

STUDY GUIDE



UNHSC



III ONU INTER
COLEGIAL



Rede Jesuítas de Educação



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1. PRESENTATION LETTER

Dear delegates,

The Chair is delighted to welcome you to this year's United Nations Historical Security Council in the third edition of the esteemed *ONU Intercollegial*. Firstly, we would like to congratulate you on the bravery in accepting the challenge of taking part in a historical committee, held not in our mother tongue but entirely in English, with yet unknown mates and far from home. In spite of being an invitation out of our comfort zone, we would like to propose that you perceive it as an opportunity to improve debate and language skills, besides creating interpersonal connections with fellow students from *Rede Jesuíta de Educação* from all over the country: we all share common principles and will reunite in the beautiful Salvador around the belief in diplomacy.

On this note, welcome to October 10th, 1973. Four days ago, the State of Israel was taken aback by Egypt and Syria's surprise attack. Completely unprepared, the Jewish saw their nation's existence threatened by the Arabs, who claim back territories lost in the aftermath of the Six Day War. Currently, Israel and its allies try to coordinate a response to restrain damage, exactly the scenario in which our debate initially takes place. To increase tension, instability and uncertainty, on a global scale, the world faces a greater and potentially more dangerous conflict between opposed but powerful ideologies: the Cold War.

Even though historical and thus placed in a different international political arrangement, the Yom Kippur War is of extreme importance to understand today's geopolitics. Almost exactly half a century later, a new conflict motivated by the same ancient rivalries hatches in the Middle East, coming to the center of the world's attention and resulting in massive destruction and priceless human losses. We cannot change the past but learn from it not to commit the same mistakes, what seems not to be being put into practice.

Fortunately, for us, it is possible to write a new story. Hence, it is your duty to represent coherently and assiduously your delegation's interests and beliefs, positioning yourselves actively in the debate to attempt to solve the question according to diplomacy and United Nations principles. Do not ever hesitate in contacting us for help in case of any necessity – the Chair is here to guide you through the entire process and extremely excited to meet you all in June. Last of all, remember: the future of the Middle East is in your hands.

Yours faithfully,
Laura Baptista, Rebeca Sanson, Tito Notaroberto



2. THE MODEL

It is with inestimable joy and honor that we welcome you to the III Intercollegiate UN! This project, so much hoped for every two years, brings together a diversity of people and, consequently, of ideas, which build the multifaceted character of this experience. The simulation, which is hosted by the educational units of the Jesuit Education Network (RJE), shows that what makes us different is what unites us.

This year, we are celebrating the return of the RJE's largest simulation to the face-to-face model. This time, it is up to Colégio Antônio Vieira, a school located in Salvador, Bahia, to take on the responsibilities of hosting an event of such magnitude, whose scope mirrors the successful history of the Companhia de Jesus in Brazil in promoting and fostering the culture of MUN simulations, and to welcome educators and students from all over the country, who converge - despite, or even very much because of, their different experiences - in a unified objective: to form global citizens committed to diplomacy and the analytical study of the reality around them.

In this journey of great learning, we are counting on the genuine involvement of the participants, since the commitment, prominence and high performance that led the students to the ONU Intercolegial are the aspects that will make this experience the most aggregating, memorable and exceptional. In this sense, our Organizing Committee, composed of directors and tutors from Colégio Anchieta (Porto Alegre/RS), Colégio Antônio Vieira, Colégio dos Jesuítas (Juiz de Fora/MG), Colégio Santo Inácio (Rio de Janeiro/RJ) and Colégio São Luís (São Paulo/SP), has made countless efforts to build a simulation that is worthy of our pride and memory.

To this end, we aim to meet the Intercolegial's mission statement, the binomial of innovation and renewal. This is because, first of all, we are seeking to add new formats and languages to the project, always based on the internal experiments of the schools involved, in their own simulations. On the other hand, we recognize that the driving force behind the project is to provide a simulation that is even better than the one offered in the past. Therefore, we remain at your disposal to help you along this path of exchange and growth, making the III Intercollegiate UN a truly unique experience!

Yours truly,
Beatriz Costa e João Pontes,
General Secretaries of the III Intercollegiate UN.



3. THE UNITED NATIONS

The Organization of the United Nations (OUN), or simply the United Nations (UN), is an international organization whose stated purpose is to facilitate cooperation in matters of international law, international security, economic development, social progress, Human Rights, and the accomplishment of world peace.



The UN was founded in 1945, after the Second World War, to replace the League of Nations, with the aim of deterring war between countries and providing a platform for dialogue. It contains several subsidiary organizations to carry out its mission. There are currently 193 member states, including almost every sovereign state in the world. From its offices around the world, the UN and its specialized agencies decide on specific or administrative issues in regular meetings throughout the year.

The most prominent figure of the UN is the Secretary-General, a position held since 2017 by António Guterres, one who has Portuguese origins. The organization is financed by voluntary contributions from its Member States, and it has six official languages: Arab, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

The organization is divided into administrative bodies, markedly by the General Assembly and the Security Council. In addition to its own organs, the UN counts on the collaboration of regional bodies, as provided for in Article 52, Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations, the Organization of American States and the Committee on Human Rights are some of the examples:

Article 52:

1. Nothing in the present Charter precludes the existence of regional arrangements or 7 agencies for dealing with such matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security as are appropriate for regional action, provided that such arrangements or agencies and their activities are consistent with the Purposes and Principles of the United Nations.
2. The Members of the United Nations entering into such arrangements or constituting such agencies shall make every effort to achieve pacific settlement of local disputes through such regional arrangements or by such regional agencies before referring them to the Security Council.
3. The Security Council shall encourage the development of pacific settlement of local disputes through such regional arrangements or by such regional agencies either on the initiative of the states concerned or by reference from the Security Council.



4. THE SECURITY COUNCIL

4.1. THE COUNCIL'S FORMATION

With the end of the First World War, following the Treaty of Versailles, the League of Nations was created, an international institution that aimed to promote cooperation among countries to prevent new conflicts. It did not have its own military forces, primarily acting through economic and military sanctions. However, the non-participation of influential countries in the global geopolitics of the time and the clear distinction within the organization between the victors and the defeated of the Great War led to its failure, marked by the outbreak of the Second World War in September 1939.

After the end of this new conflict, the United Nations was formed, also based on international collaboration for peace and the development of nations but seeking to improve upon its predecessor. Its principles are enumerated in its founding charter, the United Nations Charter, ratified by the P5 members and the majority of other signatories on October 24th, 1945, totaling 51 founding member states. Along with the UN, one of its most important organs emerged, the Security Council, headquartered in New York, United States, and whose first meeting took place in 1946.

4.2. THE COUNCIL'S STRUCTURE

Currently, the Security Council is made up of fifteen members, a configuration established in 1964, following the recommendation to add an amendment to the United Nations Charter by the General Assembly. Among the representations, five are permanent – the People's Republic of China, the United States of America, the French Republic, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics –, those considered the major victors of the Second World War. Additionally, there are ten non-permanent delegations, alternating biennially based on elections in the General Assembly.

It is noteworthy that, even though all fifteen delegations have voting rights, the P5 members have the special right of veto. This means that if they are opposed to any draft resolution discussed by the Council, they can automatically restrain it, preventing it from taking any effect.

The Security Council is also capable of inviting delegations to participate in its debates, whether they are members of the United Nations or not, if it deems their presence important for the discussion of a specific topic. However, such representations do not have the right to vote.



4.3. THE COUNCIL'S ATTRIBUTIONS AND POWERS

According to the United Nations Charter, the primary function of the Security Council is to ensure international peace and security, always aligned with the purposes and principles of the organization itself. It must investigate any situation that may disturb international stability, determining the existence or non-existence of such a threat. It can also recommend the application of economic sanctions by its components and formulate plans for the establishment of armament regulations. More drastically, it can intervene militarily in a conflict through voluntary forces composed of soldiers from member states on behalf of the United Nations, whose financing is independent of the institution.

Regarding procedural matters, the committee has the power to suggest the admission of new members to the UN, indicate the election of the Secretary-General, and, together with the General Assembly, elect judges for the International Court of Justice.

It is important to note that, while resolutions from other United Nations bodies are mere general deliberations and recommendations, the Security Council's decisions are mandatory. Therefore, any determinations approved by the board must be immediately adhered to by all UN member states.

5. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

5.1. CREATION OF ISRAEL

5.1.1. ZIONIST MOVEMENT

Zionism is a nationalist political and religious movement, in which its main goal was to create a Nation State for the Jewish people. The name of the organization comes from the Hebrew word "Zion", which refers to the hill of Jerusalem on which the city of David was built. The nationalist group was first assembled in the late 19th century, in response to the exponential growth of anti-semitic activities throughout the world. For instance, in 1894, a Jewish officer called Alfred Dreyfus, who worked in the French army, was wrongly accused and convicted of treason. This incident is known as the "Dreyfus Affair", which was responsible for enraging Jewish people and many others.

The Zionist Movement became official after the year of 1897, established and organized by Theodor Herzl, a Jewish Austrian journalist and political activist. He wrote *Der Judenstaat* (The Jewish State), a document that said that the Jewish population could not survive if they did not have their own nation and called for international recognition of A Jewish homeland settled in the region of Palestine. Theodor became the first president of the World Zionist Organization and was responsible for holding the First Zionist Congress, which was set in Basel, Switzerland.

Even though most Zionists believed that their State must be set in Palestine's territory, there were still multiple proposals for the creation of a Jewish Homeland in other places. In 1903, British Colonial Secretary Joseph Chamberlain presented to the sixth World Zionist Organization's Congress to give a portion of



British East Africa to the Jewish people. However, this offer was denied in 1905. Later on, the USSR proposed the establishment of a Jewish Autonomous Oblast in the Union, called Birobidzhan, which appeared to have strong support of the Yiddish people. Nevertheless, the proposed homeland was a failure, receiving only 43,000 people, rather than the expected 300,000 people. Other offers emerged, such as in Argentina, Cyrenaica, Angola, Paraguay, Brazil, Mesopotamia, Madagascar and Cuba, but none of them received as much support as the idea of their return to their holy land in British Palestine.

5.1.2. BALFOUR DECLARATION

On November 2nd, 1917, during the First World War, Arthur James Balfour wrote a document that said the British government supported the establishment of a national State for the Jewish people who resided in Palestine, as well as declared their full support to the Jewish community. In the document, the Foreign Minister of the United Kingdom at that time certified that nothing should harm the rights of non-Jewish civilians in the region. However, the Islamists saw the declaration as a disloyalty of the British due to the fact that they would have broken a promise made by them to support the Arab communities in World War I. Here follows the Balfour Declaration of 1917:

“November 2nd, 1917

Dear Lord Rothschild,

I have much pleasure in conveying to you, on behalf of His Majesty's Government, the following declaration of sympathy with Jewish Zionist aspirations which has been submitted to, and approved by, the Cabinet. 'His Majesty's Government view with favor the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavors to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country.' I should be grateful if you would bring this declaration to the knowledge of the Zionist Federation.

Yours sincerely,

Arthur James Balfour”

(BALFOUR, Arthur James. Balfour Declaration, 1917.)

5.1.3. BRITISH MANDATE IN PALESTINE

The British Mandate of Palestine was the period in which the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as formally approved by the League of Nations, held by itself the position to administer political and economically Palestinian Lands as one nation. Theoretically, the Mandate's



duration would yet be defined by the aforementioned international organization, respecting the time they judge necessary. The government main goals consisted of: (1) to create a local, safe and organized government for the land; (2) to promote religious tolerance and equality; and (3) to administer and to teach locals to integrate themselves on the matter of liberal democracy, all that according with the already existing legislations, but aware not to disrespect the local culture. Even though the foreign control of Palestine has begun before, the British Mandate of Palestine was officially planned by the League of Nations, and approved after long and heated negotiations between the organization and the British Parliament, on July 24th 1922, and ever since, reports were frequently submitted to the British Crown regarding the system's progress, roaming into its objectives. Sir Samuel, British High Commissioner, was already acting before the Mandate's official approval, occupying the power that once belonged to the military, who did not satisfy the lead-off Jewish population in Palestine.

Also, it is important to mention that the Transjordan region (Eastern Palestine, Arab confederation's territory) was transferred to the British Mandate in 1921, due to the conflicts that took place between the Hejaz crown and France. This period has begun at a time of strong tensions in the region, especially with Arab revolts in Syria and Bedouin invasions. In this context, the handover of Palestine to the British – and to the Jews – was still unforgivable in the eyes of the Arabs. Therefore, many conflicts between Arabs and Jews happened in the Mandate's territory - more specifically in the effervescent Jerusalem - with a lot of violence, especially when it comes to responses from revolting Arabs with the intense immigration of Jews in the previous years, resulting in around 200 Jews and 120 Arabs being killed or injured, which was also violently responded by Jews later.

Although the Faisal-Weizmann Agreement was halted, the Palestinian people never sympathized with the Jews' desire for a national home. However, the Zionists still promoted the plan for Jewish immigration with great attitude. In a scenario full of confusion and violence, accompanied by a structured migration plan, specifically for Palestine (not Transjordan, even as a mandatory territory), the Zionist Community began to nominally plead that the formal right to administer the custody of the region would be granted, as well as other areas of public life, with electrification and road connection plans, for example. In effect, Zionist sentiments were calmed by the clear justification that not only the surveys carried out during the Paris Peace Conferences, but also the recent revolts, revealed that around 90% of the population vehemently repudiated the Zionist cause, in accordance with the stipulations of the British administration. It is clear, however, that the beginning of British authority over Palestine, since the appointment of Herbert Samuel, was not altogether a misfortune. Political reforms also began to be worked on, with the intention of educating and "westernizing" local culture.

And so were the intense years of the British Mandate in Palestine. Regarding the situation of the administrative political uncertainty of the existence or not of British authority over the territory in the immediate post-Treaty of Sèvres, Arab protests and rebellions marked their will against Jewish immigrants and against

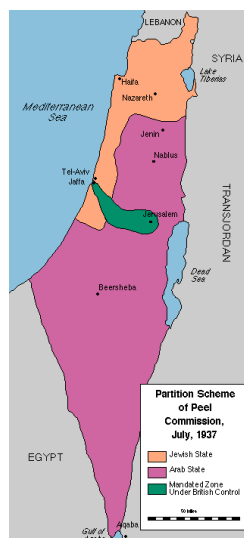


the imperialist presence in what, for them, should be just another province of an independent Syria – neither being nor currently under French flags.

5.1.4. PEEL COMMISSION

Led by Lord Robert Peel in the year 1936, the Peel Commission was created by the British Government, along with the Arab Higher Committee and the Jewish Agency, in order to mitigate the conflicts between Arabs and Jews in the Protectorate of Palestine. In those meetings, it was proposed the partition of that area into three separate states, one Jewish State, stretching from Mount Carmel to the south of Be'er Tuvia and the Jezreel Valley and the Galilee, representing about 17% of the total Palestinian territory. There would also be an Arab State, representing about 75% of the total land, which would include the hill regions of Judea and Samaria, as well as the Negev. The Arab state was called by the Peel Commission to be united with Transjordan, due to the fact that Winston Churchill, in 1921, had separated the two areas. The third zone, located right between Jaffa and Jerusalem, would remain under British rule, representing about 8% of the territory. The proposed partition was never actually implemented, since the Arab representatives were extremely against it, therefore, officially rejecting it in the year 1938. After the denial, they declared their strong opposition to the Balfour Declaration and the Jewish immigration in Palestine and stated: "Partition would create in Palestine two neighboring hostile states between which it is impossible to imagine the possibility of an exchange of inhabitants, property and holy places, such as mosques, churches, and cemeteries. Furthermore, partition would deprive Arabs of their land, which constitutes the bulk of their wealth in the territory to be ceded to the Jewish State."

Even though the partition failed and the Arabs rejected the proposal, the Zionist Jewish Agency representatives saw this as a clear demonstration of the British willingness of establishing a Jewish national state. The proposal may be used by the delegates of the General Assembly for further discussions of the new Partition Plan for Palestine.



Map of the proposed partition of Palestine in 1936. Source: BRITANNICA, s.d.



5.1.5. GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 181

Years after the Peel Commission partition plan, the United Nations General Assembly established the creation of a special Ad-Hoc Committee made exclusively to find the best possible alternative to the partition of the region of Palestine. The UNSCOP (United Nations Special Committee on Palestine), composed by 11 members (Australia, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Guatemala, India, Iran, Peru, Sweden, the Netherlands, Uruguay, and Yugoslavia) recommended the end of the British Mandate in Palestine, as well as the establishment of a transitional period - administered by the UN -, that would precede the territorial independence concession and consequently prepare the region for its complete autonomy.

Regarding the Resolution 181 of the United Nations General Assembly, it is important to highlight its main objective concerning the Palestine Partition, that was voted in November 1947 and resulted with 33 countries in favor, 13 against and 10 abstentions. The main documents recommendations included the Partition itself, in which 57% of the territory would be destined to the Jewish and 43% for the Arab natives, with the city of Jerusalem being administered by the UN Trusteeship Council for a period of 10 years, where a referendum would decide which of the said nations would become responsible for the administration of the city.

Right after the resolution, the British Mandate of Palestine should have a definitive end until August 1st 1948, with the withdrawal of the troops occurring next to the said date. Two months after the evacuation, the Arab and Jewish independent States, and the international regime of Jerusalem, until October the 1st 1948, should officially become definite, with all individuals being able to have their equal rights protection guaranteed.

Lastly, in addition to the General Assemblies involvement by itself in the Palestine Partition, other UN bodies such as the Security Council became involved, with the ratification of this document. In the Resolution, it was stated that the UNSC should take all the necessary measures ensuring that the Partition Plan of Palestine becomes effectively implemented, building also an environment in which it can be judged if the said situation could threaten international peace and security. In the same way, the United Nations Trusteeship Council is also requested, considering the administration of the city of Jerusalem, emphasizing that it should be informed of the current responsibilities stated in the Resolution.

5.2. PREVIOUS DISPUTES

5.2.1. FIRST ARAB-ISRAELI WAR

(WAR OF INDEPENDENCE OR AL NAKBA)

In 1947, the approval of the United Nations' Partition Plan, adopting a two-state solution as it recommended the creation of both Israel and Palestine, was celebrated by most Jews. Arab leaders and states, however, rejected the resolution because it supposedly violated the right to self-determination by giving Israel the majority (56%) of the Palestinian land, even though Jews represented just one third



of the population. Refusing the establishment of a Jew state in that territory, they claimed, then, its totality.

As a result, tensions between Israelis and Palestinians heightened, leading to a civil war in 1947 and early 1948. In this context, on 14 May 1948, Zionist leaders, knowing that the British mandate in Palestine was coming to an end, decided to institute the State of Israel by issuing the Israeli Declaration of Independence. Immediately, on 15 May 1948, an Arab coalition, which refused to recognize the newly founded state, answered, instead, by invading its borders and starting the First Arab-Israeli War.

Israel forces were mainly composed of those who joined Haganah, a paramilitary group previously created to protect Jews as territorial tensions grew, since they didn't have a professional army by the war outbreak, leading to the formation of Israel Defense Forces only on 26 May 1948. Combined Arab forces, on the other side, came from seven states: Egypt, Transjordan, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia and Yemen.

Multiple war fronts were created, where Jews tried to defend their territory from Arab attacks coming from all borders. The underestimation of the Israeli power, the inter-Arab political rivalries in the region and, especially, the international support given to Israel by the USSR and the USA resulted in the Jewish victory in the 1948 Arab-Israeli War.

In the aftermath, approximately six thousand Israelis and twenty-two thousand Arabs were killed in combat. Israel also ended up occupying more territory, 78%, than the ones established in the UN Partition Proposal, 56%, which resulted in the expulsion of thousands of Arab refugees who had their villages attacked, while Israel celebrated its maintenance and expansion. This way, the conflict is also known by Jews as their War of Independence and by Arabs as Al Nakba, which means, in Arabic, 'catastrophe' or disaster'.

5.2.2. SECOND ARAB-ISRAELI WAR (SUEZ CRISIS)

Built in Egypt under the supervision of French diplomat Ferdinand de Lesseps, the Suez Canal was opened in 1869 and separated most of Egypt from the Sinai Peninsula. This man-made waterway connects the Indian Ocean to the Mediterranean Sea through the Red Sea, allowing products to be shipped from Asia to Europe and back more easily. Its notorious value to international relations instigated multiple sorts of conflicts amongst Egypt's neighbors and Cold War superpowers competing for dominance.

The Suez Crisis of 1956, also known as the Second Arab-Israeli War, began on October 29 of that year, right after Israel pushed into Egypt towards the Suez Canal, due to the fact that the Egyptian head-of-state, president Gamal Abdel Nasser, nationalized the canal, a valuable waterway that has controlled almost two thirds of the European oil, before controlled by French and British companies. Besides that, Egypt's leader also closed the canal and two other important maritime passages - the Strait of Tiran and the Gulf of Aqaba - to Israeli ships, cutting off all Israel's waterways but the Mediterranean Sea.



The Israeli force first attacked on October 29 of the year 1956. Two days later, Great Britain and France joined Israel, however, their troops' attack was delayed. That delay gave the Soviet Union enough momentum to respond. The Soviets had the urge to explore Arab nationalism and conquer a bit of control in the Middle East, supplied arms from Czechoslovakia to Egypt and eventually helped the Egyptian government to build up the Aswan Dam, a hydroelectric power plant on the Nile River, right after the United States refused to support this project. Therefore, the Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev threatened to send nuclear missiles on Western Europe if the Israeli-French-British force did not withdraw. The United States also disapproved of the offense, fearing an escalation of Soviet response. In the end, even with military victories, due to diplomatic pressure, the Egyptians won the dispute and France and Great Britain withdrew their troops. Israel, however, refused to withdraw completely and kept the Sinai occupied until 1957.

At the fallout of the Second Arab-Israeli-War, the European countries involved realized that their influence on international relations had unweakened, meanwhile, the Soviet and American power became significantly higher, with more damaged relations. The Suez Crisis also made Egyptian head-of-state Nasser a national hero among Egyptian and Arab nationalists. Although Israel did not gain authority to utilize the Suez Canal, it was once again granted rights for it to ship goods on the Strait of Tiran.

5.2.3. THIRD ARAB-ISRAELI WAR (SIX-DAY WAR)

In 1967, tensions between Arabs and Israelis were once again on the brink of war. Responding to Israeli attacks to Palestinian guerrillas, Nasser requested the withdrawal of UN peacekeeping troops patrolling the Israel-Egypt border in the Sinai since 1956 and commanded the advance of his troops in the region. He also ordered the banning of Israeli ships from the Strait of Tiran, preventing Jews from accessing the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean. Other Arab states also joined the coalition: Jordan and Syria signed a mutual defense pact with Egypt, while Iraq, Kuwait, and Algeria sent troops to assist in case of a possible military escalation.

Israel's response to the Arab movements came on June 5, 1967, at 7 a.m., when the Israeli Air Force launched a surprise preemptive attack on Egyptian territory. The action was successful, and by the end of the day, almost 90% of Nasser's planes had been shot down. Syrian and Jordanians tried to intervene, unsuccessfully: the skies of the Middle East were under Israeli control.

Meanwhile, on land, Israel moved forward, dominating the Sinai Peninsula and the Gaza Strip, before under Egyptian rule. More territorial conquests included East Jerusalem and the West Bank, before under Jordanian rule, and the Golan Heights, before under Syrian rule. Besides that, Israeli forces could also liberate their Strait of Tiran's access.

After so many territorial losses, on the sixth day of war, the Arab coalition signed an armistice with Israel, ending the conflict. As a result, Jews expanded their domains significantly, with one of their more important conquests being the Sinai Peninsula, in which they built a chain of fortifications, the Bar-Lev Line, in order to

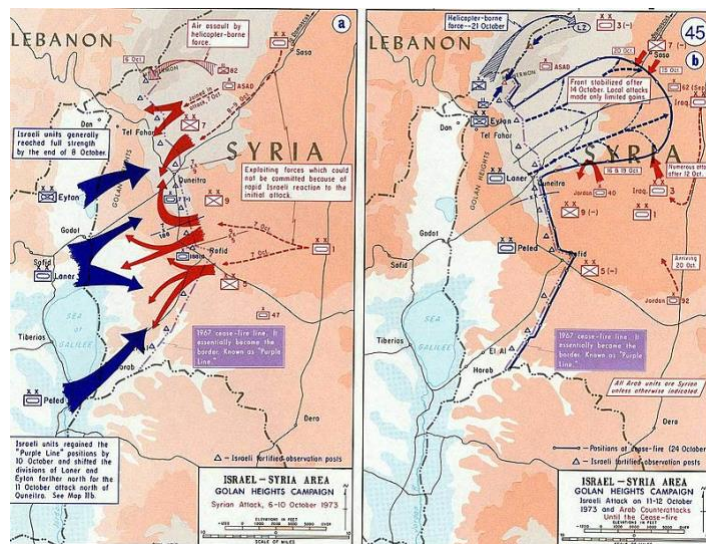


prevent any Egyptian attacks across the Suez Canal. It is also noteworthy that it was after the Six Day War victory that Israel started its illegal occupation of the West Bank, previously foreseen to be part of Palestinian territory according to the UN plan. While Jews celebrated their strengthening and affirmed themselves as a regional power, the Arabs, completely humiliated, urged for revenge.

6. GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES

6.1. GOLAN HEIGHTS

Golan Heights is a plateau region in the Middle East with a size of about 1,150 square kilometers. This territory is located in the southwestern part of the Syrian borders and belonged to Syria until 1967 when the land was seized by Israel during the Six-Day War. Moreover, the Golan Heights represent a strategic area for both neighboring countries so the interests on it overlap, explaining why it will be one of the targets of the surprise attack launched by the Arab coalition, as Syria hoped to regain the territory, and thus one of the battlefronts during the Yom Kippur War. This strategic importance comes from the fact that the higher elevations of the plateau grant a great sight for monitoring military maneuvers and also the presence of the sources of a great part of the region's rivers. Lastly, it is important to mention that the occupation of the Heights was, technically, condemned because of Resolution 242 of the Security Council, which deems the acquisition of land through war inadmissible and requests the withdrawal of Israel's armed forces.



Map of the Yom Kippur War on the Golan Heights. Source: Department of History, U.S. Military Academy, 1973.

6.2. SINAI PENINSULA

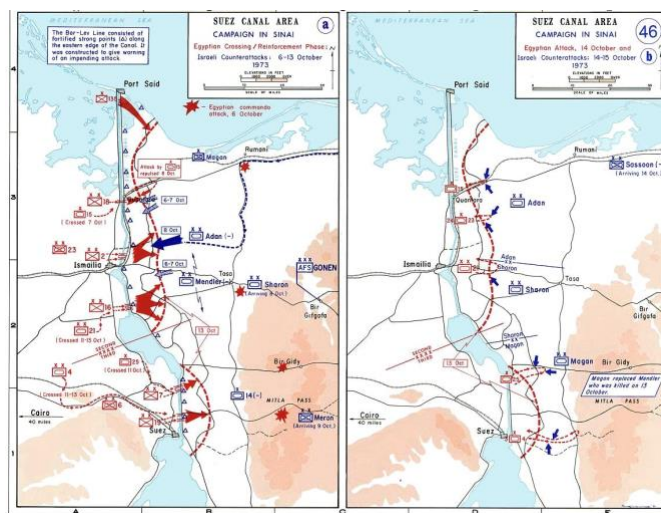
The Sinai Peninsula is a mountainous and desert peninsula located in the Arab Republic of Egypt, between the Aqaba and Suez gulfs. It has a land area of about 60000 square kilometers, meaning Sinai composes 6% of the country's territory. The peninsula was renamed to Sinai in modern times because religious



people assumed that a mountain located near Saint Catherine's Monastery is the Biblical Mount Sinai, which is one of the most important places among the Abrahamic faiths (Jewish, Catholic, and Islamic).

During the Six-Day War in 1967, the State of Israel took hold of the Sinai Peninsula alongside other Arab territories. Therefore, this originally Egyptian region was occupied by Israeli forces who built a line of fortifications named the Bar Lev line, aiming to block any offensives by Egypt, especially during the so-called War of Attrition (1967-1970). This war was composed of a series of small-scale operations and incursions in Sinai made by the Egyptian forces trying to win back the land, however, Israel's defense lines resisted strongly in this period and a ceasefire was signed on the 7th of August of 1970.

The Bar Lev line was only transposed in 1973 with the surprise attack initiated by Egypt as part of Operation BADR, a planned onslaught across the Suez Canal that was able to break through Israeli defenses and thus begin the Sinai front of the Yom Kippur War.



Map of the Campaign in Sinai. Source: Department of History, U.S. Military Academy, 1973.

6.3. SUEZ CANAL

The Suez Canal is an artificial waterway constructed during the 19th century by the *Compagnie Universelle du Canal Maritime de Suez*. Inaugurated in 1869, after ten years of digging, its main course was about 164 km long, 175 km at the time of the October War, providing the shortest route from the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea and demarcating the division between the Asian and African continents.

Besides, due to being one of the most used waterways in the world, it will constantly be dragged into geopolitics disputes, most notably the Suez Crisis, after President of Egypt Gamal Abdel Nasser nationalized the Canal. Although the Crisis was directly related to the canal, it was not the only conflict in which the Suez Canal would get involved in any way. To the Yom Kippur War, it is necessary to recall the canal had been closed for international navigation since the Six-Day War, six years before. In addition, the canal makes the cut between the Egyptian territory and the



Israeli-occupied Sinai Peninsula. Because of that, one of the initial movements in the Arab attack plan was crossing the Canal, which they managed to achieve during the first days of the confrontation.

7. CURRENT STATUS

7.1. THE SURPRISE ATTACK

Since the end of the Six Day War, in which the Arabs were rapidly defeated and completely humiliated, Israel assumed its supremacy in the Middle East. Even though the international community strongly criticized their occupation of illegal territories, especially the annexation of the Golan Heights, Israeli expansion and aeronautic superiority caused a feeling of invincibility. Thus, a policy of intransigent diplomacy was adopted – extremely powerful, they refused to negotiate with the Arabs and even with the United Nations, who had before determined the not-followed withdrawal of Israeli troops in Resolution 242.

With the death of the pan-Arabist leader Gamal Abdel Nasser, Anwer Al-Sadat assumed the Egyptian government and, coming across so many losses, decided to break with Nasserism and recognize Israeli power. Nonetheless, if it is not possible to defeat a potent enemy, the option left is trying to weaken it.

This way, knowing of the Jewish illusion, Sadat initiated his premise of feeding that feeling through numerous telegrams allegedly announcing that an invasion was coming, just to, in the end, keep his troops home. After dozens of Egyptian bluffs, Israel decided that it would no longer prepare its defenses, as calling the reservists demanded complex logistics and a great amount of money.

After these movements, in the Arab sacred month of Ramadan, Egyptian generals were supposedly being sent to Mecca to pray. However, this trip was just a distraction plan: in fact, at that exact moment, troops were being sent to war. This way, on the 6th of October, Israel was invaded through the Sinai Peninsula with no previous warning, being caught completely off guard.

Soon Middle East skies were covered but, for the powerful Israeli aeronautic shock, aircrafts started being taken down by surface-to-air missiles (equipment designed for such purpose) attached to the Soviet tanks used by Egypt. As Jewish military resources were mostly dedicated to their Air Force, land defense was also compromised.

The reason for the attack was not primarily the land reconquest: for Egyptians, the military option was designed to get the wheels of diplomacy rolling. In other words, the war was the path they found to force Israelis to deal with the shock of their own fallibility and, with that, push both sides to the negotiation table.

Sadat acted alone because contacting other Arab governments could mean the information leak through Israeli Intelligence infiltrated agents, removing the surprise character of the action. Even though Syrians weren't aware of the initial plan, they decided to also attack through the Golan Heights, taking advantage of their ally's impulse and forcing Israel to fight several war fronts.



7.2. WAR FRONTS

In order to approach the fighting in the Yom Kippur War, it is first necessary to understand what the Arabs were aiming for when they launched their attack. Contrary to usual armed confrontations, this war was not begun to be won, as the Arabs were quite aware of the military superiority of Israel, it was begun because Egypt and Syria desired to gain back their territories and the war was the only possibility left as the Middle Eastern situation in the previous years had been of “no peace, no war”, meaning the Arab territories being occupied by Israel stayed that way. In addition, starting a war was a way to have international attention, more specifically, the attention of the superpowers, the USA and the USSR, which was fundamental to achieving a final resolution to the tensions in the region given the influence of the superpowers over the nations involved in the conflict.

The October War can be divided into two fronts, the northern one in the Golan Heights and the southern one in the Sinai Peninsula. As different as the terrains were and even though different countries fought in each one, Syrian in Golan and Egypt in Sinai, both fronts shared some common characteristics. First, the fact that Israel had built defensive lines along the ones established by the cease-fire of the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, the Bar-Lev line along the Suez Canal, and the purple line close to Syrian borders. These defensive lines were mainly composed of outposts with fortifications and some military assets and personnel. Second, the assembling of anti-aircraft umbrellas by the Arab states was a way to turn the very threatening Israeli Air Force (IAF) almost useless. Notably, such infrastructure did not come from the Arabs, as it was mostly supplied by the Soviet Union. Moreover, another important aspect is the lack of defense present on Israeli frontiers since the chosen date for the surprise strikes was on the holiest day of the Jewish calendar. In conclusion, there is a pattern in the Arab strategy, which will allow victories in the first few days of war.

Concerning the Golan Heights, the initial numbers were of about forty thousand Syrians against two hundred Israelis and one thousand and four hundred tanks from Syrian and a little less than one hundred and twenty tanks from Israel. Although Syria was capable of breaking the whole purple line, about 36 hours into battle, in the middle of October 8th, the Israeli forces had already recovered enough to launch a counterattack.

As for the Sinai Peninsula, the most relevant details are that Egyptian forces crossed to the east side of the Suez Canal while airstrikes deteriorated infrastructure on Israel's defenses. This enabled the Arab country to advance, piercing through the Bar-Lev line. Even with astonishing conquests in the beginning, Egypt was stopped in their advance by Israel on the third day of the war, October 9th.

On that note, it should be remembered that the United States has guaranteed to resupply the Israeli forces with an airlift which is already on the way by the tenth day of October. In these circumstances, the tides of war seem to be turning strongly in favor of Israel and the Arabs will have to find their way to still secure their objectives.



8. FOREIGN POLICIES

8.1. ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

The Arab Republic of Egypt, led by the third president on the history of the nation, Muhammad Anwar Al-Sadat, who has been in the head-of-state position since October 15th 1970, and, like 8 other nations, was invited to participate in the United Nations Security Council meetings, despite being unable to vote for the committee's possible future resolutions. The country is one of the main belligerents of the conflict, due to the fact that, alongside Syria, the country that has Cairo as the capital city, on October 6th of this year, attacked Israeli military bases in the Sinai Peninsula and the Golan Heights.

Egypt, since the establishment of the UNSCOP's Partition Plan through the adoption of the United Nations General Assembly's Resolution 181, in which the nation opposed, alongside other nations, had a common policy taken as definite: to create an Arab state in the region of Palestine, according to the Arab Higher Committee's will. However, with the declaration of independence of the State of Israel on May 17th, 1948, Egypt, and other Arab nations saw this act as a violation of the Palestinian's desire, resulting in an invasion started by the Egyptians, Syria, Iraq and Jordan.

The Arab Republic of Egypt takes part in the Non-Aligned Movement, formed in 1961 by the initiative of the president of Yugoslavia, Josip Broz Tito, a political organization composed by States who did not intend to align themselves with neither the Socialist nor Capitalist Blocs of the Cold War but to become neutral or maintain their independent status. Therefore when Cairo held the Second Summit of the group in a period of high tensions on Middle East, in 1964, multiple countries, such as Egypt themselves, expressed its opposition against the existence of the State of Israel in the region of Palestine, as well as against the perceived offensive and oppressive policies of the Jewish nation, stating that the Arab habitants of the territory must have as granted the right to self-determination.

Statements like those, tied to other political factors, left Israel afraid of a possible Arab-coordinated attack, leaving the nation with no option but to attack Egypt, Syria and Jordan in June 1967, resulting in the Six Day War. With the ceasefire between Arabs and Israel in the aforementioned conflict, Israel annexed territories such as the Sinai Peninsula and the Golan Heights, leaving Egypt and Syria with the desire for a "revenge", in order to reconquer the land taken by the State of Israel by the use of force.

Henceforth, it is with the use of force that the Egyptians, alongside with Syrians, decided to attack the Jewish State on October 6th of this year, being considered the melting point of the beginning of the current hostilities in the Middle East. Therefore, the Egyptian invited delegate in the United Nations Security Council must advocate for the full withdrawal of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) from the territories conquered during the Six Days War of June 1967. Also, the representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt ought to convince other nations in the Council to engage on their side, by arguing that Israel violated and keeps violating the United



Nations Charter, and declaring that nations that positioned themselves in a position to support the Jewish state, either diplomatic or militarily, is silencing the Arab Palestinian rights to self-determination, as well as to closing their eyes into years of the Israeli violation of the international public law. To sum up, Cairo's representative in the UNSC must have a very strong and bold position against Israel and the presence of what the country shall call as imperialistic nations, but it must stay open to negotiate a possible ceasefire, in order to properly end the conflict in the most satisfactory way.

8.2. COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

The Commonwealth has a history of participation in Middle East military actions, such as the Palestine Campaign during World War I and the Syria-Lebanon Campaign during World War II. It was the first country to vote in favor of the UN Partition Plan, despite British pressure to abstain on the resolution. Furthermore, it was one of the first countries to recognize the State of Israel and presided over the vote admitting it as a UN member. The two nations have shared solid and warm relations since 1949.

The nationalization of the Suez Canal in 1956 was seen as contrary to Australian interests, fomenting the anti-Egyptian feeling in the country. At that time, the possibility of sending military aid was discussed and Australian diplomacy played an important role in solving the crisis, pressing towards the Israeli right to use the maritime way. With a strong Jewish Australian community and under a liberal rule, during the Six Day War, Australia also supported Israel.

This new conflict, however, requires a more even-handed external policy, since the country has been trying to get to friendlier terms with Arab nations. Its distancing from the United States sphere of influence and approximation with the non-aligned movement, which mainly criticizes Israeli occupation of territories conquered in 1967, has led to the non-condemnation of Egyptian and Syrian attacks on October 6th nor the Soviet armament supply to the Arabs. It denounces, however, the potential American aid to Israel and how it can lead to the unbalance in the Middle East.

All in all, Australia remains as a capitalist nation, and it declares itself as neutral in the conflict. Thus, the delegate must ponder very carefully all their previous positions on the matter to arrange themselves correctly in the debate.

8.3. DOMINION OF CANADA

During the Suez Crisis of 1967, when the UN was discussing a cease-fire and withdrawal of troops, Canada's government showed clear disapproval of Egypt's move to close the Strait of Tiran and the Suez Canal for Israeli navigation. The nation was one of the pioneers in suggesting the creation of a multinational armed force to help restore peace and prevent a major confrontation between France, Great-Britain, Israel and Egypt, taking into account the Cold War background that could lead into a mass destruction conflict. This measure was adhered to and, led by a Canadian Lieutenant-General, inaugurated the modern era of international "peacekeeping": soldiers started wearing blue uniforms to symbolize their peaceful



and non-combatant purpose, offering support forces to manage military conflict and civil unrest.

The mission was successful when it led to the withdrawal of French, British and Israeli forces, until UN observers that remained on Israeli-Egyptian borders to monitor the situation had to retreat with the outbreak of the 1967 Six Day War. Canadian forces took part in UN peace missions in the Gaza Strip and the Sinai Peninsula between the period. In addition, the delegation also worked incessantly towards the approval of Security Council Resolution 242, which was unanimously approved by the board, condemning Israeli illegal occupation of territories conquered in the Six Day War.

In the Yom Kippur War, Canada keeps its position of alignment with the United States, the greatest supporter of Israel. In addition, once peacekeeping has become one of its foreign policy pillars since the end of the Second World War, Canadian contribution may be especially significant when it comes to possible military intervention through UN forces.

8.4. FEDERAL PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA

First and foremost, the Yugoslavian delegation is one of firm position. It will severely condemn the whole Israeli war actions, deeming them deliberate aggression, and will label the ongoing conflict situation in the Middle East a threat to global peace and security. Also, Yugoslavia believes that the Arabs are rightful in their fight because of the occupation of their territories by Israel's forces.

Yugoslavia will have a view quite different from the one of the Soviet Union even whilst being under a socialist government. Such is due to this nation's distress over the lack of effort to decide on a resolution that truly and thoroughly solves the struggle of the Palestinian people, while the USSR was much more hesitant in making accusations and direct interferences.

What is more, this country's indignation is prominent, and they will call attention to the violations of international law and of the Charter of the United Nations happening not only in battle but during previous years. Namely, Yugoslavia expressed itself very displeased with the Israeli unwillingness to discuss more permanent peace negotiations than just the various cease-fire lines from past conflicts. It will accuse Israel of wagering on military superiority as an ultimate solution to their tensions with the Arabs instead of seeking an agreement.

In short, the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia favors the Arab side of the conflict and shall act accordingly, pursuing a resolution that estates the sovereignty of the Arab states and of Palestine.

8.5. FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

West Germany is a Federal Republic led by the country's third president in history, Gustav Heinemann, from the German Social-Democracy Party (SPD), who has been in the head-of-state position since 1969. Like other eight nations, the West European state was formally invited to participate in the United Nations Security Council meetings of October, in order to properly discuss the current situation occurring in the region of the Middle East. Given its invited status, the Federal



Republic of Germany delegation is unable to vote for the future resolutions of the council.

Since the year 1955, West Germany is an official member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), a political and, overall, military alliance formally established by the Washington Treaty, signed in 1949, created with the intent of being a mutual defense agreement in order to serve as a counterweight to Soviet Union and other socialist states. Multiple NATO member states, during other Arab-Israeli conflicts, have declared their position in favor of the State of Israel, even supplying the Jewish state with weaponry and other kinds of supplies. On the other hand, its counterpart, the German Democratic Republic, has declared its support to the Arab states in the former two wars started by those two parties, which takes West German even more apart from the Arab support in this relatively new scenario of this month.

Henceforth, the Federal Republic of Germany, regarding its strong diplomatic relations with Israel, supports the Jewish country against the Arabs, in agreement with other NATO members, such as the United States and the United Kingdom. However, unlike those two states, Heinemann said the country does not have the intent to send weapons to Tel Aviv, only if the situation becomes more drastic than it is now. Therefore, the representative of West Germany in the UNSC must advocate for the maintenance of Israeli control over the conquered territories during the Third-Arab-Israeli War in 1967.

8.6. FRENCH REPUBLIC

The French Republic was one of the first nations to recognize the foundation of the Jewish state and establish diplomatic connections with it in 1949, after supporting the UN two-state proposal. France-Israel relations were strengthened in the 1950's, when France was Israel's major weaponry supplier, even helping the implementation of nuclear power in the newly founded country. In the Suez Crisis, the nations aligned against a common enemy: Gamal Abdel Nasser's Egypt.

By the end of the Second Arab-Israeli War, however, French and British power was extremely weakened and considered outdated, gaping the new polarized dynamic of international relations of the Cold War. This way, France started adopting a more friendly policy towards the Arabs. In 1967, their government announced an arms embargo in the Middle East, mainly affecting the Jewish state, which came closer to the United States – now its biggest armament dealer. By the end of the Six Day War, in which the French president had declared that Israeli attacks were irresponsible, immoral and exaggerated, the European nation began to consider Israel a colonial state, since it had conquered territories illegally.

The delegation recognizes the seriousness of the conflict that has escalated in the Middle East in the last few days due to reports that confirm violent attacks, but also reminds the Security Council that it is not a recent problem: tensions, open or latent, had been in the region for the last twenty-five years. This does not mean that France opposes a cease fire, but that it also stands to the thesis that, for lasting



peace, the question must be solved from its root – something the UN has been trying to do for a long time, unsuccessfully.

It reinforces agreements that were already set, but never put into practice, such as Resolution 242, from 1967, that determines the withdrawal of Israeli troops from illegitimate territories which were before part of Syria and Egypt. Currently, these same regions are being scenario for the recently broken out Yom Kippur War between the three nations.

To sum up, France believes that is the Council's role to promote the rapprochement of parts that, even though extremely close geographically, cannot seem to coexist peacefully. Therefore, advocates that the international community must come together to provide fundamental guarantees in indispensable negotiations to solve the issue once and for all.

8.7. KINGDOM OF MOROCCO

The Kingdom of Morocco is a monarchy led by King Hassan II, who has been in the head-of-state position since 1961, and, like 8 other nations, was invited to participate in the United Nations Security Council meetings, despite being unable to vote for the committee's possible future resolutions. The African country is in the Maghreb region of North Africa, and has its population being mainly ethnically Arab, therefore, participating in the Arab League of Nations (or Arab League).

Currently, with the Egyptian and Syrian strikes in the territory of Israel, Morocco has declared full support to the Arab Nations, not only through the shipping of monetary resources to both belligerents, but also through the shipment of military equipment, personnel and airships - including the Royal Air Maroc - in order to help the country's neighbors in the conflict. In addition, the Kingdom of Morocco has never established no diplomatic relations with the State of Israel, due to the fact that the nation of King Hassan II does not recognize the Israeli territory as sovereign and legitimate.

In conclusion, the Moroccan representative in the UNSC must advocate for a peaceful solution for the conflict in question, but only if the drafts include topics that withdraw the Israeli influence under the territories conquered during the war of 1967. In addition, the delegate should show, in practice, to the other Arab delegations in the Council that Morocco is a powerful ally, by consequently seeking ways to strengthen its diplomatic ties with those representatives.

8.8. KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has a complex position in geopolitics during the October War. On one hand, this country represents the West's most reliable source of petroleum, on the other, its government is based strongly on Islam. Consequently, the Saudi delegation has to adequate its position in order to maintain its economic importance while also defending the Islamic faith, which is intrinsically related to the Arab people.

In the first place, it is indispensable to consider King Faisal's role in Saudi Arabia's policy in the years before and during the confrontation. The Monarch's standpoint in the region diverged a little from the ones of other Arab states, it



inclined the country toward Pan-Islamism instead of Pan-Arabism besides being quite anti-socialist. In addition, he was crucial to the consolidation of the ties between the US and Saudi Arabia, which became strong and essential to both nations, specifically due to the oil commerce.

Accordingly, due to Faisal's anti-revolutionary perspective, an approximation of Egypt and Saudi Arabia took place mostly after the death of Gamal Abdel Nasser, during Anwar al-Sadat's administration, as he had a way bigger inclination to capitalism and the West than his predecessor. The bond of these two states got consolidated to the point that, when Egypt asked for an oil supply for the war efforts, Saudi Arabia agreed to do so.

Moreover, another notorious occurrence to understand the Saudi stance during the Yom Kippur War is its frustration with the United States. Although it may seem counterintuitive to perceive opposing positions between them, it did happen, and the cause was the seemingly unbreakable support of the USA to Israel. The Kingdom did warn about how the persistence in defending Zionism was prejudicial to the Saudi-American ties but it did not have much effect. Also, because Sadat had tried to push out the influence of the Soviet Union in Egypt, Faisal expected the US to reciprocate by helping with peace negotiations, however, this was not the case which further worsened the dissatisfaction with the Americans.

To summarize, the Saudi delegation shall stand with the Arabs because of their shared faith and because of their association with Egypt but it should not neglect its usual closeness to the Western nations.

8.9. PERUVIAN REPUBLIC

Peru, led by General Juan Velasco Albarado, is one of the 10 non-members of the United Nations Security Council in the year of 1973, which means that the Peruvian representation has the power to vote on the possible future resolutions of the committee. The South American nation which has its capital named Lima, on October 3rd, 1968, suffered a military *coup d'état*, imposed by the current president of the country, alongside the political organization known as the Revolutionary Government of the Armed Forces. Although anticommunist, the government of Velasco stands slightly on the left side of the political spectrum, due to its recent social and economic reforms, such as the concession of more rights to the Peruvian working class and the promulgation of the Agrarian Reform in 1969.

On their international status, despite having strong and solid diplomatic ties with nations from the Western Bloc, such as the United States of America, their politic relation is taking onto a rough period, due to its recent notorious approximation to socialist countries, such as Cuba and the Soviet Union and to its socioeconomic measures. Regarding the current conflict among the main belligerents, the Peruvian Republic maintains somewhat stable relations with both Arab and Israeli parties, even though the South American nation opposed the annexation of the territories conquered by the State of Israel in the Six Days War in 1967.



Therefore, the representative of the Peruvian Republic ought to advocate for the most pacific and reasonable resolution, in order to properly cease the hostilities in the Middle East in a definitive way. One issue for the delegate to tackle during the committee's sessions is that it is of utmost importance for Israel to withdraw the territories acquired by the use of force during the War of 1967, arguing that this act is inadmissible towards the United Nations Charter.

8.10. PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Even though the Chinese Revolution had taken place in 1949, the representation of the communist People's Republic of China was only accepted in the United Nations very recently, in 1971, since the Chinese chair in the house was before occupied by the capitalist Taiwanese government – Republic of China. However, many Western nations, such as France and the US, still refuse to legitimize the revolutionary state, gaping its lack of international support.

Using newly conquered space, the delegation was one of the supporters of the creation of the sovereign and independent state of Palestine based on the early borders of 1967, with East Jerusalem as the capital, arguing for the Palestine Liberation Organization in the international forum.

In the Yom Kippur War, China profits from the UN to strongly criticize Israeli Zionists' policy of aggression and expansion in the Middle East and their occupation of illegal territories attached in the Six Day War. Basing its position on the organization's several demands for the withdrawal of Israeli troops and the non-compliance of such orders, it believes that defending the Arabs retreat is actually encouraging and allowing the perpetuation of Jew criminal dominance.

Condemning Israel's harsh attacks against Egypt, Syria and Palestinian guerrillas, advocates that it is a provocation not only to Arab states, but also to Asia, Africa, Latin America and all of those who fight for international justice and visibility. The delegation also defends the Arab's right to resist against those who arrogantly invade their sacred land, congratulating their braveness, newly awakened and prepared to fight for their national rights.

Chinese diplomacy also disapproves the two superpowers posture which, in order to allegedly appease tensions and avoid a major conflict, actually supports Israeli aggression in the Middle East. Its major goal in the Security Council is to construct a resolution that condemns Israel's attacks and determines the withdrawal of its troops but also supports the Arabs and guarantees Palestinian rights.

8.11. REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA

The Republic of Austria, led by chancellor Bruno Kreisky, is one of the 10 non-members of the United Nations Security Council in the year of 1973, which means that the Austrian representation has the power to vote on the possible future resolutions of the committee. The West European nation has established, since 1956, important economic and diplomatic ties with the State of Israel, due to their similar political ideologies and to the presence of an important Jewish community in the country.



On the other hand, Austria does not have significant diplomatic ties with the Arab belligerent nations of the conflict nor recognize the Arab sovereignty over Palestine. Despite their ties may not be very solid, both parties are constantly moving into the strengthening of their formal relations, by establishing economic, scientific, cultural and technological agreements - especially between Austria and Egypt - that help improve the nations relations. One example of that is the Austria-Egypt Income and Capital Convention, signed by both States in 1962.

Due to the fact that the Republic of Austria has established its diplomatic ties with both Arab and Israeli parties in different measures, the Vienna delegation in the Security Council, during the discussions of the current hostilities in the Middle East, ought to always advocate for the most peaceful possible solution, calling both parties to properly establish a cease-fire. This must happen in order to keep the diplomatic ties with both parties, and to help maintain the Austrian prestige of being a notorious mediator for global conflicts inside the United Nations.

8.12. REPUBLIC OF CUBA

In spite of being the only country in the Americas to vote against the UN Partition Plan for Palestine of 1947, the Republic of Cuba soon recognized the State of Israel when it was founded, in 1949. When the 1956 Cuban Revolution took place, however, the socialist leader Fidel Castro started to develop closer ties with Arab nations. After the Six Day War, the country was one of the two socialist nations to keep diplomatic relations with Israel. In the aftermath of this conflict, Cuban soldiers were sent to the Sinai Peninsula to provide military aid to Egypt, which was trying to reconquer the territory illegally occupied by Israeli troops.

With the arrival of 1973, Israeli-Cuban relations are weaker than ever: last September, Fidel Castro announced, during a summit of the Non-Aligned Movement, that the Cuban would permanently break relations with the Jewish state. This decision came from a request to all Soviet-aligned countries, since Israel is perceived as a colonial state and as an arm of United States' imperialism by the international communist line. With the absence of diplomatic ties with Israel and taking into account the fact that the Soviet Union is Cuba's greater supporter, the delegation is positioned in favor of Arab nations in the recent October War, condemning Israeli criminal expansion. Besides that, during the debate, the Cuban delegate must always affirm its socialist principles and may, if it seems necessary, provide military aid to its allies.

8.13. REPUBLIC OF GUINEA

The Republic of Guinea, led by President Ahmed Sékou Touré, is one of the 10 non-members of the United Nations Security Council in the year of 1973, which means that the Guinean representation has the power to vote on the possible future resolutions of the committee. Concerning the country's position during the Cold War, the African nation is a member state of the Non-Aligned Movement, which means it does not fit neither into the US Bloc nor the Soviet Bloc. Thus, Guinea, among other African states that take part in the Non-Aligned group of



nations, produced a statement regarding the current hostilities in the Middle East and North Africa, which was submitted in the shape of a Draft Resolution to the UNSC. However, the project was vetoed by the United States of America, consequently leaving not only the Guinean, but other representatives who sponsored the document to submission, unsatisfied.

In addition, the Republic strongly believes that, in order to achieve the most proper solution to the Israeli-Arab war that is happening right now, it is of utmost importance to the State of Israel to withdraw their troops from the 1967 conquered territories. Hence, the delegation of Guinea in the United Nations Security Council must advocate for peace and stability in the affected region, which would avoid quick and sudden hostilities escalations, therefore preventing a bigger proportion war to happen. Also, the Guinean representative must show their support to the Arabs - especially Egypt - in order to strengthen the diplomatic ties between African and Arab nations.

8.14. REPUBLIC OF INDIA

In the Cold War context, India has declared its neutrality, assuming an important role as a leader of the Non-Aligned Movement and defending, primarily, Third World Solidarity, especially among newly independent nations. In the 1971 Indo-Pakistani war, Indian victory represented the consolidation of a significant regional power. Despite positioning itself as neutral, the North American support of Pakistan in the conflict also meant the Indian approximation with the Soviet Union, with the signing of the Indo-Soviet Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation in the same year.

India was one of the first non-Muslim nations to publicly advocate in favor of the Palestinian right to have its own sovereign state. After Israel's glorious victory in the 1967 Six Day War, the delegation condemned the Jewish attack in where they claimed to be Arab territory. Besides that, one of the consequences of the recent Israeli attack in the Syrian capital of Damascus was the wounding of United Nations' international agents, including important Indian diplomats. Thus, even though the delegation had not taken sides in the Yom Kippur War, all the aforementioned facts must be taken into account by the Indian delegate when positioning themself in the debate.

8.15. REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

Indonesia must observe the Middle East situation and the Security Council discussion very carefully to base its already established position: the delegation supports the Arab efforts to regain the territories illegally lost to Israel in 1967. It advocates that it is not reasonable to expect the Palestinian acceptance of the Zionist occupation of their homeland and that their resistance must be respected. It believes that, since the board failed to approve draft resolution S/10974 of 24 July 1973, the only option left for Egyptians to recover its territories was the "no war, no peace" policy.



The representation also points out to the Security Council role in world peace and security maintenance and how its effectiveness, reputation and prestige may be questioned if it fails to take concrete actions. It criticizes the misinterpretation of Resolution 242 by some house members, which they believe to be the reason for the October War outbreak, defending that the board must arrive at one common evaluation of its practice. Thus, it makes an appeal to the house members, especially the permanent ones, to incorporate its responsibility to take strong measures to effectively solve the question by its root. Indonesia also highlights non-aligned efforts in debates subjecting the Middle East tensions in the UN and shows itself available to work towards building real peace in the region.

Finally, the delegation must seek the determination of a cease-fire and the withdrawal of troops according to Resolution 242 to the positions occupied before the 1967 war, helping to draw Middle East secure and recognized frontiers. Lasting peace, however, will only be established, in the Indonesian vision, when negotiations are set, and Palestinian rights are finally granted and respected.

8.16. REPUBLIC OF IRAQ

The beginning of the Yom Kippur War took a lot of nations by surprise and the Republic of Iraq was one of those. Nonetheless, this country reacted quickly and determinedly, sending troops to fight alongside the Syrian forces in the Golan Heights. The Iraqi forces arrived in the first few days of the conflict and participated in the initial victories as well as helped slow down the Israeli advance when they began to counterattack. Under these circumstances, it is clear on which side Iraq stands on, and it is also worth noting that the Iraqi government had plans and was disposed to send further military aid.

Notably, Iraq's help to the Arab belligerents is not out of context. Being an Arab state itself, supplying the war efforts was an act of solidarity with Egypt and Syria in their fight to reconquer the lands Israel had taken in 1967. Besides, the October War was not the first time Baghdad got involved in an Arab-Israeli confrontation albeit it was the most significant.

What is more, the act of siding with Syria showed how important the Arab cause was for the Iraqi government since their ties had long been strained, and yet, in the face of Israel, Iraq sent help. The strain was due to the split in the Ba'ath party, from which came the presidents of both these Arab nations in their respective countries' segment of the party, which led them to a constant dispute of who was supposedly the legitimate Ba'ath leadership.

In conclusion, the Pan-Arabism ideals of the Iraqi Ba'ath administration and the opposition to Israel were the motives for the policy adopted by the Republic of Iraq during the Ramadan which included direct military supply.

8.17. REPUBLIC OF KENYA

The Republic of Kenya was founded in 1963 when the country declared independence from Britain. Notably, Israel was the first country to establish an embassy in Nairobi and Golda Meir, Israel's Prime Minister during the October War, who was the Foreign Affairs Minister at the time even flew to Kenya for discussions.



In such context, it is possible to understand that both nations enjoyed amicable relations.

However, the Yom Kippur War, the armed confrontation as well as the prelude to the conflict, are capable of changing their ties completely. The Kenyan-Israeli relations are being deteriorated because of the condemnation of the Israeli position regarding the Arabs. For instance, Kenya, along with other African countries of the Organization of African Unity, expressed worry and displeasure about the occupation of the territories of Egypt and other Arab states. Moreover, these African nations also praised the Egyptian attempts to negotiate peace and criticized Israel's refusal to do so, especially since it constitutes ignoring Security Council Resolution 242 which stated the withdrawal of Israel from Arab land as the acquisition of land through force should not be legitimated.

In conclusion, this delegation is not inherently against the state of Israel, as it usually shares good relations with it, at the same time, it will defend Arab sovereignty against Israeli territorial expansionism.

8.18. REPUBLIC OF PANAMA

The Republic of Panama, led by Omar Torrijos, is one of the 10 non-members of the United Nations Security Council in the year of 1973, which means that the Panamanian representation has the power to vote on the possible future resolutions of the committee. Regarding the Israeli-Arab conflicts overtime, the Central American nation has not financed nor supported significantly neither of the parties in former conflicts, even though it has voted in favor of the General Assembly Resolution 181 and does not recognize the Arab legitimacy over the territory of Palestine.

Concerning the current hostilities in the Middle East, the Panamanian government has not released an official statement supporting nor condemning either parties of the conflict, therefore maintaining its neutral position before the situation. Hence, the representative of Panama in the Security Council must advocate for the most peaceful exit to this conflict, by presenting itself as a possible mediator to cease the war.

8.19. REPUBLIC OF SUDAN

Throughout the years since its independence, in 1956, the politics of the Republic of Sudan toward Israel have shifted more than once. The inconsistency in these two countries' ties was mostly due to the changes of Sudanese leadership, which caused their positions to vary from friendly, as it was in the beginning, to strained or even antagonistic. At the time of the Yom Kippur War, the Sudanese-Israeli relations were not good as the president of Sudan, Gaafar Nimeiry, had a socialist agenda, that distanced the nation from the West, and a perspective of solidary towards Egypt. Remarkably, during the period of the Sadat administration in Egypt and the Nimeiry one in Sudan, their relations got closer, enough that Sudan was willing to send military aid during the conflict.

Furthermore, Sudan, during Security Council meetings, heavily criticized the inexistence of a permanent proposal to the tensions between the Arabs and Israel.



For example, it mentioned how the cease-fire lines from previous conflicts were insufficient to solve the whole question, especially since Sudan believed in the right of the Arab states over the land being occupied by the Israeli forces. Besides, the Sudanese delegation called the October War a war of liberation, a war that happened because it was the only option left for the countries involved, Syria and Egypt, to regain their sovereignty as their claims were not heard any other way. On this context, it is also important to mention that the Republic of Sudan spoke a few times about the United States, calling them out on imposing difficulties to solving the Middle Eastern conflicts as not to disturb their strong alliance with Israel.

8.20. STATE OF ISRAEL

Yom Kippur is the holiest holiday of the Jewish calendar, when the believers dedicate their day to fasting and to intense praying, in order to purify themselves and show regret for any past mistakes, expecting God's forgiveness to prepare for the new year to come. That was exactly the date chosen by the Arab coalition to attack Israel and what made them so angry: this time, Israelis were unprepared, and it seemed like they were facing a totally different enemy, even though Arab-Israeli rivalries had been around for a long period.

Since the 1967 victory, Israel had imposed a diplomatic stalemate: as the occupation of illegal territories was, for the Jewish state, a crucial hostage to manipulate Arab international policy, Israel simply had no interest in working towards peace and, thus, kept rejecting all political initiatives from Egypt and other Arab Nations.

Together with no diplomatic intentions, both Israel's Prime Minister Golda Meir and Minister of Defense Moshe Dayan were completely sunk in the feeling of invincibility. The efficiency of the Israeli Air Force was simply incomparable within the whole Middle East and, taking the air supremacy for granted, the Israeli army as a whole was, for Jew's eyes, undefeatable. Such thinking was partially true, however, it led Israel to superb and, thus, made them think that, even though Egypt was counting all its efforts on the "no war no peace" policy, they would never have the audacity to really attack.

Nonetheless, on the 6th of October, Jews arrogance fell as they witnessed the Egyptian invasion of their territory. Then, they would have no other option rather than adapting to this new and abominable reality: citizens caught themselves preparing to face the fourth war in twenty-five years, stocking water and cleaning bankers, while young men left synagogues and rushed to their bases, as they were rapidly summoned to duty. In the following morning, Israeli battalions had already reached the frontlines.

In light of the presented chaos, the Israeli delegation must deal with a terrifying but real fact: the existence of a Jewish state in Palestine is now threatened and the Arabs have no intentions of pushing back. Furthermore, the nation can no longer count on its diplomatic allies in Western Europe after disobeying Resolution 242 of the Security Council and maintaining illegal occupations. Even worse, the majority of the international community claims that



the Arabs are exercising their legitimate right of conquering back the land occupied in 1967.

In conclusion, Israel seeks to slow the onslaught, prepare a counterattack and, with that, guarantee, once more, its survival. The United States is the one and only nation capable of direct help, as it has been almost unconditionally supporting the Jewish state – as when Americans remained silent even when Israelis ignored UN's mandatory resolution in which the P5 member had voted for. In spite of fearing the possibility of Arabs using its oil monopoly as a political weapon, the critical situation led the United States to send financial aid and airlifted supplies that started arriving on our current date: October 10, 1973

Hence, Israel currently deals with its most complex diplomatic duality: on one hand, losing the attached territories is simply not an option as they are counting on them as strategic occupation for region dominance, on the other hand, it is unsure if, this time, Israel will be able to suppress the offensive.

8.21. SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

As one of the states that orchestrated the surprise attack on Israel, the importance of the Syrian Arab Republic to the Ramadan War is unquestionable. Considering this nation is a part of the group of belligerents on the Arab side, along with Egypt, its main goal is to reconquer the land seized by Israel during the third Arab-Israeli war. In Syria's case, such a thing meant taking back the Golan Heights.

Furthermore, one determinant aspect of the Syrian stance at the time was its president's, Hafez al-Assad, perspective. Before becoming the head of state, which he achieved through a *coup d'état*, he had been Minister of Defense, and while in this position, the humiliating Israeli victory of the Six-Day War happened. Due to this, reclaiming the lost territory came to be not only a matter of national security and interest but also a vital objective to sustain al-Assad's administration.

Moreso, before the start of the conflict another significant ideological factor was the way Syria viewed diplomacy. This nation was aware of the fruitless attempts to negotiate peace led by Cairo and the interpretation given by the Syrian government to these failures is that unless there was forced to back up the proposals, they would not work. In short, it was believed diplomacy could not be useful without the power behind it. Most probably, this dissatisfaction is owed to the stalemate on the Arab-Israeli relations, something derived from the lack of effort of the global superpowers to finding an agreeable solution to the whole of Middle-Eastern quarrels.

Wherefore, the option of war slowly became the one to be favored. The Egyptian-Syrian alliance began to form on the shared goals of turning peace into a solid reality and attaining the attention of the US and the USSR. Although the idea of pursuing peace through the means of war may seem questionable, it was promising at the time because the Arabs felt oppressed, being subjected to accepting the occupation of their territories by Israel. In conclusion, the Syrian delegation shall strive to achieve its intent of calling the superpowers to negotiations and it should not endorse anything that does not directly indicate reclaiming Golan.



8.22. UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

When the Yom Kippur War was started the Soviet Union was quite displeased as it was no simple regional confrontation but rather a possibility of worldwide scale conflict. This is due to the interference of the USSR and the US on the countries entangled in combat, the two Arab states (Egypt and Syria) and Israel, respectively. In this situation, where both Cold War superpowers were involved at a time when peace was preferable, since there was a *détente* taking place, a duality will be originated: it was politically and militarily interesting for Moscow to help Egypt and Syria because the Arabs had for long posed resistance to American imperialism influence, at the same time, direct action was undesirable because it would mean the United States would answer and a there would be a chance for mutual destruction. Therefore, the Soviet delegation ought to adapt to the circumstances, as it has been doing since the beginning of the War, to maintain credibility with the Arabs as well as the gradually improving relations with the USA.

Furthermore, another important aspect of the policy adopted by the USSR is that it believed that the armament possessed by the Arabs, more specifically the ones it sent to strengthen Egypt in the past years, should be used as negotiation tools, not as warfare instruments. As a result, the start of hostilities was alarming seeing that the result for the Arabs could deeply affect Soviet reputation. If they won, as the initial victories seemed to have indicated, it would have good repercussions for the Soviet Union's image even though their winning may push the Americans to intercede, making fighting escalate to unprecedented levels. On the contrary, if they were defeated, Soviet support and military assistance would be hugely discredited, something unacceptable for a global superpower despite the fact Moscow did not increase the volume of weapons delivered as it wished to refrain from further participation so that it would not breach the *détente*.

For a better illustration of the USSR's inclination towards not being more connected than it was already to the October War, there are two main occurrences worth mentioning. Firstly, the evacuation of Soviet personnel just before the date planned for the surprise attack, which could have frustrated the Arab plans, served as an alert, most probably to the United States, that the USSR would have nothing to do with actions taken from that moment on. Secondly, the Soviet Union urged other Arab states to back up Egypt and Syria in combat, in order to keep their political stance against Israel and the US, especially because the Israeli forces were quickly advancing in a counterattack, without increasing the dimensions of the war as much as it would with a direct intervention.

In conclusion, the USSR has two primary goals: to secure its harmonious bond with the United States over the ambition of de-escalating global Cold War tensions and to ensure a continuation of the already-established alliance with the Arab countries. Moreover, it will do everything in its power to deter an amplification of the conflict, including cease-fire proposals, as has opposed war since the go-ahead. However, it shall aim to protect the Arabs seeing that Soviet notoriety is at stake and will be impacted by the outcome of the War.



8.23. UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

The United Kingdom is one of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, which means that the delegation has the right to veto a future draft resolution from the committee, according to the interest of the delegate. The British nation uses a parliamentary based system of government, led by prime-minister Edward Richard George - leading the government and the parliament -, as well as Queen Elizabeth II - leading the head of state -, and has London as its capital city.

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, towards the end of the First World War, in 1916, signed the Sykes Picot Treaty with the French Republic, which stated a division of former Ottoman territories between the two nations. As a result, the British gained control of the region of Palestine, known today as the State of Israel, which leads many political scientists and historians to believe that the dispute over the territory only truly began due to the country's domination of the region. This occurs due to the fact that London, during the period of the British Mandate in Palestine, made a series of promises to both the Arab Higher Committee and the Jewish Agency¹, such as the Balfour Declaration of 1917 - to the Jewish - and the Hussein-McMahon correspondence of 1915-16 - to the Arabs -, which consisted of letters promising full control over the territory for both groups. The country participated actively in the failed Peel Commission partition plan meetings, as well as in the United Nations General Assembly in 1947, in which the European nation abstained during the Resolution voting process.

In addition, the UK is one of the countries who signed the Washington Treaty of 1949, therefore, being considered one of the founding members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, a political and, overall, military alliance created with the intent of being a mutual defense agreement in order to serve as a counterweight to Soviet Union and other socialist states. Alongside multiple members of NATO, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has supported, in the past Arab-Israeli conflicts, supported, either diplomatically or militarily, the State of Israel, given not only their historical background, but also due to the presence of a large Jewish community in the island nation. Regarding the current hostilities in the Middle East, the UK decided to keep its foreign policy towards the conflict, by supporting Israel.

Therefore, the delegate of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in the United Nations Security Council must support the idea of a cease-fire, in order to properly end the conflict started this month. Furthermore, the representative ought to agree with the Israeli right of self-protection, considering that the fuse of the war was caused by Egypt and Syria, as well as it must support the Jewish states' right to own the territories conquered in the Six Days War of 1967.

¹ The political organizations that represented the interests of, respectively, the Arab and Jewish habitants of British Palestine.



8.24. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The United States' response to the October War can only be understood when looked upon with the Cold War dynamics in mind. The reason for this is the fact that the Soviet support of the stance of Egypt and other Arab nations towards Israel greatly influenced the US's actions, not only during the conflict itself but also throughout the build-up leading to it. Thus, it is clear that the Yom Kippur War goes beyond a regional conflict and has global importance.

In the first place, to comprehend the American positioning it should be noted that since the Six-Day War, in 1967, the tensions in the Middle East were exceedingly high, especially because of the Israeli occupation of Arab territories. At first, some American government members tried to lead peace talks, which mostly included Israel giving up the land conquered during wartime, as the hostilities posed a threat to the ongoing American-Soviet *détente* as well as jeopardized the US relations with Arab countries. Furthermore, Anwar al-Sadat, the president of Egypt had offered the possibility of a peaceful relationship with Israel in 1971 when he proposed to reopen the Suez Canal for international navigation in turn for Israel Defense Forces (IDF) to pull back from the Canal. Nonetheless, despite these attempts of negotiation, there was no final resolution as Israel refused to give up their domain over the Arab areas.

Consequently, as time went on and no agreements were settled between Israel and the Arab nations, at the same time as the USSR continued to give military aid to Egypt, the United States became less inclined to persuade the Israelis to reach any resolution. Because, from the American perspective, it was unreasonable to convince their ally in the region to make concessions while the Soviet Union strengthened the other side, i.e. the Arabs. As a result, the stalemate situation in the Middle East continued and the relations between both parties kept deteriorating. Still, the US president at the time, Richard Nixon, and his Secretary of State, Henry Kissinger, judged the possibility of war low.

Thereupon, when on the 6th of October of 1973 Syria and Egypt launched their combined offensive on the Sinai and the Golan Heights, the United States was startled. Not only did they believe a conflict would not be started given the military superiority of Israel but they were also deceived by the disguise that the Arab troops were only training, not preparing to attack, as the CIA failed to detect war was truly approaching. Then, as an answer to the strike, Nixon ordered an airlift on the 9th, to resupply the IDF, which was named Operation Nickel Grass, at the request of Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir.

To sum up, the United States will protect and defend Israel's actions as it has done in the past in other Arab-Israeli conflicts. In addition, it will also respond according to the current Cold War conditions and prospects. Lastly, it will seek solutions and further developments that better suit its global superpower position along with its policies as such.



9. PRESS POLICIES

The news agencies in the United Nations Security Council play an important role in representing the present ideologies in this important historical dispute. Understanding the political positioning of nations in this council is crucial for the good work of the two different agencies - The Washington Post and Sputnik. The Yom Kippur War of 1973 was an important and pivotal moment in Middle Eastern history that was marked by both military and ideological struggle, and, as tensions flared between Israel and the Arab states, each country's ideological alignment played a significant role in shaping their actions and their positions. The conflict was the 4th Arab-Israeli war, and, as such, the alliances at play were already mostly defined, the US showed continued support for their old-ally, focusing on Israel as an important influence point on the middle-east in the cold-war, therefore, the american media, today as then, is very-Israeli leaning. Thus, observing the news agencies and their positions, it is clear that in the Yom Kippur War, The Washington Post has a pro-Western aligned position involving Israel, supported by the United States of America. On the other hand, the Sputnik news agency, controlled by the Russian government, aligns itself with a pro-East position with countries such as Egypt and Syria, supported by the Soviet Union.

9.1 THE WASHINGTON POST

The Washington Post is an American newspaper headquartered in Washington DC, the capital of the United States. It is one of the largest newspapers in the country and one of the most traditional since its founding in 1877. Its focus is on covering topics related to national and international politics. The newspaper also features various opinion columns, where articles and cartoons on a wide range of topics can be found.

Its stance is in defense of democracy and has a liberal bias within Western norms. The owner of the newspaper is the American billionaire Jeff Bezos, also the owner of Amazon. The Washington Post does not receive any sponsorship from the US government and advocates for freedom in journalistic practice. In its cartoons and comic strips, it's possible to find productions with criticisms of various nations, mostly those living under dictatorial regimes.

Here's a cartoon for a better understanding of how the newspaper positions itself:



“How dare Israel attack civilians...” (Criticism of Hamas and the practice of using women and children as human shields by the group.)



9.2 SPUTNIK

The Sputnik newspaper is a news agency launched by the Russian government, operated by the state-owned company Rossiya Segodnya. It's an international coverage newspaper, with branches in various countries such as Sputnik Brazil in Brazilian territory, which covers national politics.

Sputnik covers global political and economic news aimed at an international audience. The services operate in more than 30 languages and in over 34 countries, reaching a total website visitor count of over 54 million people worldwide, establishing itself as a major international media outlet.

The newspaper's stance is strong and precise, generally seen as having a pro-Russian government inclination, largely reflecting the government's perspectives. As a consequence of this inclination, sometimes its articles exhibit content with a favorable view of Russia's actions and policies, occasionally adopting a critical stance towards Western countries.

Sputnik is targeted by the West as being considered by some as a tool of the Russian government for propaganda abroad and as an "anti-Western" newspaper. To illustrate the Russo-American duality, it is interesting to note that in 2017, the American network Twitter, now known as "X", blocked advertising on Sputnik's communication account due to suspicions of possible interference in the American country's election.

The Sputnik Brazil error page exemplifies well the anti-Western stance of the newspaper controlled by the Russian state.





Cartoon that exemplifies criticisms of NATO (The North Atlantic Treaty Organization).





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