

TOPIC SYNOPSIS

Novice Security Council



Libyan Civil War

POSITION PAPERS

Position papers are due by midnight, January 12th. Please send to the email address below. Identify your committee and assignment on the subject line and in the text of the message. Include your position paper as an attachment in .PDF format. If you choose, you can also include it as a Google Doc, but remember to give access to the Secretariat.

The position paper format can be found [HERE](#).

Email your position paper and any questions you might have to:

Novice Security Council 1: whsmunnovicesc119@gmail.com

Novice Security Council 2: whsmunnovicesc219@gmail.com

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IMPORTANT COMMITTEE POLICIES TO BE AWARE OF

- Speaking time for speeches will not be lowered to anything shorter than a minute-thirty seconds. Lowering a speaking time below this does nothing to facilitate debate;
- Comments on speeches cannot be lowered below 30-seconds;
- Moderated caucuses have a set time of 20-minutes. They can be extended for two extra 10-minute sessions afterward;
- Unmoderated causes can be set for 10, 15, and 20 minutes with one 10-minute extension permitted;
- There is no yielding of speaking time to other delegates;
- No pre-written resolutions will be accepted;
- The use of national flags, pins, or any other national emblem in committee is discouraged, as the United Nations does not allow them either in committee;
- Handouts or briefing sheets are not allowed to be distributed in committee as it gives an unfair advantage to delegates who don't have them and is in conflict with the spirit of no pre-written resolutions;
- Computers and phones are not permitted for non-committee related activities such as chatting, gaming, non-conference related web browsing, etc.
- All committee rooms are open to adult advisors including during voting blocs. Student advisors can be kept out during voting blocs;
- Recently, we have discovered that some delegations have been relying on chat groups with adult and student advisors writing speeches and comments for delegates in order to help them with committee awards that they could not do on their own. The use of using chat to, in essence, cheat, is prohibited. This does not mean that advisors cannot send general advice to their delegates such as "get yourself on the speaker's list" or "raise your placard more." This is just to keep delegates from being fed speeches or comments on information they did not research themselves.

Delegates found to be in violation of these restrictions will lose diplomacy points and may be excluded from any recognition. In addition, they will be reported to their advisors.

History of the Topic

Libya was founded in as a federal monarchy of three different regions; Tripolitania, Cyrenaica and Fezzan, each containing its own government. In 1951, Libya became a unified independent country. In 1963, the federal government was abolished, and Muammar Gaddafi, became the nations absolute dictator, ruling for almost 42 years until 2011.

During January of 2011, after small disruptions in the small town of Somali, protests began to emerge in Libya. These rebellions were focused on corruption and political issues. Protests escalated and spread across the country of Libya, insisting for Gaddafi to step down. The Gaddafi regime responded with violent campaigns, and rebellions to continued to increase in violence. Mass killings were reported on February 16th, 17th, and 19th, and as the violence's extremity rose, international attention to the conflict increased. The United Nations, along with many other countries such as the United States supported the protesters' call for freedom, democratic reforms, and economic openness. On February 22, 2011, Gaddafi delivered a speech, claiming that he would never leave Libya, and he would show no mercy towards protesters.

After many sanctions and punishments towards the Gaddafi regime, the Arab League called the UN to impose no fly zone resolution on Libya. On March 17, the UNSC voted to pass the Resolution 1973, establishing the no fly zone and causing the Libyan foreign minister, Moussa Koussa, to declare a ceasefire.

However, the violence continued, and on March 19, Gaffadi claimed to arm the Libyan people to fight protesters. But after the enforcement of the no-fly zone, air strike operations, and other sanctions, the National Transitional Council (NTC), the government of Libya after the Libyan War when the rebels had took power, was recognized as the official Libyan representative. In June, Gaffadi proposed to have elections, and claimed he would step down if he lost, but the NTC declined his offer.

After the Battle of Tripoli in August, the NTC was able to take control of the Libyan capital. Soon after, in October, during the Battle of Sirte, Gaddafi was effectively removed from power, and killed. In October 31, 2011, Abdel Rahim al-Keeb took up the position of the Prime Minister of Libya after being appointed by the NTC.

In a five year period after Gaddafi's demise, Libya was faced with the challenges of transitioning into a new form of government. Due to a lack of agreement, civil war in east and west Libya broke out. Locals began to justify their fighting as anti-terrorism and self-defense. In 2014, the violence began to escalate, and lead to the second Libyan civil war.

UN Involvement

Since the beginning of the initial conflict within Libya, the United Nations had been critical of all the casualties, commanding President Gaddafi to put an immediate stop to this violence. The United Nations as well as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) passed Resolution 1973 which allowed NATO to enter Libya as a form of intervention known as the Operation Unified Protector (OUP). Concurrently, in February of 2011, the United Nations Security Council imposed sanctions against Libya which had included an arms embargo, and also sent President Gaddafi to the International Criminal Court.

Even a couple years later, the United Nations continued to enforce the "no fly zone" over Libya and creates a transitory government overseen by NATO. Based on talks by UN officials, there had been plans to propose a presidential council of six members to lead a a unity government in which delegates from both of the factions would be included. In addition, in an attempt to respond to the issue, the UN had been seeking the buy-in of important local constituencies as many of the struggles faced by Libya at the national level span from many of the local conflicts. Nonetheless, the main purpose of the government as well as the "no fly zone" were to "to protect civilians and civilian populated areas under threat of attack." Under NATO, the campaign continued for more than 7 months with a total of over 8000 deaths. A Human Rights Watch investigation found up to 72

civilians in Libya, dead due to this campaign. Results of the Civil War in Libya, thus far, have proved that the intervention by the United Nations was beneficial for Libya.

When NATO first intervened, within the nation, the death toll was continuously rising and was at over 1000. This caused many who had seen the actions of NATO and their intervention back in 2011 to believe it as a failure to the people involved, seeing it has never created a stable form of government to help sustain the country and ultimately give salvation to its people.

Bloc Positions

European Bloc: Various countries that comprise the European Union, including Britain and France, have proposed countermeasures against Gaddafi, stating that he “must go”. These include the use of sanctions towards Gaddafi himself as well as no-fly zones around Libya to limit Gaddafi’s reign as well as to help the NTC. Many European countries had helped in establishing the no-flying zone and helping with military intervention.

Latin American Bloc: Most of the countries within Latin America had made no direct action towards the situation in Libya. Rather, most countries in the bloc had condemned the actions of Gaddafi and have expressed “deep concern” towards the deep loss of lives. Some Latin American countries such as Colombia and Panama have recognized the NTC. Some countries, specifically Spain, have helped with military intervention.

Asian Bloc: Many Asian countries have had their citizens directly involved in the conflict in Libya and, therefore, had to forcibly remove them. Some, such as Azerbaijan, have remained neutral as to not break ties with other countries while many others such as Japan and China have decided to support and recognize the NTC. China, specifically, had been helping other countries with evacuating Libyans and providing humanitarian aid, but had accused NATO of overstepping its mandate several times.

Western/North American Bloc: The United States and Canada have been helping in executing the no-fly zone idea by sending in military vehicles and have expressed support towards the NTC. They have established bases of operations around the area and the United States has moved to freeze \$30 billion in assets belonging to the Libyan government and to Gaddafi and his family.

African Bloc: Many African citizens were directly affected as a result of conflict in the Libyan Civil War and have evacuated some of their own citizens. Most African countries condemn Gaddafi and have recognized the NTC as the true government of Libya.

Questions to Consider:

1. What precise economic issues have led to the grid locked issue of the civil war?
2. How did the initial resolution passed on February 23 2011 affect the prospective incidents?
3. How has the national transitional council overtaking the gaddafi government affected the war?

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