

Disarmament

Topics

Militarization of the Arctic
Weaponization of Finance
Animals in the Military
Japan's Rise From Pacifism

This committee is run Harvard Style, which means that resolutions can not be written until the date of the conference itself. Additionally, it is strongly recommended that every delegate write at least one position paper on a topic, as doing so will allow you to be considered for an award.

All delegates are expected to come to the first day of the conference with a working knowledge of all or most of the topics as well as the policies of the countries that they represent. As the Disarmament committee, it is imperative that delegates keep in mind that their purpose is to resolve conflicts and help the peacebuilding process in the most direct and effective way possible, without infringing upon national sovereignty. Remember that Model UN is not a competition, so get to researching and try to have some fun.

Jeremy Robinson

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Hello my name is Jeremy Robinson. I am in my fourth year in model UN and this will be my second time chairing. I am a senior at Brockport High School where I play soccer and do tech crew for various performances in our school. In addition I race motocross and you can often find me on the track or out at the golf course. Please feel free to email me if you have any questions regarding the topics, position papers or anything else you may have concerns about!

Spencer Koehl

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My name is Spencer Koehl and this is my first time chairing, but my third year in Model UN. I'm a sophomore at School of the Arts where I play lacrosse, snowboard, and am the vice-president of Model UN. I can solve a rubix cube in under a minute and I got hit by a motorcycle in Guatemala. Don't hesitate to send me an email regarding the topics, position papers, or anything else you may need. We have some great topics here and we're going to have an incredible committee.

Militarization pic: <https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rect=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwj4I-zjvtrNAhWRZj4KHxIgAV8QjRwIBw&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.businessinsider.com%2Fchart-of-russias-militarization-of-arctic-2015-8&psig=AFQjCNHrsC-WNkoi1G6VnyCymbUV0sVPWQ&ust=1467745077943153>

Militarization of the Arctic

The rapid drive for countries to militarize that is seen so often has finally reached one of the coldest places on Earth, the Arctic. As the ice melts and the Arctic becomes more traversable, an increase in interest in the militarization of the region is seen, especially from northern nations, who are scrambling to build bases and claim the natural resources that have recently emerged from the ice. This rapid increase in interest has left the Arctic incredibly disputed.

Russia has recently announced their plan to reopen an old Soviet base in the East Siberian Sea. Russia's plan shows that as more Arctic land becomes available, northern nations will start to rapidly move forces and supplies to the Arctic to build bases and make territorial claims. The push for militarization comes from a need to protect land claims, maintain access to sea routes through northern oceans, and make claims to the natural resources.



As the ice recedes, key shipping lanes become available, and many countries are scrambling to have control, both Canada and Russia have increased their military presence in order to control the lanes. Canada, along with Denmark and Norway have begun pushing farther and farther North, conducting military operations and troop movements.

Northern oil already accounts for 20% of Russian GDP, and would be a huge blow to the Russian economy. The new natural resources are so important now, and will become more and more important as more ice melts and more resources are exposed, having potential to cause future conflicts between northern nations looking to fuel their economy.

As more nations encroach on Arctic lands, claiming land and resources, building naval bases, potential for conflict and disputes will rise dramatically. Even though no open conflict has occurred to date, it is not far off. The increasing construction and the natural resource extraction has a potential to negatively impact the Arctic and throw off the delicate ecosystem of the Arctic.

Questions:

Should countries be allowed to militarize the Arctic?

How do we prevent conflict due to militarization?

How can we regulate militarization of the Arctic?

[Russia Controls the North](#)

[Creeping North](#)

[Canada and Russia's "Cold War"](#)

Finance pic:

<https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwjcs3gwNrNAhXTQD4KHcr2CrQQjRwIBw&url=http%3A%2F%2Fpoliticaloutcast.com%2Fliberals-want-to-require-gun-liability-insurance%2Fmoney-gun%2F&bvm=bv.126130881.d.amc&psig=AFQjCNEUV59ikO0f977QmF2hZ7iFg1YqqA&ust=1467745583056882>

Weaponization of Finance

For many countries, deploying troops and using military aggression is very much a thing of the past. Today, using military power for influence over another country is looked down upon by both that country's citizens and the international community. Even though, countries still want to maintain influence over global issues and outcome. Because of this, an increase in the use of finance as a weapon, such as using monetary incentives or sanctions as tools of coercive diplomacy, is seen.

Often, from the United States, instead of using military action to fight countries, it is done financially and without taking any lethal action. As it requires little cooperation from other countries, and is much more cost effective than traditional military action, this method can be beneficial.



While the weaponization of finance can take many forms, the most common type seen is economic sanctions, like the ones imposed on Russia and North Korea. It can also take the form of countries imposing limited access to banks and marketplaces, like the US has. It has blocked off its financial markets from hostile nations.

While it may be inexpensive and politically wise, there are also some considerable drawbacks. Specifically for the US, relations with Europe have weakened, as they have put more stress on European banks. Along with this, there is risk that Asian and Eastern European countries will diversify, create their own institutions, and subsequently switch away from the dollar. By using finance as a weapon, countries risk retaliation by means of cyber attacks. This is

already seen taking place in the US financial area, and there is a large potential for the US to get hit hard.

It's appealing because it's an inexpensive way to have political sway and influence, without angering other world powers and a country's own citizens own citizens, but there are many drawbacks and potential conflicts that can arise from the use of the weaponization of finance, which can be used to by wealthy nations to have influence nations less financially stable.

Questions:

How can we prevent countries from using finance as a means of coercion or as weapons?

How can we regulate the use of finance as a means of coercion?

Should countries be allowed to use finance as an instrument of coercive diplomacy?

Weaponization of Finance

A Serious Risk

The "Almighty Dollar"

Animals pic:

https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwjEzIDYwdrNAhWkaT4KHYPzDicQjRwIBw&url=https%3A%2F%2Fcommons.wikimedia.org%2Fwiki%2FFile%3AMontreal_police_horses.jpg&bvm=bv.126130881.d.amc&sig=AFQjCNHOnVcgIMcpu6LU8dtfL46He7oXcA&ust=1467745793791510

Animals in the Military

_____ Animals have always been part of military conflicts since the dawn of war. In ancient carthage elephants were used to help trample Roman soldiers. Horses have always been used as an advantage for speed and height when ridden into battle. Animals can provide key advantages to militaries and police forces not only in combat and policing but in counterterrorism and anti drug operations as well.

Recently dogs have been used in a lot of counterterrorism operations and by most police forces. Dogs have an impeccable sense of smell that is used to smell out bomb



materials and and drugs at airports and even out on the front lines. These animals also play a role that isn't necessarily combat related. Many soldiers form bonds with their dogs and amidst the chaos can help keep them calm and provide them with stress relief when they aren't out on missions.

As seen on shows like Alpha Dogs on the National Geographic Channel, many of these animals go through extensive training. Their handlers also go through training to understand how to properly use the animals as another member of the team. In addition to their handlers, they often are treated like another soldier with the utmost respect and are often treated fairly well.

Recently, militaries have sought the use other Animals. The Belgian NGO, APOPO (Anti-Personnel Landmines Removal Product Development), has begun training its Herorats for bomb and landmine detection. Nations on the ocean like Russia Ukraine and the US have trained dolphins and sea lions to help search out and retrieve equipment lost at sea.

With militaries looking to gain any advantage they can, often times new technology isn't the answer. The answer might be right in our homes, sewers, and oceans. Animals provide a unique advantage to any group that can understand them and train them to their desired needs, but have we taken this too far?

Questions:

Should nations be allowed to use animals in operations outside of their own soil?

Can their be a limit placed on which species can be used for military efforts?

How can we ensure the proper treatment of these animals?

[Use of Dolphins Worldwide](#)

[Bomb Sniffing Rats](#)

[US and Dolphins](#)

[Dogs in the Military](#)

Japan pic:

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Japan's Rise from Pacifism

_____ Recently there has been much military activity in the Pacific especially in the Asian Pacific region. North Korea has significantly increased its missile testing and it is beginning to frighten the surrounding nations including the nation in discussion, Japan. Currently, the issue at hand is that written in Japan's constitution they are limited in their military power.



After World War 2, American forces occupied the nation of Japan for a relatively brief amount of time in hopes of helping to develop a new constitution that would prevent the Japanese from attempting to create conflict in the region again. On May 3rd, 1947 the new constitution took effect. In the constitution, Article 9 states, in summation, that War is outlawed as a means of solving international disputes. Due to this stipulation Japan now maintains a de facto militia known as the Japanese Self-Defense Force (SDF). The SDF has amongst its ranks a maritime division which is very strong and is believed to be their best means of protection but a portion of the Japanese government does not feel that it will be enough.

Other nations have expressed concerns about North Korea's unpredictableness and China's constant border disputes with surrounding nations. In particular South Korea has been worried but they also have expressed their concerns with the possible build up of Japanese forces once again. Many are concerned that it might awake the once imperialistic nation back into conflicts over territory in the region. If Japan were to get involved in the already complicated feud over the South China Sea, it could turn the region into a maritime version of the Scramble for Africa and create conflict in the region.

With the ever impending invasion from China, the possibility of North Korean aggression, and as always the growing concern of terrorism reaching that region, Japan is looking to take action to allow for such measures to be put into place as to keep these scenarios from happening. With many nations already in a state of fear, would the possible Japanese military awakening create an uncontrollable conflict or would it help bring peace and stability to the region?

Questions:

What actions should be taken against Japan if it does remilitarize?

Can the UN help bring stability to the region to prevent remilitarization?

How do we prevent Japan from becoming aggressive and conflict driven?

[Japan's Rise from Pacifism](#)

[Threats to Japan](#)