



THE BHAWANIPUR



THE BHAWANIPUR EDUCATION SOCIETY COLLEGE
ASSEMBLY OF NATIONS

STUDY GUIDES

BESCAON

2024

THE BHAWANIPUR EDUCATION SOCIETY COLLEGE

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From the Desk of the Bureau

Honourable Member State Representative,

Welcome to the Security Council simulated at BESCAON, 2024. The agenda for our meeting has been set as “*The Situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian Question*”.

The emphasis will be on recent events in the Middle East, including but not limited to the Israel-Palestine conflict. Representative of **Malta** will hold the Presidency for the month of April in the Security Council.

The overarching theme in this meeting will be to discuss various security challenges in the Middle East, including active hostilities. Representatives are expected to know that the Middle East is very complicated and has many moving parts which are interconnected. Delegates must adopt a holistic approach when thinking about the region and avoid being overly focused on any one aspect. It must be emphasized that the agenda says “including” the Palestinian question, which means that delegates are expected to go beyond the Israel-Palestine conflict during their research. Besides, no discussion on the Israel-Palestine conflict is complete without understanding other countries in the region.

While the themes here have been crafted keeping in mind the current scenario, it merely acts as a guide with substantial room for negotiation in the sub-agenda setting process. Please keep in mind your national interests and your own limitations while setting the sub-agendas.

There are a few instructions we have to give with this study guide:

1) This study guide is a mere framework for your deeper research. This study guide consists of readings from various sources and we have attempted to make it as comprehensive as possible, covering various angles and viewpoints so that you have a good idea about the concepts associated with the agenda. We cannot stress enough that you need to pursue your own sources, especially because the study guides will not cover your individual foreign policies and **foreign policy compliance is very important to us**. It is very likely that we, in our limited knowledge, have also omitted some crucial insights, perspectives or initiatives that are really effective or could be implemented later on.

2) Some of the readings in this guide may be outdated in terms of their information, but the idea is to derive the main arguments and the spirit of certain policies from it. It would really help if

you would familiarize yourselves with related facets of the agenda and the overarching theme that goes with it.

3) We are following the Security Council procedure in the committee, which looks for consensus-building rather than conflicting and adverse debate. Please base your research on this basis. Oftentimes, delegates may simply pursue research whose approach is more aggressive and accusatory. We would discourage this greatly. Please concentrate on concerns where all states may find common ground.

4) The sources used in this study guide are all open-source and we are providing the links in the bibliography. The reason we chose not to write it ourselves was because we wanted to avoid a certain bias which may be evident in the language that it is being written in. We have tried instead to bring a certain balance in the way we assign you readings, but then again, there may be a chance that it may be seen as favouring any one side. We would like to assure you that it is not done by intention, but merely the constraints of time and sources.

Read widely and extensively. Be aware of your foreign and domestic policies. We wish you all the best and please don't hesitate to contact us if you have doubts or even if you just want to have a casual chat about the agenda. The President can be reached at ashwathkomath.pmun@gmail.com

Ashwath Komath

Permanent Member State Representative of Malta (Presidency)

Security Council

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Instructions to all Member State Representatives

Adherence to Code of Conduct and Diplomatic Decorum:

We expect all participants to adhere both in letter and spirit to the Provincial Rules of Procedure of the Security Council. This framework places a strong emphasis on the utmost respect and diplomatic courtesy among all individuals involved, including delegates, conference officials, and organizing committee members. Any instance of disrespect or a lack of diplomatic courtesy will result in consequences. It is imperative to maintain behavior that befits the status of a diplomat.

Promoting Consensus through Healthy Debates:

Our primary objective in this forum is to build consensus among member states. Debates should be characterized by healthy discussions rather than confrontational exchanges. While we value and commend your oratory skills, it's essential that these skills are used constructively and contribute to the collective progress of the committee.

Balanced Skills Assessment:

It is crucial to recognize that your overall assessment will be a culmination of various skills, including foreign policy knowledge, research acumen, diplomatic finesse, and more. Rather than concentrating solely on one aspect, we encourage delegates to strike a harmonious balance among these skills in their engagement.

Transparent Explanation of Committee Procedure:

Before commencing the committee proceedings, we will provide a comprehensive explanation of the procedural aspects. We understand that first-time delegates may have concerns about procedural nuances, but please rest assured that we are committed to offering guidance and ensuring that you gain a realistic understanding of diplomatic proceedings.

Recognition Factors and Fairness:

In larger committees, it's possible that you may not be recognized to speak as frequently as you might wish. Recognition decisions take into account various factors and are not indicative of bias. We emphasize that any disparities in recognition are purely circumstantial and not reflective of any intent to disadvantage any delegate or delegation.

Extensive and Varied Research:

We strongly recommend diligent and extensive research that goes beyond the confines of the provided study guide. While the study guide serves as a valuable framework, it is essential for delegates to expand upon it and tailor their research to align with their state's unique perspectives and positions.

Punctuality:

Delegates are expected to adhere to punctuality throughout the committee sessions.

Focusing on Committee Conviction:

As diplomats, your primary role is to persuade and convince the committee of your proposals and positions. The bureau's role, to the furthest extent possible, is that of a moderator and facilitator. Therefore, direct your efforts towards convincing fellow member state representatives rather than the chairperson.

Confidentiality of Diplomatic Chits:

Diplomatic chits, used for discreet communication between states, are held in the highest regard and are protected by established codes of diplomatic conduct. Such communications are exempt from scrutiny by the bureau, secretariat, or International Press without the explicit consent of the delegation(s) involved. It's important to note that this rule may not apply in cases of sexual harassment. Diplomatic chits will neither be marked nor routed through the bureau.

The rules established here are **non-negotiable**. Entry to the committee would imply that you have read and understood the rules established through this document.

Structure

Day 1 (Friday, April 5, 2024) – Preparatory Meeting (Explanation of procedure, Agenda Briefing, sub-agenda setting, decisions on time allotments)

Day 2 and 3 (Saturday-Sunday, April 6-7, 2024) – Security Council Meeting.

Themes to be discussed

1. Ongoing Israel-Hamas conflict

a. General Reading/Background

Reports

- [Commentary on ICJ ruling on Gaza War](#)
- [European Council on Foreign Relations General Commentary on IPT crisis](#)
- [US Congressional Research Report Commentary on IPT Crisis](#)
- [UN report on Sexual Violence during October 7](#)

b. Humanitarian Challenges

- Office of the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OCHA-OPT) – [Latest Updates](#)
- [Crisis Background](#) – OCHA-OPT
- COGAT (Israel) – [Humanitarian Report](#)
- INSS (Israel) Commentary on Humanitarian Situation - [Commentary](#)
- [FAO report on food crisis in Gaza Strip](#)

c. Question of refugees

d. Release of hostages

e. Political solutions to the conflict

- [JINSA \(Pro-Israeli\) commentary on "The Day After"](#)
- [Carnegie Endowment - Four Post-War Scenarios](#)
- [New Arab Analysis on Future of Palestinian Politics after Gaza War](#)

f. Role of external parties to conflict

g. Role of the UN in current conflict

i. Question of UNRWA

ii. Effectiveness of UN actions

2. Developments in the Red Sea

a. Defining the threat posed by Houthis to commercial shipping

- [Backgrounder on Houthi threat to the Red Sea \(ABC News\)](#)
- [Houthi Attacks in the Red Sea \(US Congressional Research Service\)](#)
- [An Explainer on Houthis \(Al-Jazeera\)](#)

- b. Role of external parties
- c. Measures to boost security in the Red Sea/Bab el-Mandeb

3. Developments in the Levant

- a. Situation in Syria
 - [Doha Institute's Commentary on Syria's Captagon Trade](#)
 - [Responsible Statecraft commentary on ISIS in Syria](#)
- b. Situation in Iraq
 - [ECFR Commentary on Politics in Iraq](#)
 - [Washington Institute commentary on Militias in Iraq](#)
- c. Situation in Lebanon
 - [Backgrounder on political instability in Lebanon](#)
 - [Australian Government Country Information Report on Lebanon](#)
 - [What you need to know about the Hezbollah](#)

These themes are not exhaustive and there is potential for discussion on other matters pertaining to the Middle East. Please keep in mind that the SC will collectively participate in the sub-agenda setting process on Day 1. Please prepare yourself accordingly. Please also bear in mind that this list is current as of March 9, 2024 and we will be adopting a flexible sub-agenda setting process by the time we meet on April 5, 2024. If there are monumental events between now and the date of meeting, the President will send an amended theme list to incorporate new developments, but only if necessary.

Editorials (Run country searches on their sites for specific results)

- [War on the Rocks](#)
- [The New Arab](#)
- [Middle East Institute](#)
- [Al-Monitor](#)
- [CTC Sentinel \(West Point Military College, USA\)](#) – (known for good commentary on strategic affairs)

All the Best!