



SECURITY COUNCIL

TOPIC A: Sudan Conflict

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TOPIC B: Las Anod Conflict

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SECURITY COUNCIL

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INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMITTEE

The Security Council is one of the six main organs established by the United Nations Charter in 1945. The primary responsibility of the council is to maintain international peace and security. Following the fifth chapter of the United Nations Charter, the Security Council has four main purposes, which include the preservation of international peace and security, the development of friendly relations among nations, the cooperation for solving international problems as well as the promotion of respect for human rights and being a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations. The decisions taken by the Security Council must be accepted and carried out by all members of the United Nations. On the other hand, while the Security Council has the power to make decisions that member states are expected to comply with, the other organs can only make recommendations to member states. When a complaint concerning a threat to peace is brought to the council, the recommendation presented has the purpose of reaching a viable agreement between the parties involved through peaceful methods. When a threat towards

international peace is presented the Security Council may respond with the following actions as stated on the UN charter: set forth principles for such an agreement; undertake investigation and mediation; dispatch a mission; appoint special envoys; or request the Secretary-General to use his good offices to achieve a pacific settlement of the dispute. The enforcement measures that the council may opt for achieving international peace include economic sanctions, arms embargoes, financial penalties/restrictions, travel bans, severance of diplomatic relations, blockades and collective military action. The Security Council is made up of five permanent members with ten non permanent members that change within a time of two years. The UN Charter's most significant distinction between permanent and non permanent members is the veto power. Based on the article 27.3 of the Charter, all substantive decisions of the Council must be made with "the concurring votes of the permanent members". Such members being the United States of America, the French Republic, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China.

to the resumption of hostilities in 1983, marking the beginning of the second Sudanese civil war.

TOPIC A: Sudan Conflict

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

The historical context of the Sudan conflict dates back to its colonial era when it was a joint protectorate of Egypt and the United Kingdom until gaining independence in 1956. Following independence, Sudan grappled with a blend of external governance, with the British wielding significant political and military authority. However, the transition to independence was challenged by the nation's immense size and profound internal divisions.

Internal divisions, notably the North-South divide, characterized by social, economic, religious, and cultural disparities, sparked internal conflicts. The predominantly Arab-Muslim north sharply contrasted with the largely Christian and animist south, creating a tense fault line within the newly independent nation. These divergent identities fueled tensions that eventually erupted into two devastating civil wars.

The first civil war, lasting from 1955 to 1972, pitted southern Sudanese factions against the central government in Khartoum, seeking autonomy and fair representation. The conflict ended with the Addis Ababa Agreement, granting the south a degree of autonomy. However, deep-seated grievances persisted, leading

The second civil war, spanning from 1983 to 2005, was characterized by widespread violence, displacement, and humanitarian crises. Atrocities and famines were rampant, with ethnically targeted violence ravaging the country and resulting in nearly two million deaths and massive displacement. The conflict drew international condemnation and spurred efforts to find a peaceful resolution.

In 2011, South Sudan finally gained independence following a referendum mandated by the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) of 2005. However, while South Sudan achieved independence, internal challenges persisted in Sudan under the authoritarian rule of Omar al-Bashir.

Bashir's regime, which began with a military coup in 1989, oversaw a period of conflict, economic hardship, and repression. Throughout his rule, Sudan faced numerous conflicts, including the devastating Darfur War, which erupted in 2003, marked by widespread atrocities and ethnic cleansing.

Despite periodic uprisings and widespread discontent, Bashir maintained power through a combination of military force, alliances with paramilitary groups, and the imposition of strict Sharia law. However, in 2019, widespread protests fueled by

grievances over economic hardship, corruption, and lack of political freedoms led to Bashir's ousting in a military coup orchestrated by the Sudanese Armed Forces and the Rapid Support Forces, led by General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan and Mohamed Hamdan "Hemedti" Dagalo, respectively.

However, the transition from Bashir's rule to civilian governance was marred by power struggles between military factions, particularly between the Rapid Support Forces and the armed forces, leading to conflict in 2023.

CAUSES

The main causes of the Civil War in Sudan in 2023 are rooted in a complex interplay of factors that have been simmering since the nation gained independence from the United Kingdom. Chief among these causes is the struggle for power and control over Sudan between the armed forces, specifically the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), who jointly removed former President Omar al-Bashir in 2019. However, neither faction has relinquished power since then, leading to ongoing conflict. Decades of authoritarian rule under al-Bashir have left a legacy of political instability and transition challenges, with civilians lacking avenues for democratic participation in governance. Economic mismanagement and social inequality, exacerbated by high inflation and unemployment, have fueled

discontent among the population.

External influences, including support from foreign actors such as the Wagner Group from Russia and the United Arab Emirates, have further complicated the situation, prolonging the violence. Negotiations and ceasefire agreements have been repeatedly violated by both factions, exacerbating tensions. The assassination of Khamis Abbakar, governor of West Darfur, on June 15 marked a significant escalation, allegedly ordered by RSF militants amid renewed genocidal attacks against minorities. The violence in Darfur has intensified, with numerous villages captured and hundreds of deaths reported. The current violence has drawn comparisons to the genocide in Darfur between 2003 and 2005, further increasing unrest and triggering mass migration within the country.

REPERCUSSIONS

ECONOMIC IMPACTS:

The economic impact of the Sudanese Civil War in 2023 extends beyond Sudan's borders, affecting neighboring countries and trade relations in the region. The destabilization of the economy in Sudan has ripple effects, leading to a decline in investor confidence and economic stability throughout the region. This instability has resulted in increased unemployment and rising poverty levels, exacerbating the humanitarian crisis and mass migration

already faced by Sudan and neighboring countries.

Furthermore, the illegal market has flourished amidst the conflict, with incidents of gold smuggling reaching unprecedented levels. This illicit trade not only fuels domestic conflict but also provides financing for conflicts internationally, with involvement from state actors such as the Wagner Group and the UAE government. The interference of these external actors in gold smuggling exacerbates the economic challenges faced by the region, perpetuating instability and hindering efforts towards peace and development.

SECURITY ISSUES:

The Sudanese war presents a variety of security risks to both the country and the larger international community. Terrorism, transnational crime, and the illegal cross-border trafficking of weapons and products are made possible by the emergence of armed groups, the disintegration of border controls, and the presence of extremist elements. These security risks endanger the safety and stability of countries well beyond Sudan's borders and have worldwide ramifications. Moreover, it is impossible to overestimate the conflict's capacity to destabilise the entire area. Due to their border with Sudan, neighbouring nations

including South Sudan, Chad, Ethiopia, and Eritrea are especially exposed to the knock-on consequences of violence and instability. Due to the interconnectedness of regional conflicts, instability in one nation can quickly spread to others, resulting in a cascade of humanitarian crises, bloodshed, and displaced people. In addition, efforts to promote political stability and democratic government in Sudan and the surrounding region are hampered by the civil war. Political exploitation and manipulation thrive in the lack of a functional administration, in the midst of several armed factions, and in the breakdown of law and order. Power disputes, factionalism, and the slow disintegration of democratic institutions are encouraged by this, compounding the region's already difficult problems.

MASS MIGRATION:

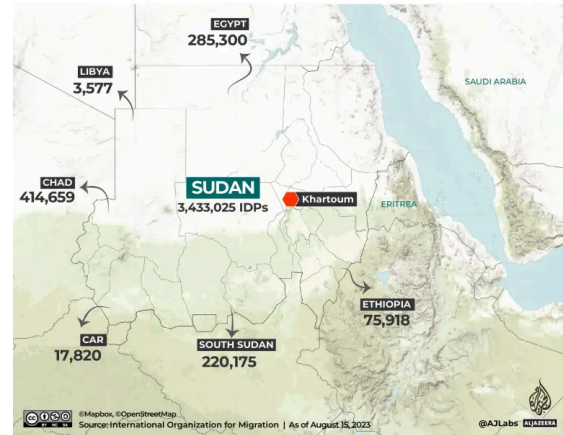
The issues related to mass migration in Sudan are directly proportionate and related to the other issues such as security and economic recession. These factors are the main pushing forces for the population of Sudan to migrate and seek refuge elsewhere. The prolonged violence in Sudan has brought about a notable surge in both internal and cross-border migration, underscoring the crisis' long-lasting effects. About 2 million Sudanese were internally displaced as of

June 22nd, and almost 600,000 had left the nation altogether. With over 70,000 people crossing borders and nearly 300,000 people internally displaced in just the first few weeks of June, this increase in displacement marks a startling escalation. These numbers support the widely held belief that there are no immediate signals that the conflict will end. Over 65% of all internally displaced people are from Khartoum State, where the majority of them are from. Many of them have moved to White Nile State, Northern State, and River Nile State in search of immediate protection or in preparation for their escape to neighbouring countries like Egypt and South Sudan. The humanitarian crisis in Sudan has been made worse by the high levels of internal displacement that have been reported in West, South, and Central Darfur. Regarding cross-border migration, the countries that have registered the highest numbers of arrivals include Egypt, Chad, and South Sudan; noteworthy influxes have also been seen in Ethiopia, the Central African Republic (CAR), and Libya. Sudanese refugees are mostly received by Egypt and Chad, but South Sudan and Ethiopia get a higher proportion of their own citizens. Remarkably, ships sailing from Port Sudan to Jeddah have also brought thousands of people from many countries to Saudi Arabia. These figures give an overview of the situation in the first part of June, and they are updated regularly to account for changes in migration trends and the elasticity of border crossings.

SUDAN WAR

Refugees exceed one million

Four months of war have driven 1,017,449 people to flee Sudan and internally displaced about 3,433,025, according to the UN. Many of the refugees had been internally displaced by previous crises in Sudan.



(Aljazeera.com 2023)

CURRENT SITUATION

The current situation in Sudan is rapidly deteriorating, compounded by recent decisions made by the United Nations Security Council. In a significant move, the Security Council has opted to withdraw its presence from Sudan, including missions such as the United Nations Integrated Transitional Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS), primarily a humanitarian effort aimed at averting the escalation of civil conflict. Resolution 2579 of 2021 mandates the gradual winding down of operations over a three-month period, culminating on February 29th, 2024.

While the United Nations remains involved in various capacities within Sudan, the cessation of a dedicated mission underscores the perceived ineffectiveness of previous efforts and the considerable financial burden associated

with such endeavors.

Despite the withdrawal, the Security Council remains actively engaged in discussions regarding Sudan's future, deliberating on alternative strategies and approaches to address the ongoing crisis.

The decision to withdraw UN missions reflects a shifting focus in international intervention efforts and underscores the need for a reevaluation of approaches to conflict resolution and humanitarian assistance in Sudan. As the situation continues to evolve, the international community remains committed to finding viable solutions to the complex challenges facing the nation, albeit through revised frameworks and collaborative initiatives aimed at promoting peace, stability, and sustainable development.

OBJECTIVE OF THE COMMITTEE

The delegates are expected to seek not only a peaceful solution to the issue, but as well to seek for a solution to the repercussions of the war. *This implies considering the different dimensions of the conflict, not solely focusing on the issues regarding terrorism.* Moreover, although the Security Council has the power of deciding on legitimate use of force, it is highly encouraged for the delegates to seek for a peaceful and diplomatic solution, considering the United Nations have constantly sought a peaceful resolution. It is as well expected for the delegates to have a deep understanding and knowledge of the topic, in order to be able to fully explore it and solve every

possible detail.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

1. Has your government fueled the ongoing conflict in any way possible?
2. Has your government shown support towards any determined faction participant in the conflict?
3. Has your country been affected by the ongoing conflict in Sudan? If so, in which manner?
4. Has your government supported any initiative proposed as a resolution to the conflict?

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SUPPORT LINKS

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<https://reporting.unhcr.org/operational/situations/sudan-situation>

<https://www.msf.org/conflict-sudan>

Topic B: Las Anod Conflict

There is a current crisis where the region of Las Anod, in the northeast of Somalia, is being disputed by both Somaliland, a self-declared but unrecognised country, and Somalia, which has resulted in a large number of deaths, injured people and displaced individuals to nearby countries.

This is a conflict that has developed throughout the long history of Somalia and its separation from Somaliland, which involves tensions and armed conflicts boosted by international interventions. Therefore, it will be the responsibility of the delegates to pursue the best solution for the victims in Las Anod and for the refugees who are also suffering from the problem.

Historical Context:

In WWII, Somalia, like many other African Nations, was owned by a European country. Still, in this case, it was divided into two distinct regions with two different proprietaries: Somalia, which was owned by Italy and Somaliland by the UK. Then Italy made a severe investment in Somalia to send an attack on Somaliland, which led to its domination. This provoked the counterattack from the United Kingdom, leading to its total domination

of Somaliland and Somalia, which continued after the war ended.

In 1960, Somalia became independent, but this came with a big issue: it was unified with Somaliland, Creating the Somali Republic. This was not a very popular decision as Somalia gained some of the Western ideals of government, whilst Somaliland was permitted to be more traditional in WWII. Therefore, there were clear divisions among the population.

After this, the situation in Somalia became Complex after President Abdirashid Shermarke was assassinated by its bodyguards in 1969. This symbolised a Coup d'état (Revolution), followed by a military state where the leader of the country, Siad Barre.

The Ogaden War:

With an army led in Somalia, the new focus was to expand its land. This started the Ogaden War in 1977. Apart from being a considerably violent conflict, it had international implications as it was part of the USA vs USSR Cold War.

The relative Head of State of Ethiopia of the time, Mengistu Haile Mariam, Was also the leader of the Derg, the military council of Ethiopia, which declared Ethiopia a socialist state annexed to the USSR. This government was considered a suppressor of the citizens, particularly of the Western Somali Liberation Front's (WSLF)

supporters. Taking that into account, Somalia was an ally of the WSLF with the condition that they would support the army of Somalia if an invasion started, which was accepted by the WSLF. In July of 1977, Somali forces and the WSLF began the invasion of Ogaden.

Initially, the conflict seemed uneven because the Ethiopian army was much larger than the Somali one.

Still, Somalia had more military power in weaponry because of the former support of the USSR. Then, when the Soviet Union tried to make both nations agree on a cease-fire and failed, they helped Ethiopia by sending fifteen thousand troops from Cuba, apart from volunteers from North Korea and Yemen. To equalise this, Somalia requested the Support of Western nations like the United States of America, which was accepted, officially turning this conflict into a part of the Cold War. To this point, the state of the territory is represented in the following map.



(Ethiopia War 1977, n.d.)

Later that same year, Somalia attempted its most ambitious strike on Ethiopia by attacking the city of Harar. Unfortunately for Somalia, this attack was the beginning of the end of the war. With the USSR weaponry and the conjoint troops from Ethiopia and Cuba, the Somalian Army was pushed off Harar in a chain reaction that also took them out of the Ogaden region, leading to the defeat of Somalia in this war.

Somaliland independence:

The Somalian people, in general, were upset about the defeat of their government in the Ogaden War because of all the resources invested, but this discontent was significant in the region of Somaliland, which made clear their desire for a change.

In 1981, the Somali National Movement (SNM) was created to oppose the government of Somalia to take down the Regime of Siad Barre. Therefore, in 1982 Somalia was declared in a state of civil war.

There were many confrontations between the SNM and the government, but one of the most remarkable was the Isaaq Genocide of 1988. Led by the son-in-law of Siad Barre, there were bombings and death squads sent to kill the Isaaq tribe, which “killed an estimated 200,000 people” (*Somalia Genocide and Famine*

Warning, 2022). This resulted in the destruction of the current Somaliland Capital, Hargueisa, rapes conducted by the military personnel and significant displacement.

More conflicts like this and decreasing support from the US ended at the end of Said Barre and its exile from Somalia. Somaliland has declared its independence from Somalia, but to date, it hasn't been recognised by any state except Taiwan. At the same time, the independence of Somaliland left a weak political structure in Somalia, which started the Somalia Civil War and has continued until today in general terms.

CAUSES

The original conflict between the government and the opposition:

After the dictatorship of Siad Barre ended, Ali Mahdi Muhammad was named the Interm President of Somalia under the Somali Salvation Alliance (SAA), representing the search for a change in the dynamics taken in the government during the dictatorship. To oppose this government, General Muhammad Farah Aydid from the Somali National Alliance (SNA) tried to restore Somalia to a dictatorship as it was during the regime of Siad Berre, as he was raised with the ideals of Siad Berre.

These two individuals were the warlords fighting during the Somalian civil war,

mainly conducted in Mogadishu, the Capital of Somalia. The constant battles drastically affected grain production in the entire country, producing famine for the population. At the same time, the food supply from the government to the people was constantly interrupted by the SNA, worsening the situation.

Somaliland lack of Recognition:

REPERCUSSIONS

The UN Intervention:

With this crisis in Somalia, the United Nations decided to take action in the conflict in April of 1992 to deliver humanitarian aid to famine-stricken areas in Somalia as the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM). As there wasn't a stable government to make the request for intervention (and the R2P hadn't been created yet), this operation was mostly humanitarian, with the military forces being utilised to protect the UN personnel.

This first operation didn't have the best results because of the domestic troops' opposition and the effectiveness in making proper strategic moves, ending this resolution in March 1993. This is why, in December of 1992, the US led an operation to enforce peace in Somalia and continue to provide humanitarian aid. This resolution was called the Unified Task Force (UNITAF). The personnel was more heavily armed than the last, "to which 24

countries contributed some 37,000 troops" (Britannica, T. Editors of Encyclopaedia, 2014). This had more success in disarming several clans, but they didn't have the authorisation to benefit either warlord as that would be an intervention to balance the war.

In March of 2023, it was made a transfer of forces from the UNITAF to the now-created UNOSOM II had the ambitious purpose of disarming civilians, restoring the government and arresting Muhammad Farah Aydid.

This provoked the infamous battle of Mogadishu, where the US troops took 24 prisoners from the Olympic hotel in Mogadishu intending to capture Muhammad Farah Aydid, but he was not there. Instead, during the extraction in Black Hawk helicopters, the special force sent was taken down by Somali fighters. The extraction of the survivors from the UN and US efforts was the fight taken in the city, which ended up in the death of 18 US soldiers and "700 to 1,500 Somalis died (the total is unknown)" (Swift, 2024). This event was then turned into a movie called "Black Hawk Down" in 2001.

After this battle, the US retired all its troops in 1994. In March of 1995, UNOSOM II ended, and whilst it successfully protected the citizens, it couldn't restore peace in Somalia.

CURRENT SITUATION

Now, as part of the confrontation of Somaliland with Somalia to obtain international recognition of its

independence, both nations are trying to acquire the territory of Las Anod located between Somaliland and Puntland. This conflict is mainly fought by the of Somaliland forces and the Dhulbahante clan from the north of Somalia. The clan of Dhulbahante proceeded with this conflict, claiming that they wanted to create their nation still annexed to Puntland, having Las Annod as a Capital. On the other hand, Somaliland claims that by gaining Las Anod, they could receive international recognition to expand into the global market.

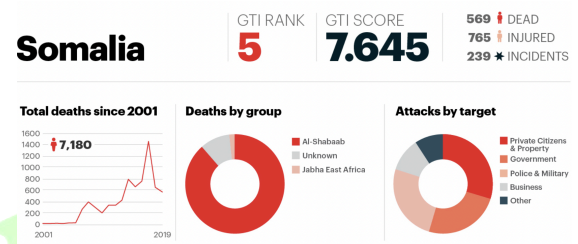
Apart from this, there are some actors that may play as variables, such as the pressure applied by the citizens of Somaliland, taking into account the insulation of Las Anod caused because of the armed conflict, the Al-Shabaab that is said to be an influence of the civil support, the position of Somaliland and the one of the Dhulbahante.

This conflict has provoked 299 deaths and an impressive displacement of 200,000 citizens to nearby areas/countries like Ethiopia and Puntland, which are also areas that require assistance with humanitarian aid, making this conflict very complex for the people.

The growth of the extremist Islamic group Al-Shabaab:

In Somalia, currently, one of the significant threats to the people is presented by the group Al-Shabab. This is a terrorist group created in South Somalia because of the

banditry in this region, a consequence of the fall of Siad Barre in 2004. This group is strongly annexed to al-Qaeda, having many of its members from it and also its objective. It has as an al-Qaeda a very extremist vision of Islam and the purpose of “purifying” Somalia and Kenya, where Somalia is already an Islamic country. its stadistics are the following ones:



(Global Terrorism Index, n.d.)

It has made significant attacks during the attempts to restore peace in Somalia, such as the Transitional Government that was placed in the early 2000s. These types of separatist attacks and the constant search for control in the south of the region make the government fear a possible expansion to the north where Las Anod is located.

This is why the president of Somaliland, Muse Bixi, relates the rising discontent among the population of Somaliland to the Al-Sabbab. Apart from this, there is a fear that Al-Sabbab will use the current tension in Las Anod to take control of this territory.

Somaliland:

Somaliland considers itself a legitimate state, but this is not legitimate if it's not accepted by the international community. It has an established population and

government, its own currency and security forces and issues its passports, but as it is not recognised by any country apart from Taiwan, which is going through a similar situation, it is considered a solid federal state with which it would not be proper to make any type of international trade.

Apart from this, the Somalilanders are mainly from the Isaaq clan, which has some different traditions from the rest of the Somalians, making them have an ethnic distinction. At the same time, it compares itself to Somalia regarding liberties and economy.

First, making reference to Freedom Index, Somaliland has a “44/100-Partly Free” (*Somaliland: Freedom in the World 2023 Country Report, 2023*) while Somalia had an “8/100-Not Free” (*Somalia: Freedom in the World 2023 Country Report, 2023*)

In terms of economy, Somaliland isn't significantly developed, but this has been related to its lack of legitimacy. Because it cannot make international trading properly by itself because of its ties to Somalia, Somaliland does not have an extensive contribution from its exports. This creates instability in the economy, forcing its citizens to travel abroad to send remittances (work in another country to send resources to someone in their original country) to their families.

Apart from this, it is not eligible to receive loans from the World Bank as it is not a

legitimised state. At the same time, Somaliland officials declared they would significantly contribute to the international economy because of the broad amount of livestock in the region.

This made the regain of Las Anod after a famous politician, Hadrawi, was killed in Las Anod. There were protests in Las Anod that were answered with the use of military force in 2022, and this started the conflict. This conflict became relevant because if Las Anod separated from Somaliland, it would weaken the argument for the legitimacy of Somaliland, nulling the effort for recognition since 1991. This would If this conflict prevails for longer it would decrease the recognition of democracy and peace by Somaliland, putting it in an uncomfortable position.

The Dhulbahante clan

The Dhulbahante clan is a native of Las Anod. This clan has shown to have a clear discontent towards the massive killings happening in Las Anod as the ones that were mentioned previously. Therefore, apart from fighting against the Somaliland forces, they claim to annex themselves to the Federal state of Somalia as an independent nation called SSC-Khaatumo.

Under these same principles, the Dhulbahante clan has emphasised its position on the illegitimacy of Somaliland's independence. It has been stated that Somaliland has considerable economic instability, and also, based on

the Las Anos conflict, it has security instability, making it illegitimate in many ways.

The battle in Las Anod is continuous, and the multiple attempts for a ceasefire on Las Anod from Somaliland and the international community have failed. It is thought that a contribution to these failures is the lack of involvement from the UN to help both parties reach an agreement.

OBJECTIVE OF THE COMMITTEE

In this case, the aim of the committee is to promote the establishment of a peace agreement between Somaliland and the Dhulbahante clan. To do so, it will be necessary to explore concepts such as sovereignty and legitimacy to find a proper solution to this ongoing conflict and evaluate if Somaliland is a legitimate state that deserves recognition with its respective implications on the conflict.

Also, it is essential to address the surrounding topics, such as the current state of Somalia and the Al-Shabbab, as Somalia is widely considered a failed state for the reasons explained in the Historical background, which is affecting Somaliland now and is considered to be part of Somalia.

Also, the Al-Shabbab is essential as it, being an insurgent extremist Islamic group, could have played an essential role in the rebelión in Las Anod and could play it to take its control over Las Anod indirectly.

If the committee decides to apply sanctions to send troops for humanitarian purposes, declare the need for an R2P, provide legitimacy to either party or concentrate on humanitarian protection, it will be required that the committee prioritizes the peace and security inside the region and apply the international law appropriately to do so.

ORIENTATION QUESTIONS:

- ¿Does my delegation recognise Somaliland as a legitimate state?
- ¿Did my delegation take place in any previous attempt to solve the situation in Las Anod or in Somalia in general?
- ¿What does define a failed state?
- ¿Which type of solution could my country support?
- ¿Which factors could promote a mutual agreement?
- ¿Which party is the most worth supporting in this conflict due to its potential relational power?

SUPPORT LINKS

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PNqX1a1vUgs>

<https://www.diis.dk/en/research/conflict-in-las-anod-and-crisis-in-somaliland>

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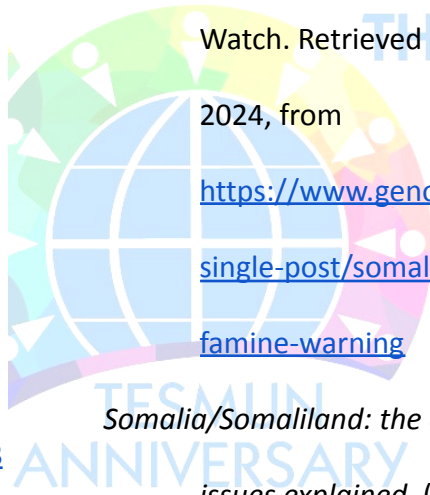
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