



CCBMUN **X**
Do more than just watch!



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1. Welcoming letter

Dear delegates,

On October 24, 1945, after several conferences, negotiations and meetings between world leaders, the United Nations was born and, guided by its Charter, began the pursuit of its challenging goals: to save succeeding generations from war, and to promote human rights, social progress and better standards of life for all. A lot has changed since then. The wishes from these former leaders might not have been accomplished. We live in a world where simple protests trigger civil wars, where slavery takes place, where children are not cared for, and most importantly, where governments do not act upon the well-being of their citizens, but on their private interests.

Despite this, we, Sofía Rojas Morales and Maria Jose Ceballos Morales, believe society is not condemned to live as such. Humankind is capable of creating a better future, through understanding its history and being smart enough to do better, to evolve. We are convinced these significant changes start in places and opportunities like Models of United Nations, where the youth can start seeing the world differently from the past, and take a peak at what the future could be like if the real goals of this organization were reached. These are the places where society has a chance.

We invite you to give your best in the 10th edition of CCBMUN, and we encourage you to look at it in a different way, as something more than a school event, as an experience to plan the way you want to change the present from the past, to start doing the change you want to see in the world, to do more than just watch.

Sofía Rojas Morales.

Maria Jose Ceballos Morales

Chair of the Security Council.



2. Introduction to the committee

2.1. History

The Security Council is one of the six main organs of the United Nations, along with the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council, the International Court of Justice and the Secretariat. It was established in 1945, in the Charter of United Nations, and its first session took place on 17 January 1946. The primary responsibility of the committee is to maintain international peace and security, and the Council may call to a meeting whenever peace is threatened. The Security Council has three more purposes:

- To develop friendly relations among nations.
- To cooperate in solving international problems and in promoting respect for human rights.
- To be a center for harmonizing the actions of nations.

The Council is composed by five permanent members, the French Republic, the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America; along with other ten non-permanent members which are chosen by the General Assembly for a two-year term. The current ones are Belgium, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Germany (2020), Indonesia, Kuwait, Peru, Poland, South Africa. This year's CCBMUN Security Council will have different delegations from the ones currently elected for its membership.

2.2. Functions and power

According to Chapters V, VI, VII, VIII and XII Charter of the United Nations, the Security Council is responsible of:

- Maintaining international peace and security.
- Investigating any dispute or situation that might lead to an international conflict.
- Recommending measures of adjusting such disputes or terms of settlement.
- Formulating plans for the establishment of systems to regulate armaments.
- Determining the existence of a threat to the peace or act of aggression and to recommend what action should be taken.

Furthermore, the Security Council is in the faculty of taking different measures regarding the settlement of disputes that arise within the International Community. Despite having several options to decide over, the Council has the duty to follow a certain procedure.

First, the Council has to identify the dispute as a threat to International peace and security, and take pacific approaches, more specifically the ones suggested in Chapter VI of the Charter, such as starting negotiations, being in charge of investigations and mediation, sending a UN mission or envoy, calling the attention of the Secretary General on the matter, among others. Then, as a stronger approach, it shall call upon the Member States to apply measures such as economic sanctions not involving the use of force to prevent or ban aggression. As a last resort, the Council may decide take collective military action against the initiator or aggressor. The decisions of the UNSC must always follow this procedure.

Finally, the Security Council has also the power and right to:

- Suggest the admission of new Members;
- Use the trusteeship functions of the United Nations in "strategic areas";
- Suggest to the General Assembly, the appointment of the Secretary General and together to determine the Judges of the International Court of Justice.

2.3. Tools

According to Article 29 of the Charter, the Security Council may establish subsidiary bodies as needed for the performance of its functions. This is also reflected in Rule 28 of the Council's Provisional Rules of Procedure. All existing committees and working groups are composed of the fifteen members of the council.

The mandate of subsidiary organs (either committees or working groups) can range from procedural matters (documentation and procedures, meetings away from headquarters) to substantial issues (sanctions regimes, counter-terrorism, peacekeeping operations).

For instance, the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) are subsidiary organs of the Security Council within the terms of article 29 of the Charter. Despite being dependent on the UN in administrative and financial matters, as judicial institutions, they are independent of any state or group of states,



including their parent body, the Security Council. Currently, there are diverse subsidiary organs, including:

- Counter-Terrorism Committee: Within the resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1624 (2005) the committee works to reinforce the ability of United Nations Members States to prevent terrorist acts with both borders and across regions. It was established after the 9/11 attack in the United States.
- Non-Proliferation Committee: On April of 2004, the Security Council unanimously adopted resolution 1540 under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter which affirms that the proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and their means of delivery constitutes a threat to international peace and security.
- United Nations Military Staff Committee: This Committee helps plan UN military measures and regulate armaments.
- Sanctions Committee: The use of the mandatory sanctions pretends to apply pressure on a state or entity without making use of any kind of force to comply with the Security Council's ideas. Therefore, sanctions offer the Security Council an important instrument to strengthen its decisions. The Council has used mandatory sanctions as an enforcement tool when peace has been threatened and diplomatic efforts have failed. The range of sanctions has included comprehensive economic and trade sanctions and/or more targeted measures such as arms embargoes, travel bans, financial or diplomatic restrictions.
- United Nations compensation Commission: The commission was created in 1991 under the resolution 687 to process claims and pay compensations regarding losses and damage suffered as a direct result of Iraq's unlawful invasion of Kuwait.
- Working group established pursuant to resolution 1566: In accordance with paragraphs 9 and 10 of SC resolution 1566, The main tasks are to examine practical measures to be imposed upon individuals, groups or entities involved in terrorist activities; and to examine the possibility of establishing an international fund to compensate victims of terrorist acts and their families.
- Working Group on Peacekeeping operations: The working group was established in pursuant to a decision of the Security Council's President made at the council's 4270th



meeting on 2001. The council agreed to hold consultations with troop-contributing countries at different stages of a United Nations Peacekeeping operation.

- Working group on Children and Armed Conflict: Pursuant to resolution 1612, the main task is to review reports on violations against children affected by armed conflict.
- Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa: Has its origins with a statement made by the Security Council's President on January 2002 where the council recognized the need for adequate measures to prevent and resolve conflicts in Africa and expressed the intentions of monitoring the recommendations contained in the statement by the SC's President.
- Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions: Was established in 1993 in order to improve the process in which the Security Council addresses issues regarding its documentation and procedural questions.
- International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY): The Tribunal tries those individuals accused of committing violent crimes during the fighting in former Yugoslavia.
- International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR): It has the duty to prosecute those responsible of genocide and other breaches to international humanitarian law in Rwanda in 1994.

2.4. Ground documents

- Charter of United Nations.
- Provisional Rules of Procedure (S/96), adopted in 1946.
- Working Methods Handbook.
- Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council, adopted in 1952.



3. Topic 1: Tensions in the Caucasus.

3.1. Introduction

The Caucasus is the name of the mountainous territory between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea, composed by Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and parts of Russia. Throughout the years, this land has been exposed to violence, armed conflict and terrorism, but the International Community has not paid enough attention to the problematic and the huge impact it could have at the international scope. To begin with, it is divided within two regions:

North Caucasus

The North Caucasus is a region that lies in the southwestern of Russia, it is bounded by the Black and Caspian Seas and bordered by South Caucasian nations such as Georgia and Azerbaijan. Its conformed by different republics of the Russian Federation (Chechnya, Ingushetia, North Ossetia, Kabardino-Balkaria, Karachay-Cherkess, Adygeya and Dagestan).

South Caucasus

Transcaucasia, also known as the South Caucasus is a geographical region in the Southern Caucasus Mountains on the border of Eastern Europe and Western Asia. Transcaucasia corresponds to modern Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan. Along with the North Caucasus, it comprises the larger Caucasus region that divides Eurasia.

The differences in ethnicities, religions and history have led to the arisal of confrontation between the countries mentioned above, for seeking self-determination, for expanding their territories or just for imposing one's ideology over the others'. For the Security Council, it is vital for the following points to be discussed:

Independentist movements. Since the dissolution of the USSR, many regions have tried to seek independence from countries such as Russia, Georgia and Azerbaijan. In Russia, republics like Chechnya fought two violent armed conflicts with the hope of achieving self-determination, but failed both times. Many of the self-determination processes have been frozen but the dispute is still taking place, threatening to erupt at any time.



International disputed territories. Countries such as Russia and Georgia; and Azerbaijan and Armenia have fought for different regions of the Caucasus, like Nagorno Karabakh and South Ossetia. This is a direct consequence of the previous item, which will be further explained.

Terrorism. The Caucasus, especially the Northern one, has always been known for religious extremism, mostly muslim extremists, which has given countries such as Russia grave problematics to its security. Jihadist movements in regions such as Chechnya and Dagestan have gained a lot of influence in the zone since the rise to power of the so-called Islamic State in the Middle East. Despite the decrease of the so-called Islamic State's presence in countries such as the Syrian Arab Republic, the Caucasus remains with the highest rate of youth recruited by terrorist organizations in the International Community. Some insurgent groups inside of the Caucasus are:

- Province of Dagestan, (2002-2017) Islamist jihadist group part of the Caucasus Emirate¹.
- Province of Ingushetia, (2007-2017) was an Islamist militant organization connected to various attacks committed against the forces of Ingushetia and Chechnya.
- Imam Shamil Battalion, (2017-present) is a militant Islamist organization active in the North Caucasus, being a Russian/Caucasian extension of Al-Qaeda.
- Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, (1999-present) - also known as the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria- is a Salafi jihadist militant group that has been designated a terrorist organization by the United Nations and accused by the same for war crimes and human rights abuses regarding their widely known hangings and executions to civilians, soldiers and aid workers.

Terrorism and self-determination are not the only relevant topics for the International Community in the Caucasus. The economic sphere of the problematic could have the greater impact not only in the Caucasian population, but globally. Being between both the Caspian and

¹ Caucasus Emirate: militant jihadist organization active in the southwestern of Russia that wanted to establish an independent Islamic Emirate.

the Black sea, significant oil and gas suppliers around the world, has led to the construction of pipelines to spread the resources around the Caucasus and its neighboring countries, such as Turkey and Iran. The pipelines have been threatened before by disputes between governments and insurgent groups. Moreover, their location highly represents the different relations Caucasus States have both with Eastern and Western countries.

3.2. Background

The Caucasus has always been where diverse cultures and people encounter each other. As an intersection of Europe and Asia; at its time the place where the Ottoman Empire, Persian Empire and Russia met; and the great amount of natural resources which can be exploited; the territory of the Caucasus has always been key for the International Community and has always been doomed for conflict.

The mountain range, the core of the Caucasus unique, is what great differences and allowed the creation of more than 40 ethnicities, which could be considered the main cause of the tensions and disputes in the territory for centuries. Furthermore, the land has been subdued by different States throughout its history, which cultivated anger and hatred not only between the Caucasus and the State which held power, but also between the ones which conform the Caucasus.

The one who impacted the most the Caucasus was certainly the Soviet Union. In 1918, when the Great War ended and the Ottoman Empire dissolved, Georgia, Azerbaijan and Armenia were independent States. And for the North Caucasus, its tribes united and formed the Mountainous Republic of the Northern Caucasus, after the weakening of the Tsar's government during the Russian Revolution. This freedom did not last for long. It was until 1922 when the Communists defeated the White Army during the Russian Civil War and established the USSR that the Caucasus, both South and North, was again controlled. Georgia, Azerbaijan and Armenia were established as Soviet Republics and the Mountainous Republic as an autonomous one, later divided into the autonomous regions of Adygey, Chechnya, Kabarda-Balkar, Karachay-Cherken and Dagestan. Under Soviet rule, the different tribes in the region were separated and turned against each other due to the Soviet policy of "divide and rule"², making it easier for the Red Army to

² States that in a fight, one must do anything to divide its enemy.



manage the Caucasus. Hence, Joseph Stalin, who was in charge of national minorities of the USSR in 1922, established not only the autonomous regions mentioned above, but also inside other republics, like Abkhazia in Georgia and Nagorno-Karabakh in Azerbaijan. He even exiled many of the natives of the region, which were able to return during the end of the 80's. Then, they redistributed in the land which was once theirs but was now taken. This is what impacts the most the Caucasus' society, the tensions between ethnicities.

More issues arose when the Soviet Union started to dissolve. According to its constitution, only its Republics could gain independence, while the autonomous regions could not, leaving roots of independentist movements surrounding the area that led to armed conflicts in the next decades, such as:

Russia vs Chechnya

The autonomous region of Chechnya wanted independence from Russia after the separation of the USSR, however the achievement of this desire was not simple, as Chechnya could not get independence by its own will due to the former Soviet laws. Still, Chechnya started to govern itself caused by the absence of the government in the region, led by a former Chechen general, Dzhokhar Dudayev. He gathered militants to end with communist presence in the region, and later declared independence. Nevertheless, on December 25th 1991, when Mikhail Gorbachev officially dissolved the Union, 15 republics were established, not including Chechnya, which was left under Russian sovereignty. Owing to the process of establishing a large country as Russia, President Yeltsin did not include the Chechnya matter on its agenda, and the territory acted as an independent one. The Republic started to weaken, as President Dudayev was more focused on arming its people than caring for the well-being of its population. Many got tired of his rule, even a failed coup took place against his government in 1992.

Then, the Russian army decided to enter Chechnya to restore constitutional order and territorial integrity by force on December 14th 1994, but the military found resistance. The First Chechen war started. Chechnya's forces were decentralized, seeing the population was heavily armed and fought as guerrillas against the russians, but not under the name of President Dudayev. The fight started to focus in Grozny, where hundreds of civilians died



and where the Chechen army began to be defeated by Russians. During such, Russia was heavily criticized by the media all around the world for their tactics and disproportionate attacks. After the Chechen retreat, the fighting turned into violent encounters in the mountains. Akhmad Kadyrov, a Chechen Chief Mufti³, declared their struggle a Jihad in hopes of getting foreign assistance to fight against all russians and fostered violence against them. The conflict started to end when the Chechen General Shamil Basayev took 1.800 hostages in a Russian maternity hospital, pleading for a ceasefire. When the Russian army failed their mission to rescue the hostages, in 1996, the forces retreated after the Khasavyurt ceasefire agreement was established and Chechnya was *de facto* independent.

This new freedom did not benefit Chechnya's population, but it rather made the living situation worse. Unemployment, lack of government institutions, corruption and warlords, such as General Basayev, which did not put arms and control down after the war, were some of the many problems the republic was facing. The main rising issue was the jihad fighters which remained in the province, and started to spread their radical thinking and violent Wahhabist Islam to the youth. Power and control came from the end of a gun. Many, like Kadyrov, were disappointed by this independence, turning against separatists. Tensions erupted again when the Chechens were responsible for the explosion of some buildings in Dagestan, another russian autonomous republic. At the same time, Vladimir Putin became the Russian President. The new government took the explosions as a direct offense to Russian territorial integrity and started an anti terrorist operation in Chechnya in 1999, which later turned into the Second Chechen war. The Separatists were being defeated by Russia, and again escaped to the mountains, where they still were attacked. President Putin, after having gained most of control of Chechnya, installed a pro Moscow administration led by Kadyrov, hoping the rest of the Chechens followed him. But his government was guided by weapons and fear. Heavy fighting ended, but insurgency, led by Basayev, was still present in the territory. President Putin classified these separatist groups as terrorist organizations, claiming his government was just fighting terrorism during the context of the 911 attacks and the impact it had on the International Community.

³ Islamic jurist which offers an opinion from an Islamic law point of view.



As a response, in 2002, Basayev commanded an attack against a theatre in Moscow, holding 800 hostages. He demanded for a conditional withdrawal of Russian troops from Chechnya, hoping the situation would have a turnout of events similar to the Maternity Hospital one. Instead, a gas was introduced into the theatre, leaving everyone inside unconscious, allowing government forces to enter and execute the insurgents. Unfortunately, the gas compound also killed around 115 hostages. This sent a clear message that the Russian government would not surrender at any cost. Many praised or criticized this move around the world. After this event, separatist militias and rebels were still present in Chechnya, but were more disorganized. Sporadic terrorist attacks increased around the country, and during one of them President Kadyrov was murdered, so he was succeeded by his son. Eventually, the war was considered over as the counter-terrorism operation was officially ended in 2009.

Russia vs Georgia (South Ossetia and Abkhazia)

The tensions between Georgia and Russia go back to the 1990's, again to the dissolution of the USSR, when autonomous regions were not given full independence, like South Ossetia and Abkhazia inside Georgia, but they still managed the territory by themselves, with their own government. Russia backed both separatist movements, creating distrust between Tbilisi and Moscow. The relationship worsened when, in the new decade, Georgia started to have pro Western tendencies and even almost joined NATO. For the International Community, the Russian government took this as a threat to lose the high influence it had over the area. The conflict erupted when the Georgian Army proceeded with a series of attacks against South Ossetia⁴ with the intention of regaining full control of its territories. The Russian government did not sit still and provided military support to both South Ossetia and Abkhazia, mainly the first than the second, for them to gain independence from Georgia. It was never confirmed whether Russia was looking forward to annexing the territories to the Federation, yet many alleged that was the aid's purpose. The armed conflict lasted less than a week when a ceasefire was agreed on. The Georgian government

⁴ Abkhazia was slightly brought into the picture, but there was not as much confrontation as with South Ossetia.



failed to control the situation, and technically loses the territories but its sovereignty remains over them. Summarizing, they, as well as many previously mentioned, have *de facto* independence. Although, they are recognized as States by Russia. In the end, 20% of Georgian territory was left out of the full control of the Georgian government.

Armenia vs Azerbaijan

Both countries were part of the Transcaucasian Federation in 1918, but after the First World War they joined the USSR. As his main policy of “divide and rule”, Joseph Stalin’s government established the autonomous region of Nagorno-Karabakh within the borders of the Soviet Republic of Azerbaijan. This region had, and has, a large majority of Armenians in its population, causing the Soviet Republic of Armenia to grow close to Nagorno-Karabakh, and an alliance between both parties was created. When the USSR was losing its large influence and was getting weaker and weaker, the government of Nagorno-Karabakh saw an opportunity to officially become a State and separate from Azerbaijan. First, it passed a resolution in 1988 in which stated their will to separate. Azerbaijan, seeing it as a threat to its territorial integrity, commenced aggression against Nagorno-Karabakh’s forces, which were backed by Armenia. Then in 1991, Nagorno-Karabakh officially declared its independence, although it was not recognized as a State by any other State, not even Armenia, and the fighting continued. During 1993, the Security Council passed four different resolutions on the matter (822, 853, 874, 884), calling for the end of the conflict. It was until 1994 where the conflict was frozen by a ceasefire brokered by the newly created Minsk Group, a branch of the Organization Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), co-chaired by France, Russia and the United States. Despite the ceasing of hostilities, the dispute remained. Unfortunately, the armed conflict was rekindled in April 2016 when violence broke out between the two parties, Nagorno-Karabakh is still being heavily supported by Armenia, and many agreements have tried to be implemented by the OSCE, but none of them have been effective. Azerbaijan claims it will not agree to dialogue until Armenian forces withdraw from Nagorno-Karabakh, but Armenia affirms its forces will not leave until there is not a formal resolution to the matter.



Dagestan and Ingushetia

These were other two autonomous Soviet republics which were not given independence in 1991. Unlike the Chechens, they did not resist against turning into republics part of the Russian Federation. These territories were, and still are, largely affected by the outcome of the Chechen war. All the insurgent groups spreaded to Dagestan and Ingushetia, where criminality started to grow significantly, along with insurgency. In addition, the insurgent group the Caucasus Emirate established here after some Chechen warlords fled to these republics after the Russian defeat. It was created under the lead of Dokka Umarov. It had the intention to rule the whole North Caucasus but, since its emergence in 2007, it has severely weakened. Its presence remains in the Middle East, fighting along with the so-called Islamic State.

Regarding the matter of pipelines, their need began when crashes between other means of transport, specially ships, led to huge economic losses and environmental disasters. The Soviet Union began with the construction of many, such as Druzhba due to its importance. After 1991, the new post-Soviet Republics seeked to build their own pipelines, such as Azerbaijan, with the support of Western Countries to end the dependence they had on Russia regarding their gas and oil supply. The planning for the pipeline took a couple of years before their construction and functioning could begin, seeing the Caucasian States were only just establishing their alliances and international perspective. These plans determined the future use of both seas and the territory.

3.3. Current situation

Today, the situation in the Caucasus has quite changed. Not only did the major armed conflicts end, but also new aspects have come into the matter. It seems like the problematic is frozen, but according to recent statements and positions that have been taken by the different leaders of the region a confrontation could come in the near future, leaving a large trace of consequences to the International Community.





Map of the Caucasus region.

North Caucasus

Nowadays, the North Caucasus Republics have short political autonomy, regional officials and forces' legitimacy is constantly diminished, and state institutions are widely perceived as illegitimate. As it has been said, some drivers of conflict may be ethnic, political, economic and religious matters or problematics inside the region, leading to different types of insurgency regarding the North Caucasus. A low level armed conflict between the Russian Federation and the militants associated to the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant groups has been taken place in different provinces. It has affected and attracted people from Middle East, North Africa, Europe and Central Asia. The violence has been concentrated mainly in the republics of Chechnya, Dagestan, Ingushetia, Kabardino-Balkaria and some other bordering regions.

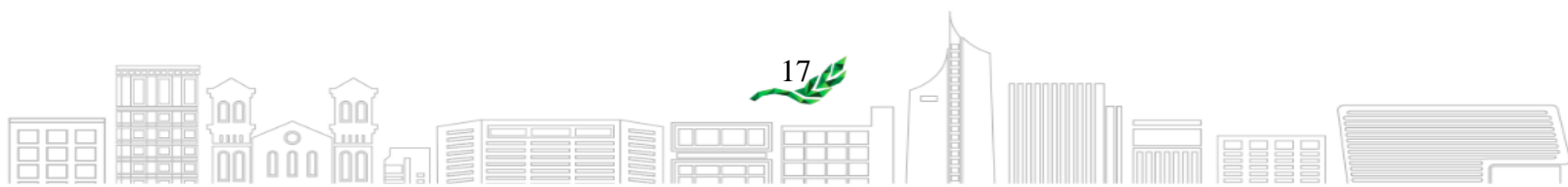
- Chechnya is the result of two post-soviet wars fought between Russia and such republic. With a destroyed infrastructure, insurgent groups inside its territory and specific warlords, the region has stayed as a violent and insecure area with armed gangs, kidnappings, and the growth of radical islam as an answer to suppression. The republic remains as a center of violence for many years and according to Russian

figures, when the anti-terrorist operation in Chechnya⁵ was ended, there was a massive number of murder to different servicemen, militants and government forces inside the region.

- Dagestan is the most religious and complex region of the North Caucasus, due to its high level of violence and extremism. It is important to note that in Dagestan there is a large number of ethnic groups, most of them with their own language; but the conflict is not exactly with the ethnic groups, but with Salafism, a syncretic form of Islam which recognizes the State but rejects secular rule and imposes that the Salafist Islam should lead all spheres of life. In 2013, of the 399 terrorist crimes that occurred in the North Caucasus, 242 were in Dagestan.
- Ingushetia, along with Dagestan, was also a center of violence during the first years of chaos in the Caucasus. The Islamist insurgency established in Ingushetia while the brutality of the state security forces were a major factor driving young man and adults to be part of the terrorist islamist group. Russia's approach to counterinsurgency consists in security officials maintaining broad authority to supervise and eject counter terrorist operations, but this plan is not as conflict-free as it looks, there have been reported a huge number of alleged killings, disappearances, torture, collective punishment of families, among others by the Russian security forces. These forces have also taken a heavy-handed security-oriented approach in Chechnya, aiming to eradicate not just Salafi militants but the theology itself where in "mop-up" operations⁶ security forces detained or killed a big number of civilians under the argument of looking for rebel fighters. Enforced disappearances, torture and extrajudicial executions have become the concern of the European Court of Human Rights which has ordered the remuneration to the victims' families but Russia has not effectively implemented these judgements.
- Kabardino-Balkaria. In late 2010 and early 2011 the violence increased notably with the murder of a head figure of the Caucasus Emirate which is a Militant jihadist

⁵ The 23rd of september of 1999 Russia started the "anti-terrorist chechnya operation" to end the chechen separatist regime.

⁶ An operation after a battle or campaign to eradicate remaining enemy forces or installations.



organisation active in rebel parts of Syria and previously in the southwestern region of the Russian Federation. Their purpose was to expel the Russian presence from the North Caucasian region and to establish an independent Islamic emirate in the region. When this happened, the new leaders chose more aggressive ways to get what they wanted and carried out numerous assassinations of government officials and law officers.

South Caucasus

In the South, the situation has been rather peaceful. The armed conflict between Russia and Georgia officially ended, being the only confrontation the one between Armenia and Azerbaijan for Nagorno-Karabakh. This dispute violently relinked in 2016. Both States have met during different occasions under the management of the Minsk Group throughout 2019. It is important to highlight the following meetings:

1. Vienna, 29 March 2019: The President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and the Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia Nikol Pashinyan met for the first time under the auspices of the co-Chairs of the Minsk Group (Igor Popov of the Russian Federation, Stéphane Visconti of France and Andrew Schofer of the United States of America). They agreed on the importance of finding a peaceful solution to the conflict, to strengthen the ceasefire and to improve direct communication.
2. Moscow, 15 April 2019: The meeting was held between the foreign ministers of Russia, Azerbaijan and Armenia and the co-Chairs. They expressed their willingness to cooperate in the humanitarian matter and to start contact with the people by receiving media from both sides. Additionally, they promised to take measures in order to reunite families separated by the conflict.
3. Yerevan/Baku, 30 May 2019: The co-Chairs met separately with both governments and expressed their concerns for violations to the ceasefire.
4. Washington, DC, 20 June 2019: Different meetings took place between the Foreign ministers and the co-chairs, together and separately. They exchanged views on the recent developments and core issues to the settlement of the dispute. This meeting



followed several casualties under the responsibility of the Armenian government, thus the co-Chairs urged both sides to really commit on the ceasefire. Still, after the meetings, many consider significant progress has not been made, and the lack of commitment by both States is not helping.

The southern region has been recognized not only by its self-determination movements, but also due to the presence of several Pipelines vital to the supply of natural oil and gas for European countries. Some of these Pipelines are:



The South Caucasus Pipeline: (also known as Baku–Tbilisi–Erzurum Pipeline, BTE pipeline, or Shah Deniz Pipeline) It is a natural gas Pipeline from Shah Deniz gas field in the Azerbaijan sector of the Caspian Sea to Turkey. The main purpose of this pipeline is to supply Georgia and Turkey and as the transit country, Georgia has the rights to take 5% of the annual gas flow. In a longer term, it will have the purpose of also supplying Europe with Caspian natural gas through the planned

Southern Gas Corridor pipelines⁷ and the Trans Anatolian gas pipeline⁸. The Pipeline is owned by the South Caucasus Pipeline company, and the shareholders are: BP (UK) 28.8%, TPAO (Turkey) 19%, SOCAR (Azerbaijan) 16.7%, Petronas (Malaysia) 15.5%, Lukoil (Russia) 10%, Naftiran Intertrade (Iran) 10%. The technical operator of the pipelines is BP and the company that has operated the commercial issues is SOCAR.

The Baku–Tbilisi–Ceyhan (BTC) pipeline: It is a 1,768 kilometres (1,099 mi) long crude oil pipeline from the Azeri-Chirag-Gunashil oil field in the Caspian Sea to the Mediterranean Sea. It connects the capital of Azerbaijan and a port of the south eastern Mediterranean coast of Turkey and the capital of Georgia. It is the second longest pipeline in the former Soviet Union after the Druzhba pipeline.

The Urengoy-Pomary-Uzhhorod pipelines: (also known as the West-Siberian Pipeline or Trans-Siberian Pipeline) It is one of the Russia's main natural gas export pipelines and is partly owned and operated by Ukraine.

The Druzhba Pipeline: It is the world's longest pipeline and one of the biggest pipeline networks in the world. It carries oil for some 4,000 kilometers from the eastern part of the European Russia to Ukraine, Belarus, Poland, Hungary, Slovakia, the Czech Republic and Germany. The network also reaches other pipelines to deliver the product to Germany and Czech Republic. This Pipeline handles up to 8% of the total EU imports and its annual capacity is expected to be 65 tons of crude oil, or one-quarter of Russia's total exports. The Russian part of the pipeline is controlled by Transneft, in Belarus is Gomeltransfnet, in Ukraine UkrTransNafta, in Poland PERN Przyjan SA, in Slovakia Transpetrol AS, in the Czech Republic Mero, and in Hungary MIL. **This pipeline does not go through the Caucasus, but it has been a “competitor” to the others located in the region.**

⁷ Initiative of the European Commission for a natural gas route to supply European countries from Caspian and Middle East regions. The purpose of the gas corridor is to decrease the dependence of Europe on Russian gas and have diverse sources of energy supply.

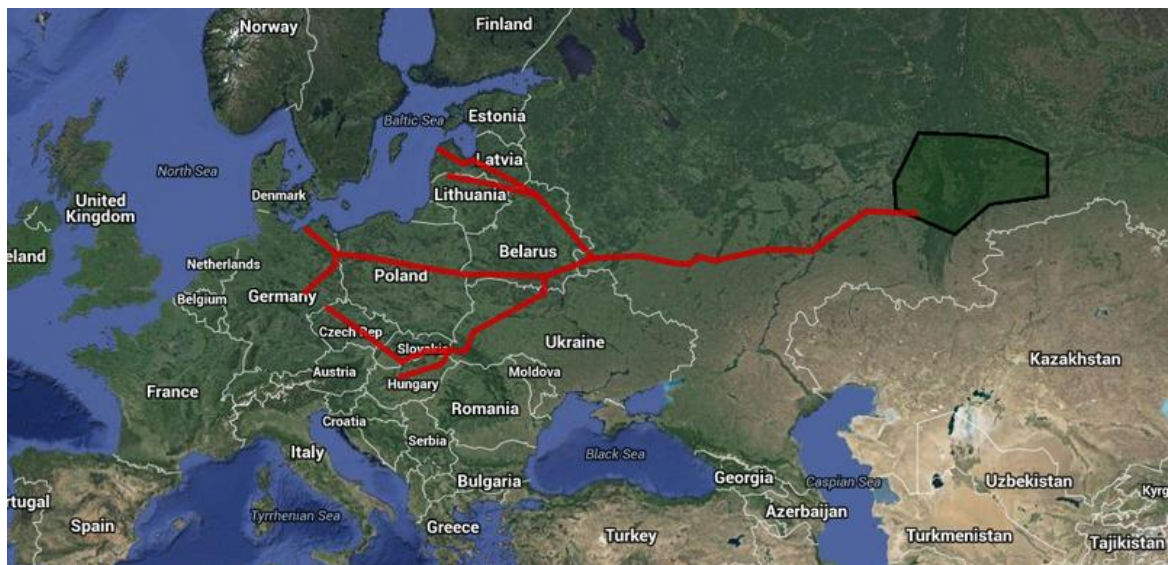
⁸ Natural gas pipeline in Turkey.



On April 19th of 2019, Belarus informed about contaminated oil flowing through the pipeline and claimed that the source of “chloride pollution” was detected in Russia, on the Samara-Unecha section. Transneft, the Russian state-owned company that owns the contaminated section of the pipeline, initially said that the incident was minor and that the situation would be soon normalized. Short time after, the flow of the contaminated oil caused significant concerns which forced Belarus and other European countries to halt Russian oil supplies.

On April 27th, Russia's Federal Security Service (FSB) started an investigation on the case, naming the contamination an act of “sabotage”. Short time later, four of six men identified as managers of small private-owned companies were detained over the charge of international oil pollution in the Druzhba Pipeline.

On April 30th, the head of Transneft said that an internal investigation was taking place by the company, and it has concluded that the contamination could have been a result of fraud perpetrated by a private company in the Samara region. This theory, (at least publicly) seemed to have been accepted by the Russian government, even though there is no credible evidence of said fraud.



Map of Druzhba pipeline.

Blaming and investigating private-run companies has given Transneft a bad public image, taking into account that said company wields control over all oil pipelines across Russia.

It is relevant to highlight the threat these pipelines have due to their location. Since their construction, States which hold them fear for their security and have taken the responsibility to guard them, but it is impossible to look after hundreds of miles of the pipelines. To this day, there has not been a direct attack against any of the pipelines. Although most of them are buried underground, terrorist groups like al-Qaeda have threatened to destroy pipelines if their political demands are not met. The International Community must be prepared in the case thereof an attack to the pipelines or at least to work on better prevention to such, seeing the huge impact it would have not only in Caucasian countries but the majority of European states.

European Union

Taking into account the shown data of main suppliers and routes of gas of the European Union, Russia is the top supplier, followed by Norway, Algeria and Libya. The main gas export route of Russia is Ukraine (Urengoy-Uzhhorod Pipeline and the Balkan route) which covered almost half of the total European imports from Russia. The 89% of gas is imported using pipelines. Thus, the European parliament, on April 2019, extended EU rules to pipelines from non-EU countries where: gas pipelines from said countries will be covered by EU law, there will be established a legal clarity for existing and future gas infrastructure from non-EU countries, and there will be clear procedures for when the commission can grant exceptions.

NATO Influence in the area

As this rich region has always been under the influence of Russia, countries such as the United States and other from Europe have sought to expand their influences, ideologies and presence in the Caucasus. For example, Georgia and NATO shared closeness in the beginning of the 2000s, hence Georgia admitted it was interested in joining the Alliance. Undoubtedly, this fact has trembled even more the Russo-NATO relations, and probably led to the worsening of the political atmosphere in the region. Therefore, it is relevant for the International Community to work on



bettering the relationship between both countries if any real progress wants to be made in the Caucasus.

3.4. Guide questions

1. Has your delegation recognized the independence of the territories here mentioned? (South Ossetia, Nagorno Karabakh, Abkhazia, Chechnya).
2. Is your delegation a recipient of the Caucasian pipelines? Which?
3. How does your delegation think the pipelines could be threatened? How can it be avoided?
4. How does your delegation encounter terrorism? Does it consider Russian tactics inhumane?
5. How has your delegation perceived the differences between Western and Eastern nations?
6. Was your delegation affected by the Druzhba oil contamination on April 2019?

3.5. Recommendations

The Chair recommends you to keep updated your research to possible new developments to the different matters taking place in the Caucasus, focusing on the Nagorno-Karabakh situation, the terrorism threat in the area and the pipelines importance to the region.

3.6. Useful links

<https://www.osce.org/mg>

<https://www.cfr.org/background/instability-russias-north-caucasus-region>

<http://www.rulac.org>

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/economy/20190328STO33742/gas-imports-new-rules-for-pipelines-from-non-eu-countries>



3.7. Glossary

Sufism: It is a branch of islam. It was the original islam in the North Caucasus.

Salafism: Also known as Wahhabism. It is a branch of Islam. it was introduced to the North Caucasus during the First Chechen War when the Chechen Chief Mufti Akhmad Kadyrov called for foreign islamist fighters to help Chechnya.

De facto: Something that is happening but it is not formally recognized.

Autonomous republic: Administrative division in which a province or region is given certain rights to rule itself, but it still is not completely independent.

OSCE: Stands for the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe. It addresses topics from security concerns to economic development mainly in Europe.

Baku: Capital of Azerbaijan.

Yerevan: Capital of Armenia.

Tbilisi: Capital of Georgia.



4. Topic 2: Open Agenda

The Open Agenda is a mechanism that is meant to challenge the chair, the delegates and the Security Council itself. Said mechanism makes use of official letters from the Heads of Government of different Nations, press releases, communicates from different institutions and agencies that might or might not be part of the United Nations, among others in order to keep a Crisis situation ongoing.

In pursuance of being ready for said challenge, all representatives must be informed of some of the most important situations that affect not only their nations, but the international community as a whole.

Furthermore, the following are some international concerns the delegates should focus on during their research:

Crisis in Sudan

The crisis in Sudan can be taken back to December 2018, when President Bashir's government imposed emergency austerity measures in an attempt to stave off economic collapse. The protests started for the removal of Mr Bashir and his government and reached their highest point on April 6 2019 when demonstrators occupied the front street of the military's headquarters to demand that the army forced the president out and a week later, the military announced that the president had been deposed.

The seven member Transitional Military Council (TMC) says it needs to be in charge to ensure order and security in the country. The military has faced various international condemnations for violent attacks, for example, the attack on protesters in Khartoum on June 3rd, in which at least 30 people died. Some countries like the US and the UK condemned the military forces calling it a "brutal attack" and that the Military Council bore "full responsibility" on the situation.

The opposition and protesters are mostly young, but people from all ages have been seen in the crowd. The main protesters group is The Sudanese Professionals Association (SPA) which is a collaboration of doctors, lawyers and health workers. The military and protesters agreed to a three year transition period to civilian rule. Demonstrators also argue



that the regime is so entrenched that a long transition is needed to clear his political network and to have fair elections.

The international response by the situation has been, the UN is removing all non-essential staff from Sudan until a civilian led transitional authority is established, the African Union has removed Sudan from its membership, among other international organizations.

Non-international armed conflicts in the Philippines

Over the years, the government of the Philippines has been involved in armed conflicts within its territory, more specifically in the Mindanao island, with diverse insurgent groups, some of them being the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters and most importantly the New People's Army (NPA). The conflicts can be classified between the one amidst the State and the NPA and the other one among the State and the Mindanao-based insurgent groups.

The groups in Mindanao have been involved in a conflict with the government for decades, nearly since the 1970's. Unlike the rest of the country, the island of Mindanao has a large Muslim population. This has led to tensions due to independence movements and insurgency for religion disputes with the Christian population. The first group that was created was the MNLF, seeking for autonomy in 1972. Despite its leader agreed to end the conflict for the creation of the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao in 1996, the group continued its activity the following years.

The MILF parted from the MNLF in 1977. This new group had more radical ideals and had declared a jihad against the government. Currently, this group has a permanent ceasefire with the government after peace talks in 2014. In 2018, President Duterte signed and the Congress ratified a law on the creation of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region, which replaced the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao. The BIFF, the Maute Group, the Abu Sayyaf Group separated from MILF when it started negotiations with the government. The last to groups are directly allied with the so-called Islamic State and were



part of the Marawi siege in 2017, a five month long violent confrontation between the government and ISIS militants.

Currently, the armed conflict is mostly active with the NPA, an armed wing of the Communist party in the Philippines created in 1969 with the purpose “of seizing political power from the corrupt and fascist ruling classes and dismantling its fascist machinery”, as Regional rebel spokesman Magno Udiao said once. It is considered as a terrorist organization by the United States, the European Union, the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and the Philippines. The NPA has entered into negotiations with the government several times, but it has always failed due immense disagreement between both parties.

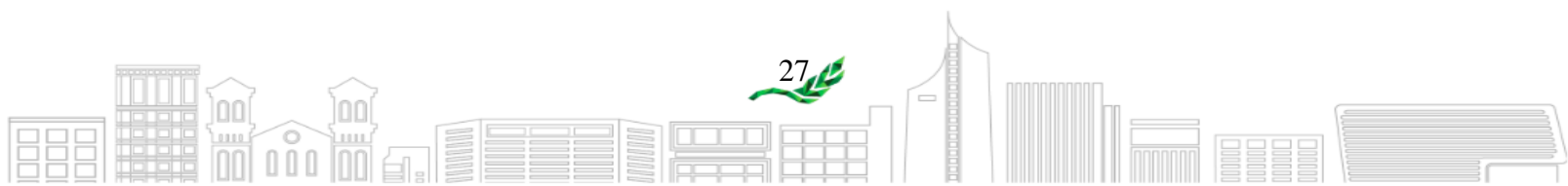
Violence keeps rising in the Philippines and the Security Council has not responded to any of the crises with an effective approach.

Migratory crisis in Latin America

Nowadays the number of latin americans going north is increasing, especially from the North triangle countries, which are El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala. The majority of people believe it is due to the high levels of criminality, the corruption, low opportunities, the unemployment and basically their country’s lack of development. Today, nations such as the United States of America is closing its borders to immigrants owing to the Trump administration restrictive policies on migration, leaving countries such as Mexico with all the displaced people. The Mexican government has asked for international assistance for managing the problematic, but many have ignored this pledge, even the countries first mentioned, which have kept a low profile regarding the situation.

In the long term, this could turn into a large problematic if the issue is not addressed properly. Not only it will affect directly Mexico but also those migrants will not receive the necessary resources for their well-being, as most Latin American countries do not have the monetary resources to do so. The number is even larger if venezuelans are counted, seeing many are fleeing from their land because of the conflict.

As many say, in desperate times, desperate measures. This migrants will be miserable, leaving them to join criminality due to their desperation, as many populations do in a



country with low resources. It is not only within the responsibility of latin american countries, but also of the International Community to seek a solution to the issue, or at least find a way to alleviate it.

4.2 Guide questions

1. What is your delegation's position regarding foreign interventionism?
2. Is your delegation economically stable enough to provide aid?
3. Is your delegation involved in the situations mentioned above? How?
4. Is your delegation part of any armed conflicts? Which ones?
5. Has your delegation made any statement about the topics mentioned?

4.3 Recommendations

Research deeply on your delegation's foreign affairs and any issue it may be going through at the moment. Furthermore, the Chair encourages you to keep updated with different sources and to focus on the topics mentioned.

4.4 Useful Links

<https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2019/country-chapters/sudan>

<https://www.crisisgroup.org/asia/south-east-asia/philippines/philippines-renewing-prospects-peace-mindanao>



5. List of delegations

1. Democratic People's Republic of Korea.
2. Federal Republic of Germany.
3. Federative Republic of Brazil.
4. French Republic.
5. Islamic Republic of Iran.
6. People's Republic of China.
7. Republic of Armenia.
8. Republic of Azerbaijan.
9. Republic of Turkey.
10. Russian Federation.
11. Syrian Arab Republic.
12. Ukraine.
13. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
14. United Mexican States.
15. United States of America.



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