border into Pakistan, partly to prevent uncontrolled escalation between two newly nuclear-armed states. Following diplomatic pressure—particularly from the United States—Pakistan withdrew its forces, ending the conflict.

Kargil demonstrated two important realities. First, nuclear weapons did not eliminate conventional conflict between India and Pakistan. Second, international actors remained deeply concerned that localized fighting in Kashmir could escalate into a broader nuclear confrontation.

DISEC: BACKGROUND TOPIC A

Confidence-Building Measures and Renewed Violence

Despite recurring violence, the early 2000s also witnessed several important diplomatic breakthroughs. In 2003, India and Pakistan agreed to a ceasefire along the Line of Control that substantially reduced cross-border firing for many years. Bus services connecting divided Kashmiri families, expanded trade across the LoC, and increased diplomatic dialogue fostered cautious optimism that bilateral relations might improve. However, progress proved fragile. Major terrorist attacks—including the 2001 Indian Parliament attack, the 2008 Mumbai attacks, the 2016 Uri attack, and the 2019 Pulwama bombing—repeatedly disrupted diplomatic engagement. India attributed many of these attacks to Pakistan-based militant organizations such as Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed, while Pakistan denied directing such operations and condemned terrorism more broadly. These incidents deepened mutual distrust and frequently resulted in military retaliation, diplomatic expulsions, and suspension of dialogue. ([CSIS](#))

Article 370 and Constitutional Changes

On 5 August 2019, the Government of India revoked Article 370 of its Constitution, which had granted Jammu and Kashmir a special autonomous status since independence. Simultaneously, Parliament reorganized the former state into the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, bringing both under greater authority from New Delhi.

India argued that these reforms would improve governance, strengthen economic development, reduce corruption, and integrate the region more fully into the Indian Union. Pakistan strongly rejected the move, describing it as a unilateral alteration of disputed territory's legal status. Numerous governments and international organizations also expressed concern regarding restrictions on communications, detentions of political leaders, and prolonged security lockdowns following the constitutional changes. The differing legal and political interpretations of the 2019 reforms remain central to contemporary discussions surrounding Kashmir. ([House of Commons Library](#))

DISEC: BACKGROUND TOPIC A

Renewed Escalation (2021–2026)

In February 2021, India and Pakistan reaffirmed their commitment to the 2003 ceasefire, leading to a significant decline in cross-border firing along the Line of Control. While this agreement reduced immediate military tensions, broader political disagreements remained unresolved.

The relative calm proved temporary. In April 2025, gunmen attacked tourists near Pahalgam in Indian-administered Kashmir, killing 26 civilians. India attributed the attack to Pakistan-linked militant groups, while Pakistan denied responsibility and called for an independent investigation. The incident triggered the most serious military confrontation between the two countries in decades. India conducted strikes against what it described as terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-administered Kashmir, and Pakistan responded with missile, drone, artillery, and air operations. Following several days of escalating hostilities, intense international diplomatic engagement contributed to a ceasefire announced on 10 May 2025. ([CSIS](#)) Although the ceasefire prevented a wider war, the crisis demonstrated how rapidly events in Kashmir can escalate between two nuclear-armed states. Continued allegations of cross-border terrorism, expanding military modernization, cyber capabilities, and growing geopolitical competition among regional and global powers ensure that Kashmir remains one of the international community's most consequential security challenges.



DISEC: CURRENT ISSUES TOPIC A

Cross-Border Terrorism and Militancy

One of the most contentious issues surrounding Kashmir is the continued presence of militant organizations operating in or around the region. India has consistently argued that groups such as Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) receive support from actors based in Pakistan and use cross-border infiltration to conduct attacks against Indian security forces and civilians. These organizations have been linked to several high-profile attacks, including the 2001 Indian Parliament attack, the 2008 Mumbai attacks, the 2016 Uri attack, the 2019 Pulwama bombing, and the 2025 Pahalgam attack.

Pakistan officially condemns terrorism and denies providing state support to militant organizations. Pakistani officials argue that India often attributes attacks to Pakistan without sufficient evidence and emphasize that Pakistan itself has suffered extensively from terrorism. Islamabad also distinguishes between internationally recognized terrorist organizations and what it characterizes as indigenous resistance movements operating within Kashmir.

Regardless of these competing narratives, militant violence continues to undermine diplomatic progress. Terrorist attacks frequently trigger military retaliation, reduce political trust, and create domestic pressure on governments to adopt more aggressive security policies. Even relatively small attacks can derail years of diplomatic engagement, demonstrating the disproportionate impact that non-state actors can have on interstate relations.

For DISEC, delegates must consider how the international community can combat terrorism while avoiding actions that unnecessarily escalate military tensions between sovereign states.

DISEC: CURRENT ISSUES TOPIC A

Human Rights and Civilian Protection

The humanitarian dimension of the Kashmir conflict remains deeply contested and politically sensitive.

International human rights organizations—including Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights—have documented allegations including arbitrary detention, restrictions on freedom of expression, internet shutdowns, excessive use of force, and limitations on peaceful assembly within Indian-administered Kashmir. Following the revocation of Article 370 in 2019, extended communications restrictions and increased security measures drew significant international attention.

India maintains that these measures are necessary to prevent terrorism, maintain public order, and protect civilian lives. Indian officials argue that temporary security restrictions have contributed to declining levels of militant violence and improved economic development throughout the region.

Pakistan has similarly faced criticism regarding governance in Pakistan-administered Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan. Human rights organizations have raised concerns regarding political freedoms, freedom of expression, and the rights of local populations there as well.

At the same time, civilians throughout Kashmir continue to bear the consequences of decades of conflict. Communities living near the Line of Control periodically experience shelling, displacement, damaged infrastructure, and disruption of education and healthcare. Many families remain divided by the heavily militarized border, limiting opportunities for travel and cultural exchange.

Delegates must therefore balance legitimate national security concerns with international humanitarian law and the protection of civilian populations.

DISEC: CURRENT ISSUES TOPIC A

The Future of Jammu and Kashmir's Political Status

The constitutional changes implemented by India in August 2019 continue to shape regional politics.

By revoking Article 370 and Article 35A, India significantly altered the relationship between Jammu and Kashmir and the central government. Supporters argue that the reforms eliminated barriers to investment, improved administrative efficiency, expanded constitutional protections, and promoted economic integration. Critics argue that the decision was implemented without sufficient consultation with local populations and fundamentally altered the political status of disputed territory. Pakistan continues to reject the constitutional changes entirely, asserting that they violate international agreements and Security Council resolutions. The differing legal interpretations create significant diplomatic obstacles. India considers constitutional reform to be an internal matter falling entirely within its sovereign authority. Pakistan views the issue as an international dispute requiring continued involvement from the United Nations.

Because DISEC focuses on international peace and security rather than constitutional law, delegates should carefully consider how competing interpretations affect regional stability rather than attempting to determine the legal validity of either position.



DISEC: CURRENT ISSUES TOPIC A

China's Expanding Role

Although discussions often focus primarily on India and Pakistan, China has become an increasingly important stakeholder in the Kashmir dispute.

China administers Aksai Chin, territory claimed by India, and maintains a close strategic partnership with Pakistan. Additionally, portions of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) pass through Gilgit-Baltistan, an area that India considers part of the former princely state of Jammu and Kashmir.

India has repeatedly expressed concern that Chinese infrastructure projects strengthen Pakistan's strategic position while undermining India's territorial claims. Border tensions between India and China—including the 2020 clashes in Ladakh—have further complicated the broader regional security environment. As a result, Kashmir can no longer be viewed solely as a bilateral dispute. Increasing strategic competition among India, Pakistan, and China has transformed the region into an important component of wider Indo-Pacific geopolitics.

Delegates should therefore recognize that decisions affecting Kashmir may also influence broader regional power dynamics.

The Role of the United Nations

Since 1948, the United Nations has remained involved in Kashmir primarily through Security Council resolutions and the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP).

However, the organization's role remains controversial. Pakistan generally supports continued UN engagement, emphasizing earlier Security Council resolutions and advocating greater international involvement. India, by contrast, argues that the Simla Agreement established bilateral negotiations as the appropriate mechanism for resolving disputes and has questioned the continued relevance of certain UN institutions, particularly UNMOGIP.



DISEC: CURRENT ISSUES TOPIC A

These differing positions significantly constrain the range of actions available to the international community. Delegates should therefore consider realistic avenues through which the United Nations can promote dialogue, confidence-building, humanitarian cooperation, and conflict prevention while respecting the sovereignty of member states.

Emerging Security Challenges

Traditional military competition is no longer the only source of instability in Kashmir.

Cyber operations, disinformation campaigns, satellite surveillance, unmanned aerial vehicles, and artificial intelligence increasingly influence modern interstate competition. False information can spread rapidly through social media during periods of crisis, increasing public pressure on political leaders and reducing opportunities for diplomatic de-escalation.

Similarly, drones have become increasingly common along the India-Pakistan border. Governments have accused one another of using unmanned aircraft for reconnaissance, weapons deliveries, and intelligence gathering. These technologies reduce the costs of limited military operations while simultaneously increasing uncertainty regarding attribution and escalation.

Climate change also presents an emerging challenge. Himalayan glaciers—including those feeding major river systems originating in Kashmir—are retreating due to rising global temperatures. Water security, environmental degradation, and natural disasters may therefore become increasingly intertwined with existing geopolitical tensions.

Consequently, delegates should recognize that future security challenges will likely extend beyond conventional military confrontation. Effective international cooperation may require addressing environmental resilience, technological governance, humanitarian preparedness, and regional economic development alongside more traditional security concerns.



DISEC: POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TOPIC A

The Kashmir conflict has persisted for nearly eight decades because it involves multiple overlapping issues: competing territorial claims, national identity, terrorism, humanitarian concerns, and strategic rivalry between nuclear-armed states. Consequently, there is no single policy capable of resolving every aspect of the dispute. Instead, the international community must consider a range of complementary approaches that reduce tensions while respecting the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity, and international law.

As delegates develop solutions, they should recognize that DISEC is not tasked with determining which country possesses the stronger territorial claim. Rather, the committee's role is to examine how the United Nations and its Member States can promote regional security, prevent armed conflict, and encourage long-term stability.

Strengthening Confidence-Building Measures

One of the most immediate opportunities for reducing tensions involves expanding confidence-building measures (CBMs) between India and Pakistan.

Historically, CBMs have included ceasefire agreements, military hotlines, advance notification of missile tests, and communication between senior military officials. These mechanisms help reduce misunderstandings during periods of heightened tension and decrease the likelihood that isolated incidents escalate into broader conflict.

Delegates may wish to explore whether additional military transparency measures, joint border communication mechanisms, or crisis-management protocols could further reduce the risk of accidental escalation.



DISEC: POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TOPIC A

Counterterrorism Cooperation

Militant organizations continue to pose one of the greatest obstacles to peace in Kashmir.

Delegates should consider how the international community can strengthen counterterrorism efforts while ensuring that such measures remain consistent with international law and human rights obligations. Possible approaches may include improving intelligence sharing between states, strengthening financial oversight to disrupt terrorist financing, expanding implementation of existing UN counterterrorism resolutions, and enhancing border security through technological cooperation. At the same time, delegates should consider how counterterrorism operations can be conducted without unnecessarily increasing regional tensions or undermining civilian protections.

Protecting Civilians and Human Rights

The humanitarian consequences of prolonged conflict remain a significant concern for the international community.

Delegates may evaluate how international organizations can encourage greater protection of civilians, improve humanitarian access where appropriate, support displaced populations, and strengthen monitoring of humanitarian conditions. They should also consider the importance of balancing legitimate national security concerns with internationally recognized human rights principles.

Any recommendations should carefully respect state sovereignty while recognizing the United Nations' broader commitment to promoting human dignity and protecting civilian populations.

Expanding Regional Dialogue

Although political disagreements remain substantial, diplomacy remains the most sustainable path toward reducing long-term instability.

Delegates may explore opportunities to encourage bilateral dialogue between India and Pakistan, support informal diplomatic engagement ("Track II diplomacy") among



DISEC: POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TOPIC A

academics and civil society organizations, or facilitate technical discussions on issues such as disaster response, environmental cooperation, or public health. Even when comprehensive political agreements remain unlikely, limited cooperation in non-political areas can help build trust and reduce hostility over time.





DISEC: POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TOPIC A

Addressing Emerging Security Threats

Modern security challenges increasingly extend beyond conventional military conflict. Cyberattacks, misinformation campaigns, drone technology, and artificial intelligence all possess the potential to increase instability during periods of crisis. Delegates should therefore consider whether new international norms or cooperative mechanisms could reduce the likelihood that emerging technologies contribute to accidental escalation.

Similarly, climate change presents growing security concerns throughout the Himalayan region. Environmental cooperation—including glacier monitoring, disaster preparedness, and water resource management—may provide opportunities for collaboration even when political disagreements persist.

The Role of the United Nations

The United Nations has remained engaged in Kashmir for decades through Security Council resolutions and the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP). However, Member States continue to disagree regarding the appropriate scope of UN involvement.

Delegates should therefore carefully evaluate what role, if any, additional UN initiatives could realistically play. Rather than focusing solely on mediation, delegates may consider whether the UN could strengthen humanitarian coordination, facilitate technical dialogue, support confidence-building initiatives, promote regional development, or provide expertise on conflict prevention.

Successful resolutions should acknowledge both the opportunities and limitations facing international organizations when addressing disputes involving sovereign states.



DISEC: QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER TOPIC A

As delegates prepare for committee, they should consider the following questions:

1. How can the international community reduce military tensions between India and Pakistan without infringing upon the sovereignty of either state?
2. What additional confidence-building measures could reduce the likelihood of accidental escalation along the Line of Control?
3. How should the United Nations balance respect for national sovereignty with concerns regarding civilian protection and human rights?
4. What role should international organizations play in addressing allegations of cross-border terrorism?
5. How can Member States strengthen regional security while avoiding actions that unintentionally increase tensions?
6. Should the United Nations expand, reduce, or maintain its current role in Kashmir? Why?
7. How can emerging technologies—including drones, cyber capabilities, and artificial intelligence—be prevented from increasing instability in the region?
8. What lessons from other long-standing territorial disputes might be applicable to Kashmir?
9. How can humanitarian concerns be addressed without politicizing aid delivery?
10. What mechanisms could encourage sustained dialogue even during periods of heightened political tension?
11. How should the international community respond if future terrorist attacks threaten to trigger another military crisis?
12. In what ways can regional economic cooperation contribute to long-term peace and stability?
13. How can environmental challenges, including climate change and water security, become opportunities for cooperation rather than additional sources of conflict?
14. What realistic actions can DISEC recommend given its mandate and the political realities surrounding the Kashmir dispute?

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DISEC TOPIC B: RESPONDING TO THE ONGOING CONFLICT AND HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN SUDAN

Introduction

Since April 2023, Sudan has experienced one of the world's fastest-growing humanitarian and security crises. What began as a power struggle between two rival military leaders has evolved into a nationwide civil war that has displaced millions of civilians, devastated critical infrastructure, and threatened the stability of the broader Horn of Africa. As fighting continues between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), the conflict has become increasingly internationalized, drawing in neighboring states, regional organizations, foreign governments, and non-state actors.

The humanitarian consequences have been catastrophic. Tens of thousands of people have been killed, while more than fourteen million Sudanese have been displaced from their homes, creating one of the largest displacement crises in modern history. Millions have fled to neighboring countries including Chad, South Sudan, Egypt, Ethiopia, Libya, and the Central African Republic, placing enormous strain on already fragile governments and humanitarian agencies. At the same time, widespread food insecurity, disease outbreaks, and the destruction of healthcare infrastructure have pushed large portions of the population toward famine-like conditions. International organizations have repeatedly warned that Sudan represents one of the most severe humanitarian emergencies in the world. Beyond its humanitarian dimensions, the conflict presents significant challenges to international peace and security. Sudan occupies a strategically important location connecting North Africa, the Sahel, the Red Sea, and Sub-Saharan Africa. Continued instability threatens regional trade, encourages illicit arms trafficking, increases refugee flows, and creates opportunities for extremist organizations and transnational criminal networks to expand their influence. Furthermore, allegations of foreign military assistance to competing factions risk transforming Sudan into a broader regional proxy conflict.

DISEC TOPIC B: RESPONDING TO THE ONGOING CONFLICT AND HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN SUDAN

The conflict also highlights the difficulties facing the international community when responding to civil wars involving multiple armed actors. Although the United Nations, African Union (AU), Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), and numerous states have called for ceasefires and political negotiations, repeated mediation efforts have failed to produce a lasting settlement. Humanitarian access remains inconsistent, while violations of international humanitarian law continue to be reported across multiple regions of the country.

For delegates in the Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC), Sudan presents a complex challenge that extends well beyond ending active combat. The committee must consider how the international community can reduce the flow of weapons into the conflict, strengthen civilian protection, improve humanitarian access, support regional stability, and encourage conditions that enable a sustainable political resolution. Effective solutions will require balancing respect for Sudanese sovereignty with the international community's responsibility to promote peace, security, and humanitarian assistance.



DISEC BACKGROUND TOPIC B

The 2021 Military Coup

Following Bashir's removal, Sudan established the Sovereignty Council, a transitional governing body composed of both civilian representatives and military officials. Under the Constitutional Declaration signed in 2019, Sudan was expected to transition toward democratic elections after a temporary power-sharing period. Despite these commitments, disagreements quickly emerged regarding the pace of democratic reforms, military accountability, and economic policy. Civilian leaders sought greater oversight of the armed forces, while military commanders resisted efforts that could reduce their political influence or economic power.

On 25 October 2021, General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, commander of the SAF, dissolved the transitional government, declared a state of emergency, and detained numerous civilian officials, including Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok. The coup effectively ended Sudan's democratic transition and sparked widespread demonstrations across the country.

International condemnation followed immediately. The United Nations, African Union, European Union, United States, and numerous other governments called for the restoration of civilian rule. Several countries suspended financial assistance, while the African Union temporarily suspended Sudan's membership.

Although Prime Minister Hamdok briefly returned to office through a negotiated agreement, continuing protests and political instability ultimately led to his resignation in January 2022. Sudan was once again governed almost entirely by military leadership.

Ironically, the coup temporarily united Burhan and RSF commander Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo ("Hemedti"), who had jointly supported the removal of civilian authorities. However, their alliance proved short-lived.

DISEC BACKGROUND TOPIC B

Rising Tensions Between the SAF and RSF

The most significant disagreement between Sudan's military leaders concerned the future of the Rapid Support Forces.

Originally created from the Janjaweed militias that fought in Darfur, the RSF had evolved into one of the country's strongest military organizations. Unlike most paramilitary forces, the RSF possessed its own chain of command, independent financial resources, advanced weapons, and extensive control over Sudan's lucrative gold mining industry.

As negotiations resumed regarding a possible return to civilian government, international mediators argued that Sudan required a single unified military. This proposal would require integrating the RSF into the Sudanese Armed Forces. Although both Burhan and Hemedti publicly supported security sector reform in principle, they fundamentally disagreed on how—and how quickly—the integration should occur.

The SAF favored relatively rapid integration under the authority of the national military.

The RSF argued that integration should occur gradually over many years while preserving much of its organizational independence.

Behind these policy disagreements lay a deeper struggle for political power. Both commanders recognized that whichever force controlled Sudan's unified military would likely dominate any future government.

By early 2023, negotiations had stalled, and military deployments around Khartoum increased dramatically.

DISEC BACKGROUND TOPIC B

The Outbreak of Civil War

On 15 April 2023, fighting erupted in Khartoum between the SAF and RSF following weeks of rising tensions.

Within hours, battles spread across the capital as both sides attempted to seize strategic locations including the presidential palace, military headquarters, airports, bridges, television stations, and government ministries.

Unlike many previous Sudanese conflicts, the fighting occurred inside densely populated urban areas. Heavy artillery, airstrikes, tanks, drones, and machine guns were used throughout residential neighborhoods, exposing millions of civilians to direct combat.

The conflict quickly expanded beyond Khartoum into Darfur, Kordofan, Gezira, and numerous other regions. Cities changed hands multiple times as each side sought territorial control, while local militias increasingly aligned themselves with one faction or the other.

Despite repeated ceasefire announcements brokered by international mediators, nearly every agreement collapsed within days. Neither side proved willing to make significant military concessions, believing that continued fighting might improve its negotiating position. (Council on Foreign Relations)

DISEC BACKGROUND TOPIC B

Internationalization of the Conflict

Although the war began as a domestic power struggle, it has increasingly acquired regional and international dimensions.

Several governments have been accused of providing political, financial, or military assistance to one or both factions. Egypt has maintained particularly close relations with the Sudanese Armed Forces because of longstanding military cooperation and shared security concerns along the Nile River.

The RSF has been linked by numerous international investigations and UN experts to external sources of military support. Sudan's government, several Western governments, and independent organizations have accused the United Arab Emirates (UAE) of supplying weapons and logistical assistance to the RSF, allegations that the UAE has consistently denied. Reports have also documented the involvement of foreign mercenaries and cross-border supply networks that have complicated efforts to enforce existing arms embargoes. (Council on Foreign Relations)

Russia has likewise sought to expand its influence in Sudan. Even before the civil war, the Russian private military company Wagner Group maintained connections with Sudan through gold mining operations and security cooperation. More recently, Russia has pursued agreements to establish a naval facility on Sudan's Red Sea coast, reflecting the country's growing strategic importance. (Council on Foreign Relations)

These competing foreign interests have transformed Sudan from a purely domestic civil war into a conflict with broader geopolitical implications. External support has enabled both sides to continue fighting, making a negotiated settlement increasingly difficult to achieve.

DISEC BACKGROUND TOPIC B

Humanitarian Collapse

The consequences of the conflict for Sudan's civilian population have been devastating.

Entire neighborhoods have been destroyed by artillery fire and aerial bombardment. Hospitals, schools, water systems, and electrical infrastructure have suffered extensive damage, leaving millions without access to essential services.

The conflict has also generated the largest humanitarian crisis in the world. By 2026, more than 30 million people required humanitarian assistance, while over 11 million people had been displaced internally or forced to flee across Sudan's borders.

Neighboring countries—including Chad, South Sudan, Egypt, Ethiopia, Libya, and the Central African Republic—have struggled to accommodate the growing refugee population. ([World Health Organization](#))

Food insecurity has become particularly severe. Agricultural production has declined sharply because fighting has disrupted planting, harvesting, transportation, and commercial trade. Humanitarian organizations have warned that famine conditions have emerged in several regions, particularly in Darfur, where aid deliveries are frequently obstructed by ongoing combat. Simultaneously, disease outbreaks—including cholera, measles, and malaria—have spread rapidly as Sudan's healthcare system has deteriorated. ([Human Rights Watch](#))

DISEC BACKGROUND TOPIC B

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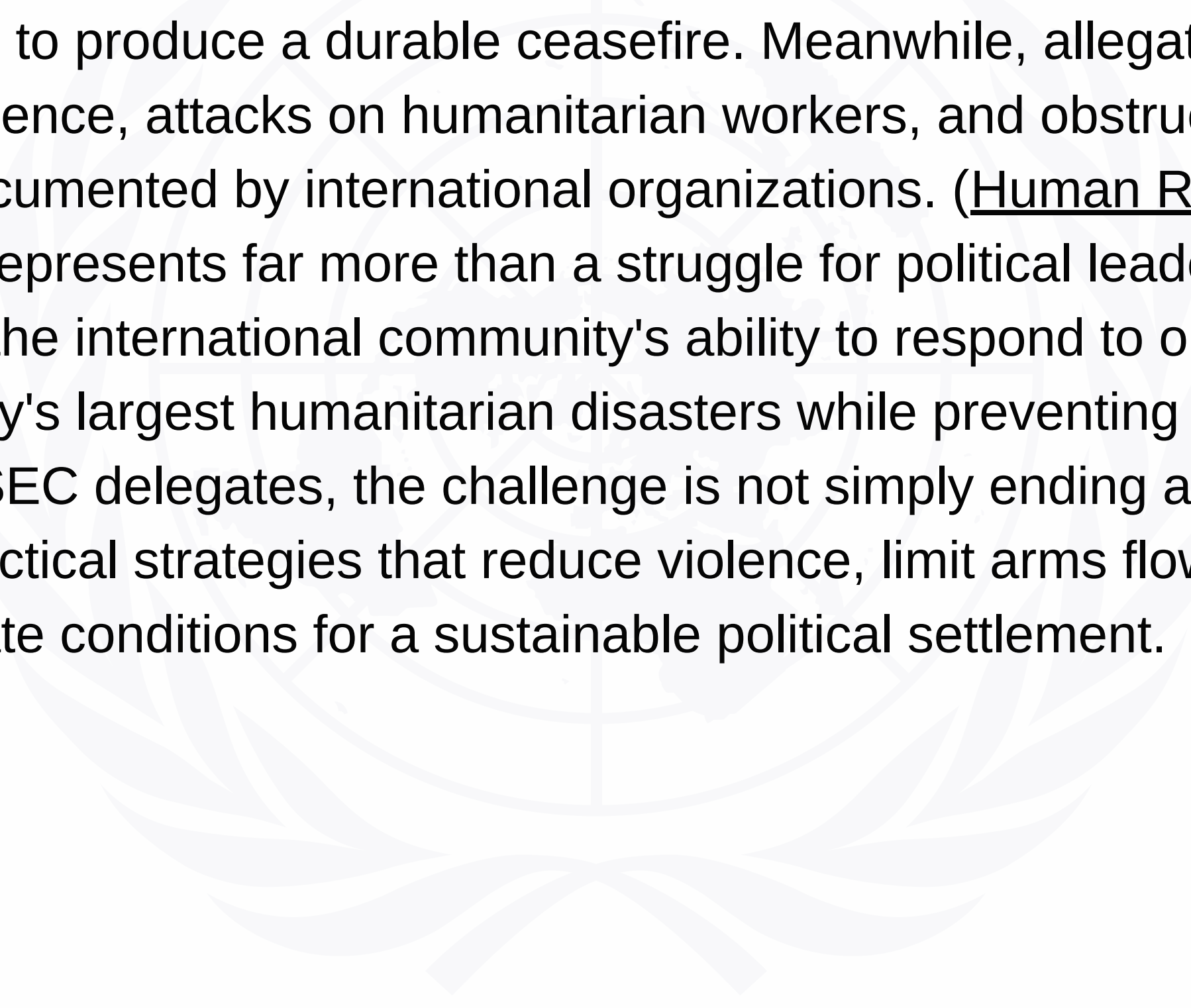
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DISEC BACKGROUND TOPIC B

Sudan in 2026

As of 2026, neither the SAF nor the RSF has achieved a decisive military victory. The SAF has regained control over much of central and eastern Sudan, including significant portions of Khartoum, while the RSF continues to maintain strong positions across much of Darfur and parts of western Sudan. Fighting has increasingly shifted toward the Kordofan region, and both sides continue to conduct drone strikes, artillery attacks, and ground offensives. ([GOV.UK](#))

Repeated mediation efforts led by the United Nations, African Union (AU), Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), Saudi Arabia, and the United States have failed to produce a durable ceasefire. Meanwhile, allegations of war crimes, ethnic violence, attacks on humanitarian workers, and obstruction of aid continue to be documented by international organizations. ([Human Rights Watch](#)) The conflict now represents far more than a struggle for political leadership. It has become a test of the international community's ability to respond to one of the twenty-first century's largest humanitarian disasters while preventing further regional instability. For DISEC delegates, the challenge is not simply ending active combat but identifying practical strategies that reduce violence, limit arms flows, protect civilians, and create conditions for a sustainable political settlement.



DISEC CURRENT ISSUES TOPIC B

Although the conflict in Sudan began as a struggle for political control between two rival military leaders, it has evolved into a multidimensional crisis with profound implications for international peace and security. The continued fighting has fueled humanitarian catastrophe, regional instability, illicit arms trafficking, and foreign intervention while undermining efforts to establish democratic governance. As delegates consider potential solutions, they must recognize that addressing one aspect of the conflict alone will not produce lasting peace.

Proliferation of Weapons

One of DISEC's primary concerns is the continued flow of weapons into Sudan. Both the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) have relied on a steady supply of arms, ammunition, drones, armored vehicles, and military equipment throughout the conflict. While some weapons originate from existing Sudanese military stockpiles, international investigations have documented evidence suggesting that foreign weapons continue to enter the country through neighboring states and regional supply networks.

These arms transfers have prolonged the conflict by allowing both factions to replenish military losses and sustain offensive operations. At the same time, weak border controls have enabled the growth of illicit arms trafficking throughout the Sahel and Horn of Africa. Weapons introduced into Sudan frequently move across porous borders into Chad, Libya, South Sudan, and the Central African Republic, contributing to insecurity far beyond Sudan itself.

Delegates should therefore recognize that reducing violence in Sudan requires not only promoting ceasefires but also limiting the continued flow of weapons into the conflict.

DISEC CURRENT ISSUES TOPIC B

Humanitarian Access

Although humanitarian organizations have mobilized significant international assistance, delivering aid remains extraordinarily difficult.

Fighting frequently blocks major transportation routes, while damaged infrastructure complicates the movement of food, fuel, medicine, and emergency personnel. Humanitarian convoys have repeatedly encountered checkpoints, bureaucratic restrictions, active combat, and attacks against aid workers.

Entire communities remain isolated for extended periods, preventing civilians from receiving lifesaving assistance. Hospitals face severe shortages of medical supplies, while schools, water systems, and electrical infrastructure have suffered extensive damage.

The United Nations and numerous humanitarian organizations have consistently emphasized that humanitarian assistance cannot effectively reach affected populations without sustained periods of reduced violence and improved security guarantees.

Delegates must therefore consider not only the quantity of humanitarian assistance provided but also the mechanisms necessary to ensure that aid safely reaches civilians.



DISEC CURRENT ISSUES TOPIC B

Food Insecurity and Famine

The conflict has produced one of the most severe food crises in the world. Sudan has historically been an important agricultural producer within Northeast Africa. However, ongoing fighting has disrupted planting seasons, destroyed farmland, displaced farming communities, and interrupted transportation networks connecting rural producers with urban markets. As a result, food prices have increased dramatically while millions of Sudanese face acute food insecurity. International organizations have warned that famine conditions have emerged in several regions, particularly in Darfur, where conflict has severely restricted humanitarian access.

Malnutrition disproportionately affects children, pregnant women, and elderly populations. Long-term food insecurity also increases the likelihood of disease outbreaks, economic instability, and additional displacement, creating a cycle that becomes increasingly difficult to reverse.

Addressing food insecurity therefore requires both humanitarian assistance and improvements in overall security conditions.

Refugees and Regional Stability

Sudan's conflict has become a regional crisis rather than solely a domestic one.

Millions of displaced Sudanese have sought refuge in neighboring countries, including Chad, Egypt, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Libya, Uganda, and the Central African Republic. Many of these countries already face significant political, economic, and humanitarian challenges of their own.

Large refugee populations place additional pressure on housing, healthcare systems, education, employment opportunities, and public infrastructure. In some border regions, competition over limited resources has increased tensions between refugee communities and host populations.

Furthermore, armed groups sometimes exploit refugee flows to recruit fighters, transport weapons, or establish cross-border logistical networks. Consequently, prolonged instability in Sudan risks undermining security throughout the broader Horn of Africa and Sahel.



DISEC CURRENT ISSUES TOPIC B

Foreign Involvement

Although Sudan's civil war remains fundamentally domestic, external actors have become increasingly influential.

Multiple governments have been accused of providing military equipment, financial assistance, intelligence support, or diplomatic backing to one or both factions. These allegations have complicated peace negotiations by reducing incentives for compromise while increasing each side's confidence in its ability to achieve military victory.

Foreign involvement also reflects Sudan's strategic importance. The country's location along the Red Sea, its abundant natural resources, and its position connecting North Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa make it an attractive partner for numerous regional and global powers.

As competing geopolitical interests expand, delegates must consider how international diplomacy can reduce external interference while encouraging coordinated humanitarian and peacebuilding efforts.

Violations of International Humanitarian Law

Throughout the conflict, international organizations have documented allegations of serious violations of international humanitarian law.

Reports have described indiscriminate shelling of civilian neighborhoods, attacks on hospitals and humanitarian facilities, widespread sexual violence, forced displacement, arbitrary detention, and ethnically targeted violence, particularly in parts of Darfur. Numerous humanitarian workers have also been killed or injured while attempting to deliver emergency assistance. Such attacks not only violate international law but also further restrict aid delivery to vulnerable populations.

Although determining criminal responsibility falls outside DISEC's mandate, delegates should consider how international security mechanisms can strengthen civilian protection, improve compliance with international humanitarian law, and reduce future violations.

DISEC CURRENT ISSUES TOPIC B

Weaknesses of Existing Peace Efforts

Despite repeated diplomatic initiatives, no lasting ceasefire has been achieved. The United Nations, African Union (AU), Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), Saudi Arabia, the United States, and several neighboring countries have all participated in mediation efforts. However, ceasefire agreements have repeatedly collapsed due to mutual distrust, violations on the ground, disagreements regarding implementation, and the absence of effective monitoring mechanisms.

The existence of multiple simultaneous mediation initiatives has also created coordination challenges. Competing diplomatic processes occasionally pursue different priorities or involve different stakeholders, reducing the overall effectiveness of international engagement.

Delegates should therefore examine not only whether negotiations should continue, but also how future peace processes can become more inclusive, coordinated, and enforceable.

Long-Term Political Stability

Even if active fighting were to end tomorrow, Sudan would continue to face immense political challenges.

The conflict has severely weakened government institutions, damaged public trust, disrupted economic activity, and delayed democratic reforms. Rebuilding Sudan will require more than reconstruction of physical infrastructure; it will also require rebuilding political institutions capable of providing security, accountability, and public services.

Questions surrounding security sector reform, civilian governance, constitutional development, and economic recovery remain unresolved. Additionally, integrating competing armed groups into unified national institutions presents significant political and logistical challenges.

Delegates should therefore recognize that sustainable peace depends not only on ending violence but also on establishing political arrangements capable of preventing renewed conflict.



DISEC CURRENT ISSUES TOPIC B

Potential Areas for International Action

The conflict in Sudan presents no simple solution. Its humanitarian, political, and security dimensions are deeply interconnected, meaning that meaningful progress will likely require simultaneous action across multiple areas. While the Disarmament and International Security Committee cannot directly negotiate peace agreements, it can recommend policies that reduce violence, strengthen regional stability, and support international cooperation.

As delegates draft resolutions, they should remain mindful of the committee's mandate while considering the practical limitations facing the United Nations and Member States.

Strengthening Ceasefire Monitoring

Although numerous ceasefires have been negotiated since the outbreak of the conflict, few have remained in effect for more than several days. Weak monitoring mechanisms, limited communication between the parties, and continued fighting have repeatedly undermined implementation.

Delegates may wish to consider whether stronger ceasefire verification mechanisms, enhanced international monitoring, or improved communication channels could increase compliance with future agreements. Any recommendations should carefully evaluate questions of state consent, operational feasibility, and the safety of international personnel.

Limiting the Flow of Weapons

The continued availability of weapons has significantly prolonged the conflict. Delegates should consider how existing arms embargoes, customs enforcement, intelligence sharing, and regional border security initiatives might be strengthened to reduce the transfer of weapons into Sudan. They may also examine the role of neighboring states, regional organizations, and international institutions in preventing illicit arms trafficking throughout the region.

At the same time, proposals should recognize the practical challenges associated with enforcing arms restrictions in regions characterized by porous borders and ongoing armed conflict.



DISEC CURRENT ISSUES TOPIC B

Improving Humanitarian Access

Millions of Sudanese civilians remain dependent upon humanitarian assistance. Delegates may explore mechanisms that facilitate the safe delivery of food, medicine, shelter, and emergency services while ensuring humanitarian organizations can operate in accordance with the principles of neutrality, impartiality, and independence. They should also consider how Member States can support humanitarian agencies financially and logistically without compromising their neutrality.

Particular attention should be given to populations facing famine, internally displaced persons, refugees, and communities located in areas experiencing active combat.

Supporting Regional Cooperation

Sudan's conflict affects far more than Sudan itself.

Neighboring countries have experienced increased refugee flows, border insecurity, arms trafficking, and economic disruption. Consequently, regional organizations such as the African Union (AU) and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) remain important partners in promoting long-term stability.

Delegates may evaluate how greater coordination among regional organizations, neighboring governments, and United Nations agencies could improve crisis response while respecting the principle of African-led solutions to African challenges.

Protecting Civilians

Civilian populations continue to bear the greatest burden of the conflict.

Delegates should examine how the international community can strengthen protections for civilians while remaining consistent with international humanitarian law and the sovereignty of Sudan. Potential areas of discussion may include protecting humanitarian corridors, supporting medical infrastructure, improving early warning systems for civilians, or strengthening accountability for attacks on protected persons and facilities.

Rather than focusing solely on responding to violence after it occurs, delegates should also consider preventive measures that reduce risks before humanitarian crises emerge.

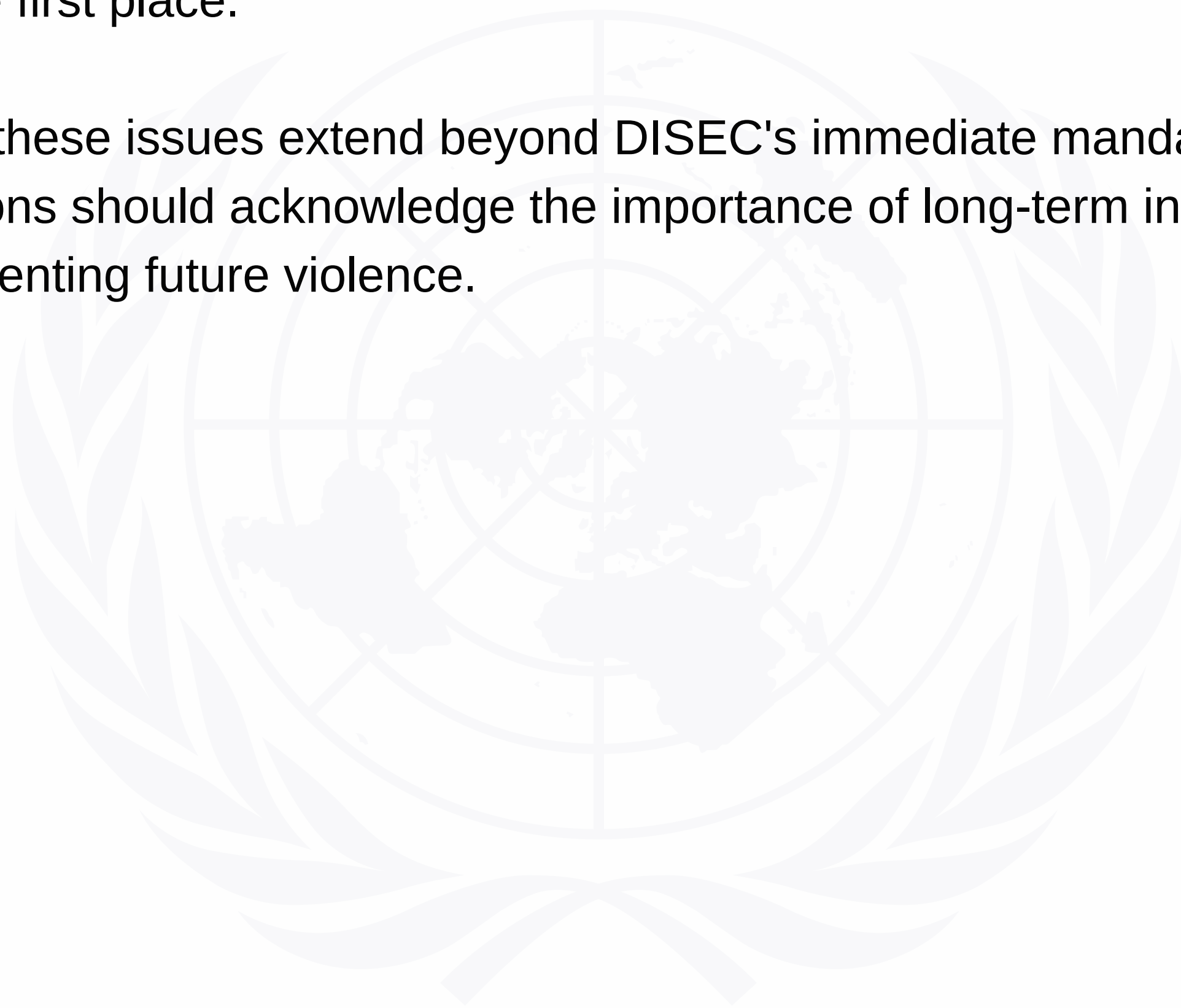
DISEC CURRENT ISSUES TOPIC B

Supporting Long-Term Stability

Even if active fighting ends, Sudan will face years of reconstruction and institutional recovery.

Delegates may wish to examine how the international community can support post-conflict stabilization, security sector reform, economic recovery, and the gradual restoration of civilian governance. Sustainable peace depends not only on ending armed conflict but also on addressing the structural conditions that contributed to instability in the first place.

While many of these issues extend beyond DISEC's immediate mandate, security recommendations should acknowledge the importance of long-term institution building in preventing future violence.





DISEC POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TOPIC B

One option is to formalize and modestly expand NATO's original Standing Maritime Group role, focusing it explicitly on intelligence-sharing with Frontex and national coast guards to disrupt smuggling networks, rather than any function resembling border enforcement itself. This would build on a model both Greece and Turkey have already accepted rather than creating a new, more contested mandate.

A second option centers on trilateral confidence-building between Greece, Turkey, and NATO's broader membership, using the Alliance's convening power to keep migration cooperation insulated from the two countries' separate disputes over island sovereignty. NATO could support technical, non-political working channels for coast guard coordination and search-and-rescue cooperation that continue functioning even when bilateral relations sour over other issues.

A third approach addresses the root instability driving migration rather than only the crossing itself, encouraging member states to coordinate more closely with the EU, the UN, and Syria's transitional authorities to support conditions for safe and voluntary returns, so that the recent decline in Aegean crossings is reinforced rather than reversed. This could include support for reconstruction assistance and monitoring of return conditions, delivered through humanitarian and development channels rather than a NATO military mission.

Finally, delegates might propose a standing early-warning framework, in which NATO's surveillance assets already active in the Eastern Mediterranean feed data not only to Frontex but to a joint Greek-Turkish coordination cell, so that any future surge in crossings, whether from renewed Syrian displacement or another source, triggers a coordinated response rather than a repeat of the unilateral border actions seen in 2020.



DISEC: QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER TOPIC B

As delegates prepare for committee, they should consider the following questions:

1. How can the international community reduce violence in Sudan while respecting the country's sovereignty?
2. What steps can Member States take to limit the illicit flow of weapons into Sudan without hindering legitimate humanitarian operations?
3. How can humanitarian organizations safely deliver assistance in areas experiencing active combat?
4. What role should regional organizations such as the African Union and IGAD play in resolving the conflict?
5. How can neighboring countries be supported as they continue to host large refugee populations?
6. What measures could strengthen compliance with future ceasefire agreements?
7. How should the United Nations respond to allegations of violations of international humanitarian law?
8. What mechanisms could reduce foreign interference and encourage greater international coordination?
9. How can the international community balance immediate humanitarian assistance with long-term political stabilization?
10. What lessons from previous peacekeeping and mediation efforts in Africa may be applicable to Sudan?
11. How can post-conflict security sector reform contribute to lasting peace?
12. What role should disarmament and weapons control play in Sudan's reconstruction?
13. How can international assistance help rebuild trust in public institutions after years of conflict?
14. Within DISEC's mandate, what realistic actions can Member States recommend to reduce regional instability and promote sustainable peace?



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Delegation List/Position Dossier

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