

# **TFI**

## Introduction

My name is Somil Aggarwal, and this is my second time chairing and my third year in Model United Nations. I am a junior at Jamesville-Dewitt High School, and I am involved in a variety of clubs at my school including Science Olympiad, Math Team, and the Investing Club. I also enjoy playing sports such as tennis and soccer.

My name is Gavin Klingebiel and I am a senior at Pittsford-Mendon High School. This will be my third year in MUN, and my first time chairing.

## Committee Description

Territories and Foreign Intervention is run Harvard Style, meaning that no delegates are allowed to enter with pre-written resolutions completed prior. In order to receive an award, delegates only have to enter with one position paper completed, but it is advised that position papers be completed on all the topics to demonstrate adequate understanding of each topic.

Because this is TFI, delegates are expected to come in understanding both the topics presented to them as well as their policies. The current state of international affairs and understanding your country's preferences are very important in TFI. Avoiding conflicts of national sovereignty is also very important to this committee, so please keep that in mind when entering to begin debate and proposing solutions. MUN in the end is a very fun experience, and everyone is encouraged to participate to get the most out of their Hilton 2016 experience.

## The Secession of SADR from Morocco



The Sahwari Arab Democratic Republic is a group of people located in West Africa, mostly around the Saharan Desert. They claim they should be allowed to secede from Morocco and establish their own state. This dispute has many of the neighboring regions torn between Morocco and this possible country.

The Southern Provinces of Morocco is a region where the dispute is evident and each group claims ownership over the land. In a recent turn of events, the tension in the region has escalated as the President of Nigeria, Muhammadu Buhari, has pledged support to the effort to divide the Western Sahara. The SADR continue to wage war on the Polisario Front of the Western Sahara to which Morocco in particular has taken issue against and is working to put them down.

In the past, Libya and Algeria have also been involved in aiding the secession of the Sahari, and these past tensions may pose a problem to the relations of the region as this conflict resurfaces. Numerous peace agreements have been proposed and agreed on in the past, but many have been futile in the end. Spain and the Arab league are other third party members in this conflict which has further intensified the situation. Ties with Spain and origins in the conflict originate back to 1975 when Spain left the country.

Intense fighting alarming the Spanish and the international community started a few years later in 1978. Tensions further grew and the SADR grew in prevalence. By 1984, 85 countries recognized the SADR as its own independent state, and had joined the African Union.

*How can the international community attempt to prevent the escalation of this conflict?*

*To what extent should the UN become involved as third parties become more influential?*

*How can religious and ethnic conflicts like what is going on in Western Sahara be addressed in a way that establishes a stable environment for the future?*

### **The Whistler**

<https://thewhistler.ng/story/buhari-backs-western-sahara-to-secede-from-morocco-as-he-clamps-down-on-biafra-agitators>

### **BBC News**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-14115273>

### **Vanguard**

<http://www.vanguardngr.com/2016/03/buhari-backs-western-sahara-on-self-determination-from-morocco/>



The Reunification of South Sudan

Sudan and South Sudan have been the locations for massive conflicts in recent decades. The origins of the conflicts trace back all the way to Belgian occupation and their preference of one ethnic group over another. This led to the resentment among native peoples that later erupted in the persecution of that favored group when the Belgians left. In 1994, a terrible genocide occurred against the Tutsi population, orchestrated by the Hutu government. At that time, the international community chose to look away from the conflict and it escalated until the Hutu government was defeated by local forces and a new multiethnic government was put in place.

Since then, tensions still lay in the region and have come to light with the prospect of unification in South Sudan. Recently, a new effort to reunify South Sudan has come about called the Sudan People's Liberation Movement.

Secretary General of the UN, Ban Ki-Moon, has called for an agreement in South Sudan between their opposing factions to find peace and to explore this possibility of unification to allow for better relations in the region. Many locals however still resent this effort and fighting has broken out and protests have been made outside the government and United Nation embassies and facilities. This was done at the 27th African Union Summit. Ban especially put emphasis on targeting the rogue, unaffiliated groups escalating the conflict. In an effort to bring support from other African nations, Ban has met with the Presidents of Uganda and Rwanda to speak of ways to increase pressure to stop the fighting.

*How can the people of such a war-torn area come together to ease the ethnic tensions that have plagued the region?*

*How is the international community going to continue the reunification effort without infringing upon national sovereignty?*

*Should the international community be making such efforts?*

## **UN News Center**

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=49887>

## **Sudan Tribune**

<http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article58994>

## **Nonviolent Peaceforce**

<http://www.nonviolentpeaceforce.org/what-we-do/stories-from-the-field/29-south-sudan-news/496-reuniting-families-in-south-sudan>

## **Conflict in the Nagorno-Karabakh Region**



The conflict in the Nagorno-Karabakh region is an ethnic conflict between the Azerbaijan and the Republic of Armenia over the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic. The Nagorno-Karabakh Republic is a region in Azerbaijan whose population mostly consists

of ethnic Armenians. The current conflict in the region began in 1988 and soon after escalated into full warfare. Despite an official cease-fire signed in 1994, sporadic violence and border skirmishes have continued on to present day.

There is no actual toll for casualties caused by the continuing of conflict in the region, but by 2009 there were as many as 3,000 recorded deaths. With 72 recorded, 2014 was the deadliest year for Nagorno-Karabakh. So far this year (2016), 27 Armenian soldiers and 28 Azerbaijani soldiers have been reported dead and 26 Armenian soldiers are still missing. Six civilians have also reportedly been killed this year.

- <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-18270325>
- <http://www.cfr.org/global/global-conflict-tracker/p32137#!/conflict/nagorno-karabakh-conflict>
- <http://en.trend.az/azerbaijan/karabakh/>
- Picture: <https://www.stratfor.com/analysis/why-progress-nagorno-karabakh-standoff-may-be-imminent>

## **Rights to Space Claims**



Throughout history, man has been obsessed with the idea of putting a man on the moon. In the 60s, we did this. But what comes next? Can we go to other planets? If we go these

planets can we “colonize” them? What rights do we humans have to claims in space? The United Nations Moon Treaty states that no nation can make claims on celestial bodies. But does this mean that private individuals cannot have claims in space? Letting the private sector have control over space has the potential for great benefits, but also great risks. Resources and new discoveries have the potential to lead to warfare here on Earth and in space.

**Links:**

- <http://www.thenewatlantis.com/publications/property-rights-in-space>
- <http://cosmiclog.nbcnews.com/news/2012/04/13/11189692-private-property-in-outer-space-the-other-side-of-the-argument?lite>
- [http://www.science20.com/robert\\_inventor/will\\_anyone\\_ever\\_own\\_their\\_own\\_land\\_in\\_space\\_and\\_may\\_we\\_get\\_wars\\_in\\_space\\_in\\_the\\_future-138065](http://www.science20.com/robert_inventor/will_anyone_ever_own_their_own_land_in_space_and_may_we_get_wars_in_space_in_the_future-138065)