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*ASMUN Conference 2019*

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# **Committee Guide Historic Security Council**



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## CHAIRS

### **GIJS VAN DE MERBEL**

"Dear delegates, my name is Gijs van de Merbel and I will be co-chairing the Historic Security Council. I graduated from CS Vincent van Gogh in 2017 and am currently in the second year of my bachelor's degree in physics at the University of Groningen. After having partaken in several MUNs, this will be the first time as a chair. If I'm not breaking my head over a physics problem or telling delegates to please not address each other directly, I enjoy attending concerts, watching movies and consuming the occasional beer or ten.

I have known my co-chair Jord since the first year of high school, and will try to keep him in check over the course of the day, but of course I cannot guarantee anything ;)

You as delegates, as well as us as chairs, have gotten lucky to partake in what is certainly the most interesting of all committees: The Historic Security Council. I am looking forward to seeing the tough questions, smart responses and thorough resolutions you come up with over the course of ASMUN!"

### **JORDXCHAIR: LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT - JORD NIJHUIS**

It was a warm summer day in January while Jord was walking through the empty hallway. In the past, it would be unusually hot for this time of year, but climate change made this a regular occurrence. Jord didn't think much of the temperature and wandered through the building like a mindless zombie; he had not found a purpose in life and as such, was forced to "go with the flow" as the youngsters say these days.

That is not to say that this did not have its advantages; life is full of surprises and he kept finding plenty of them. Not only did he finish High school in some miraculous way, he also participated in multiple MUN-conferences and even got to organise one himself. After this, he could not decide which programme to take, so he did what everybody does: Study the law at the closest university to home, which would be the University of Groningen.

Yet, today he felt different, he felt the need to take life by the horn. So here he is, walking through the hallway with his metaphorical whip, ready to dominate every challenge that comes in his way. With an increasing pace he stormed to the door of the nearest room. He dashed for the handle and opened the door. As he glared into the almost empty room, he felt the whip disappearing; every emotion he felt before is now gone. Because in that room was his one weakness, his one true love he never knew he had; a chair. As he walked towards the chair, his confidence turned into nervousness. He wanted to speak up, yet all his words disappeared like so many did under the KGB in Soviet-Russia. Yet, that did not stop him. He kept moving forward, reaching his arm out towards the chair. He could feel that the chair wanted to do the same, but the chair did not have arms; only legs. As they made contact, they fused and became one: Jord is now the chair. This is truly how it is meant to be.

Author's Note: There you have it kids, this is the most accurate representation of how I became chair. If you are really weirded out right now: when requesting each chair to write an introduction, the Inner Circle mentioned that love stories "are welcome".

## COUNTRIES IN THE COMMITTEE

- China
- Russia
- United Kingdom
- United States of America
- France
- Argentina
- Botswana
- Czech Republic
- Germany
- Honduras
- Indonesia
- Italy
- Nigeria
- Oman
- Rwanda

## THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The United Nations Security Council, established in 1945 as one of the six principal organs of the United Nations, is known to be the United Nations' smallest and most powerful council, counting no more than 15 Member States. The main purpose of the United Nations Security Council is to maintain international peace and security. In order to manage high degree of urgency issues, the Security Council has to be able to respond quickly and strong to crisis situations, which is why the Council has been granted powers that other councils have not. Before going in depth about the Council's unique powers, another look should be taken at the Member States of the Security Council. Unlike other councils, the Security Council contains five permanent Member States: The People's Republic of China, the Republic of France, the Russian Federation, the United States of America and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Not only do these Member States own a permanent membership of the United Nations Security Council, all five permanent Member States have been granted the unconditional power to veto a resolution or amendment during Substantive Voting, in other words: whenever one of these five veto-powers votes 'no' during Substantive Voting, an amendment or a resolution fails. The other 10 non-permanent Member States are being elected by the General Assembly for a period of 2 years.

As mentioned before, the Security Council has several powers at its disposal. The first and most important 'power', is that all nations under the United Nations Charter have to comply with the Council's decisions. If a Member State fails to comply, the Council is able to enforce measurements in order to pressure the Member State to comply with its decisions. These

measurements are also few of the powers only the Security Council has been granted. The measurements categorized as these powers are: blockades, economic sanctions, embargoes, financial restrictions and travel bans and also severance of diplomatic relations. Furthermore, the Council has the power to appoint special envoys, dispatch missions (e.g. sending peacekeeping forces) and to investigate and mediate. In order to utilize such a power, the Security Council is to include the desired power in the resolution after which the resolution, through voting procedure, has to be accepted.

## THE HISTORIC SECURITY COUNCIL

Now that is clear what the Security Council is, it is time to explain the difference between the Security Council and the Historic Security Council. As mentioned before, the Security Council is a council that discusses issues with a high level of urgency: these are usually issues that are showing worrisome developments and thus are happening at that very moment. The Historic Security Council, however based on the Security Council, discusses issues that were critical at a certain time in the past and that have already been discussed by the United Nations Security Council. As the committee session of 22 September 1995 is to be simulated during ASMUN, **delegates are not allowed to use any knowledge of beyond 21 September 1995.**

## THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL OF 1995 (UP UNTIL THE 22ND OF SEPTEMBER)

The Security Council of 1995 welcomes all member states to the meeting of September 22, 1995. We have gathered today to discuss the recent extremities and hostile acts performed in The Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Currently a number of member states of Yugoslavia express a need to reform and gain independence, unfortunately, as we currently see in the state of Bosnia and Herzegovina this can only be achieved through inhuman acts of foolish violence and political power struggles, in which multiple human rights are violated. The state of Bosnia and Herzegovina is facing a humanitarian crisis which entails that the state is faced with discrimination of unseen proportions leading to the mass genocide of certain groups within the state's borders, and in turn results in mass amounts of refugees flooding multiple European state borders and forcing individuals to defect. We call upon the Security Council of 1995 to draft a resolution to cease these inhuman actions urgently and introduce a suitable long term solution in order to prevent further escalation or relapse of this dilemma.



## THE BOSNIAN GENOCIDE

### THE SOCIALIST FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA

Plans for a united South Slavic state had already been established in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, however until the 19<sup>th</sup> century, no actions were taken in order to realize such a South Slavic state. In 1918, the Kingdom of Serbia, the Kingdom of Montenegro and ex-territories of the Austrian-Hungary Empire created the precursor to what would eventually become the *Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia: The Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes*, later changing its name to the *Kingdom of Yugoslavia*. When in 1941 the Kingdom was occupied by the Axis powers (the allies Germany, Italy and Japan), the Kingdom of Yugoslavia came to an end.

The fall of the unity of the South Slavic state did not destroy the idea of a united South Slavic state: when in 1946 Josip Broz Tito and his communist-led partisans helped liberate the states from Nazi-German rule, the *Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia* was born. The Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia contained 6 republics: Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro, Macedonia and the autonomous provinces in Serbia: Kosovo and Vojvodina. A constitution similar to that of the Soviet Union and politically centralized views was what President Tito, leader of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia, led the Federal Republic. During the Cold War, the Republic of Yugoslavia at first sided with the Soviet Union, though due to its political views, the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia remained neutral, becoming one of the founding members of the Non-Aligned Movement. After the split with the Soviet Union, the Republic of Yugoslavia had become increasingly dependent on market mechanism, with its most important aspect being 'Workers' self-management' (1976: Law on Associated Labour). The new system led to an extraordinary economic growth in the Republic, supporting President Tito's rule.



## PRESIDENT SLOBODAN MILOSEVIC



President Tito led the Republic under the motto of 'Brotherhood and Unity', suppressing nationalism and ethnic tensions within and between the six republics, sometimes with force. The death of Tito in 1980 was a turning point for the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia: with rising hyperinflation, rising ethnic tensions, growing nationalism and the worldwide fall of communism, the beginning of the Yugoslav wars leading to the break-up of the Republic had started taking shape. The members of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia held their last meeting under the rule of the new Serbian president Slobodan Milosevic, as this president only helped increase tensions between the different

republics, as he stimulated the discontent of the Serbs in the neighbouring republics, who in some republics and regions made up a noteworthy amount or even majority of the population.

The two autonomous provinces in Serbia were a worry to Belgrade, as it was believed that Belgrade did not hold as much authority over the regions as over the other republics. As a consequence, Milosevic supporters managed to not only overthrow the authorities in the autonomous provinces, but also the authorities of Montenegro. After placing allies of Milosevic into power over these regions, a voting block had been created for Serbian president Milosevic. The actions of Milosevic's supporters and allies eventually led to the abolishment of the autonomous province of Kosovo. The republics of the Social Federalist Republic of Yugoslavia publicly criticized the events leading to this outcome, with special notice to Slovenia.

During a meeting of the League of Communists Yugoslavia following these events, Serbia made clear that their interests laid in the unity of the republic, while on the contrary, Slovenia made clear that they wanted more autonomy. As the tensions rose between these two sides, Slovenia left the meeting and was later followed by Croatia and Macedonia who shared Croatia's feelings concerning autonomy, resulting in the dissolution of the League of Communist Yugoslavia; this was the League's last meeting.

## THE CROATIAN INDEPENDENCE

Multi-party elections were held in the six republics of the Social Federal Republic of Yugoslavia following the dissolution of the League of Communist Yugoslavia. In Croatia, the Croatian Democratic Union party gained a majority of the votes. The leader of the CDU, Franjo Tudjman, stimulated the independence of Croatia: the declaration of independence of Croatia quickly came into being. A problem with Croatia's independence however, was that some of the Croatian regions contained a majority of Serbs, who became very concerned by the idea of an independent Croatia. In order to understand this, we need to go back to WWII: around this time, when Croatia was still an independent republic, the independent Croatian state sided with Nazi-Germany and took part in the Holocaust,



committing genocide against the ethnic Serbs. As these atrocities against the Serbs had happened about only half a century ago, the Croatian Serbs were not very enthusiastic about the idea of an independent Croatia.

The concerns of the Serbs who made up majorities in certain regions of Croatia were expressed through acts of rebellion, like in the town of Knin. In reaction to these rebellion acts, Croatian Special Forces were sent to the conflicting areas, only to be accompanied by Yugoslav Army fighter jets, who demanded for the aircrafts to return to their bases or to remain and be shot down. Making the obvious choice, the Croatian Special Forces returned back to base. The presence of the Yugoslav National Army showed that these acts of rebellion were not small nor to be ignored: the Serbian rebellion had gained the attention and support from the Yugoslav government. After the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia showed their support to ethnic Serbs in Croatia and started providing them with weapons to use against the Croats, an increasing number of ethnic Serbs joined the rebellion and claimed the power in the regions they dominated, as marked red in the figure on the right. The three regions marked red in the top right of Croatia on the map, declared their independence from Croatia in 1991 and sought unification with the Serbian Republic. The year 1991 has also been marked as the year in which the Croatian war started.



## THE YUGOSLAV WARS

As not only Croatia, but also Slovenia officially declared their independence on the 25<sup>th</sup> of June 1991, the conflict area expanded: although the focus was still on the war between Croatia and the Serbs, Slovenia could no longer be ignored by the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. A Yugoslav army travelled to Slovenia, to politely ask them to withdraw their independence, which Slovenia refused, resulting in the ten-day war. The ten-day war was won by Slovenia and secured their independence from the Yugoslav Republic. The Slovenians were let go this easily, due to a lack of Serbian interest in their independence. As the Serbian Republic was not interested in the Slovenian independence of the South Slavic state, they did not grant the Yugoslav army permission to continue the war that had started. It seems that the Socialist Yugoslav Republic, led by a Serbian president interested in the idea of a dominant Serbian state known as 'Greater Serbia', only shows interest in republics with a noteworthy number of ethnic Serbs making up the population, like Croatia. After the 10-day war, the focus returned to Croatia's declared independence. Unlike in Slovenia, where the number of Serbs is negligible, the Serbian rebels together with the Yugoslav army turned the rebellion into the Croatian War of Independence even before the start of the ten-day war. In the meantime, several battles concerning Croatian cities like the city of Vukovar had started to develop. With thousands of deaths and more than 600.000 refugees, the Croatian War of Independence has proven itself to not be taken lightly.

During this series of events that took place in the Croatian War of Independence, the Republic of Macedonia managed to declare its independence and is the only republic that managed to gain its independency peacefully so far.

When in 1992, a ceasefire according to the Vance-plan of the UN was implemented, the UN asked its member countries to supply troops, which would act as a peacekeeping force in the three zones in Croatia earlier called out as UN 'safe zones'. As the Vance-plan managed to stop major military operations, the conflict slowly but surely decreased in its intensity. This year, 1995, after four years of fighting, we can officially say that the fighting in Croatia has ended, with Croatia having reclaimed almost all of its original territory. Furthermore, due to the UN their intervention in the war, the focus of the Serbians has shifted to the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, who around the same time proclaimed their own independence.



## THE BOSNIAN WAR

In 1971, Muslims represented by far the largest population group in Bosnia and Herzegovina. During the period of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, many Croats and Serbs moved to the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina: in 1991, the population incorporated about 44% Bosniak, 31% Serb and 17% Croatian civilians, leading to a shift in Bosniak politics. Consequently, the three ethnicities were represented by different parties in the republic's coalition agreement and became the base for the Carrington-Cutileiro Plan. In order to prevent the Bosnian Republic from becoming part of the Yugoslav Wars, the Carrington-Cutileiro Plan was set-up after the EC Peace Conference in 1992 by Lord Carrington and Spanish ambassador Cutileiro. In short, the plan meant to divide the Bosnian Republic in three kinds of districts: Serbian districts, Croatian districts and Bosnian districts. The Bosniak president made clear not to be willing to support any division of Bosnia and withdrew his signature a few months after agreeing to the plan.

Despite the efforts made to prevent the tensions inside and outside the republic from rising, tensions were only stimulated by events like the falling apart of the Republic of Yugoslavia and the rise in Serb rebellions. This resulted in the opportunity for the Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic to succeed from the Bosnian government with his Serbian Democratic Party and to set up the Serbian National Assembly, who later blocked the Bosnian referendum about independency from the Yugoslav Republic in many Serb-populated regions. Despite Karadzic's efforts to prevent Bosnia and Herzegovina from leaving the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the referendum vote led to president Izetbegovic proclaiming independence in 1992.

Not only had the Bosnian republic declared its independency, the Bosnian Serbs too declared their independency calling it the 'Republic Srpska', which did not gain international recognition. This led to the dissolution of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia on the 27<sup>th</sup> of April, 1992. On the 28<sup>th</sup> of April 1992, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia was established, incorporating only Montenegro and Serbia. The United Nations

Security Council did not accept the new Republic's automatic membership in the place of its former socialist republic, according to Resolution 777.

Just like the Croatian Serbs managed to take control of regions in Croatia through rebellion, the Bosnian Serbs began to taking control of Serb-dominated areas as well as Muslim-



dominated areas in Bosnia. Simultaneously with these events, the Bosnian Serb forces supported by Milosevic and the Yugoslav armed forces began their siege of the countries' capital, Sarajevo, which to this day is still ongoing. The siege began with a massive bombardment of the city, resulting in many sights like the one on the left. The Serbs launched attacks on Bosniak-dominated regions in eastern Bosnia under the lead of Karadzic, who promised the Serbs independence for all Serb areas in Bosnia, expelling the Bosniak civilians in brutal manners. Serbs began to segregate the Muslims and Croats and sent the Muslims to prisons and concentration camps like Omarska and Trnopolje. The prisoners were being denied food and water,

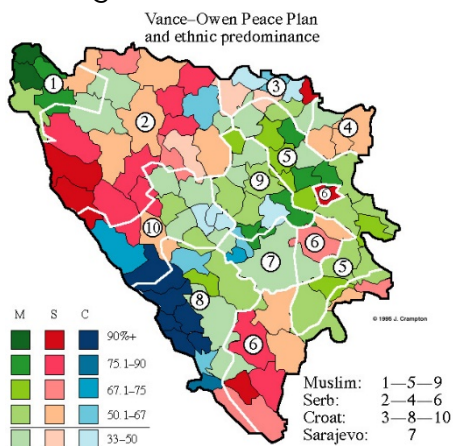
were tortured, sexually assaulted, raped and killed. The act of segregating the Muslims and other non-Serbs from the rest of the population in these areas was later declared 'ethnic cleansing' (expulsion of a group from a geographical area, whereas genocide focuses on the total destruction of an ethnic group, both handling methods like rape, murder, torture and forcible displacement) though the UN General Assembly declared the 'ethnic cleansing' a form of genocide in Resolution 47/121, which passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> of December. The goal of this 'ethnic cleansing' was the unification of the multiple Serb-dominated areas, which are supposed to contribute to the plan of a 'Greater Serbia'.

Likewise, Bosnian Croats claim Croatia-dominated regions in Bosnia and created the Croatian Republic of Herzeg-Bosnia, which is not internationally recognized as a state. The Croatian Republic of Herzeg-Bosnia clashed with the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, resulting in the Croat-Bosniak War, which lasted from 1992 until 1994 and came to an end due to western intervention. The west pressured Croatia and Bosnia to establish peace under the Washington Agreement, which was set-up with help of the new American president Clinton. Furthermore, the Washington Agreement meant that the Bosnian and Croatian forces had to join forces against the Serbian forces, defending Bosnian territory. President Clinton also ordered for sanctions to be implied to prevent Serbian Montenegro from joining the Bosnian War. In 1993, Bosnian Serb forces controlled about three-quarters of the Republic of Bosnia. Many Bosnian Croats had already begun fleeing the country, while a smaller, though still remarkable number of Bosnian Croats decided to stay in small villages. Around this time, NATO started backing up Croatian and Bosnian forces in their fight against the Serbs in the form of close air support as well as UN troops stationed in Bosnia. During this operation - Operation Deny Flight, NATO and the UN are working closely.

## SREBRENICA

One of the most recent and probably most wide-known events in this conflict is the Srebrenica Massacre. Srebrenica was a town to which many Bosniaks sought refuge after fleeing their homes. In 1993, a UN ambassador visited the town and as the ambassador wanted to leave, Bosnian Serbs had already surrounded the area. The Bosniaks would not let the ambassador go and begged him to guarantee them their safety and to send help. The UN ambassador announced the village under UN protection. In reaction to this, the United Nations Security Council unanimously adopted Resolution 819 declaring Srebrenica and other Bosniak populated areas 'Safe Areas', meaning they were under the protection of UN peacekeeping forces.

Meanwhile, the United Nations set up the Vance-Owen plan: The Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina was to be divided into ten ethnic regions, three Bosniak regions, three



Croatian regions, and three Serb regions and one neutral region, containing the country's capital Sarajevo. The Bosnian president, the Bosnian Croatian president, the Croatian president and even the Bosnian Serb president Karadzic were all in favour of the plan, however the National Assembly of Republika Srpska of president Karadzic rejected the plan as it meant giving up a lot of the territory the Bosnian Serbs had already conquered. Due to this rejection, the Vance-Owen peace plan is considered 'dead'.

Before the attack on Srebrenica, tensions started rising between the different forces. When in 1994, the Bosnian

Serb forces launched a mortar attack on a market in Sarajevo killing 68 civilians, NATO demanded the Bosnian Serbs to withdraw their troops from the hills surrounding Sarajevo within a period of ten days. However, as the Bosnian Serbs wanted to show their military superiority over the Bosniaks, they refused to do so. This led to a series of events between NATO and the Bosnian Serbs harassing each other.

In the summer of 1995, just a few months ago, Bosnian Serbs entered the town of Srebrenica, surprising the Dutch peacekeeping forces stationed there. The Bosnian Serbs immediately began separating the women and girls from the men and boys, killing the men and boys either directly or at mass killing sites. The women and girls were brought to Bosnian Serb territory, where they were sexually assaulted and raped. The amount of Bosniaks killed at Srebrenica is estimated to be more than 7.000 civilians.

The atrocities of Srebrenica were followed by another mortar attack at Sarajevo, resulting in an increasing number of civilian deaths. In reaction to this, NATO is dropping bombs at several Bosnian Serb targets, which has started this month. This ongoing operation is part Operation Deliberate Force.

With NATO dropping bombs on a large scale, Bosnian Serbs conducting not just an ethnic cleansing but a genocide in its purest form and no end in sight for the Bosnian War, it is clear that with all these shocking events and still many civilian lives at stake, the upcoming meeting is of utmost importance.

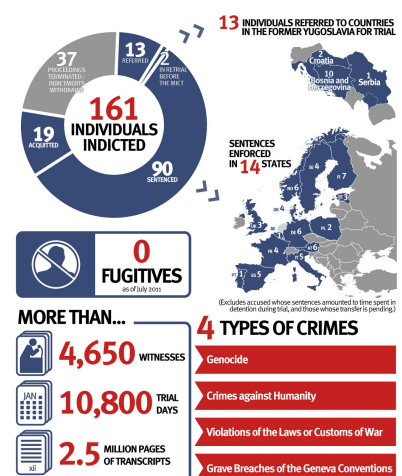
## INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE

The consequences and the years after these unlawful massacres were dreadful as one could imagine. Many criminals who played a part in the looting, robbery, assault etc. were not able to receive punishment for their actions, because of the distraught state the Bosnian government was in at the time. This meant that, unfortunately, the guilty and dangerous continued to roam the streets as if nothing had ever happened. In the HSC resolution you must therefore come up with a solution so this problem wouldn't have happened. Criminals and convicts should be treated as such.

After the war and the massacres one of the main questions that many councils and court had dealt with was: "Can the Bosnian/ Serbian genocide be declared a genocide?" A genocide is a number of acts aimed at the physical or biological destruction of protected groups. Many argued that this was not the case during the Bosnian genocide, while others argued that mainly Muslims and Bosnians were the victims of the assaults, classifying it a genocide. For many organizations the classification of this conflict was essential, before judges and committees could pronounce a suitable punishment for these crimes. Only in the 21st century did committees and councils like the United State Senate House and the European Court of Human rights draw up resolutions to ensure the safety and protection of those in the conflict zones, years after the conflict had initially erupted. The United Nations General Assembly immediately gathered on the other hand and had drawn up multiple resolutions on different occasions.

This conflict and the fall of Yugoslavia resulted in the murder, assault and persecution of thousands of Bosnian (Muslim) men and women. This mass murder caused for the population to drastically decrease and for many Bosnian (Muslim) men and women to defect, to for example Jihad, or to flee to another country. Only when the rest of Europe noticed the extreme circumstances of these massacres, did these massacres stop, thanks to involvement from foreign parties. In 1991 about 250000 inhabitants of Bosnia were murdered, 35000 women were raped and 2 million were displaced, resulting in extremely high rising stress levels. The HSC resolution must therefore include that the safety and identity of these individuals will be guaranteed and that those who voluntarily choose to persecute these individuals, consequences in the form of judicial punishment shall follow.

As a result within Yugoslavia The Security Council established The International Criminal Tribune for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) in 1993. The ICTY is truly a milestone for the UN and international courts of justice, for it is the first war-crimes court set up and funded fully by the UN. Crimes that are likely to be discussed in this court are the extreme violations of human rights, such as the mass murders of specific demographic groups, rape and other forms of sexual assault, burglary, enslavement etc.



Another consequence of the ongoing Yugoslavian war and Bosnian genocide is the drastic decrease in health of the citizens and the scarcity of quality health care, especially in Croatia in 1991-1994 during the Croatian war. The ICTY could only offer assistance to an extent, when a crime against the health care system, such as abuse of patient information, is being committed. Infective diseases spread like wildfire throughout the population of the former Yugoslavia due to the lack of healthcare and the state the civilians were forced to live in. Many diseases people had to cope with were caused by high stress levels, these were diseases like heart disease, kidney failure, diabetes etc. which in addition made it easier for someone to become infected with an infective disease. The patient stress and the welfare state resulted in declining birth rates and pre-natal development, the likelihood of an infant being born with a physical or mental defect was therefore much larger, and also the likelihood of an infant not being born at all, which caused only more stress for the parents,



especially physical stress for the mother. Thousands of people died during the migrations in Bosnia and Kosovo alone due to stress-related diseases, and many more during the multiple conflicts in the states that made up the former Yugoslavia. Putting this into perspective, we can conclude that the biggest reason for the thousands of deaths in Bosnia aren't from physical murder and persecution, but stress-related illnesses. The switch from a centralized socialistic economy to a free-market economy played a big role in

the increasing stress levels of the individuals as well. Therefore, something must be done to take the conflict head-on and in doing that also secure a well-functioning health care system.

## BLOC POSITIONS

### THE WEST

With the end of the Cold War, the Balkan countries lost their important position in the west and in the international community. As the west had lost their interest in the Balkans, it felt no direct reason to intervene in the conflict. Furthermore, as the Yugoslav wars and Bosnian wars do have aspects similar to civil wars, the west felt no urging need to side with an involved party. With increasing pressure of the international community, western governments are slowly starting to play a forceful roll, though are attempting to limit the harshness committed against the Bosniaks, while desperately trying to avoid long-term involvement in order to prevent the conflict and engagement in the conflict from damaging their reputations. This is partly, because it at first was hard to determine what side to join, as all parties have good reasons for their position. With help of the UN, western troops are being stationed in the conflict area as peacekeeping forces, supposed to protect the

Bosniaks from the Serbs. Through the European Community, one of the west's key players, the European Countries have tried to set-up plans concerning peace, like the Carrington-Cutileiro plan and Vance-Owen plan. They have been and are pressuring the heads of the parties to take part in serious peace negotiations. Now, after the Srebrenica massacre, the western governments are determined to come to a solution ending the atrocities, involving both parties and peace, as soon as possible.

## ASIA

Islam is considered the largest religion within Asian borders, which makes the persecution of Bosnian Muslims a matter that touches many Asian Muslims, and also the governing leaders of Asia. Especially West-Asian countries, the Arabic region, have majority Muslim populations. These countries also have quite strong military forces, due to wars between the states within these regions. This unfortunately means, that during this period in time, these states are considered extremely unstable and their main focus will hardly be shifted to a problem that does not affect them directly, in this case that would be the Bosnian War/Genocide. Therefore, only East-Asian countries are left over to assist in this crisis. In the past few years we have seen some form of economic growth taking place in certain countries, such as China. This could mean that Asian countries could potentially provide assistance in monetary funding if they wish to do so, and even in military forces if they possess it. Of course, these regions can provide additional strategical and logistical support if they see fit. The main goal of these countries is to minimize the effects of the persecutions and come to a solution, so this won't happen in the future.

## MIDDLE EAST

While the Middle East is primarily occupied by its own wars (like the war between Israel and Palestine), member states of the Middle East find themselves in a dilemma when it comes to choosing a side. Up until now, the Middle East has not shown any involvement nor interest in the Bosnian war. Several reasons may be drawn up to explain this odd behavior, considering the Bosnian Genocide concerns Muslims (note that the vast Middle East incorporates a majority of Islamic States). This argument however, can be countered with the knowledge that Saudi Wahhabi sect (thus not all Arab Muslims) in the Arab states despises the Islamic traditions as held onto in the former Ottoman and Balkan states. Furthermore, as is well-known, the Arab states are very anti-American, just like Serbian president Milosevic. This shared hatred towards America is something that can really bond these two parties. Lastly, historic links may exist between Communist states, like Yugoslavia, and the Arab States, giving the Arab states another reason to lean towards the side of the Serbians. Though most of this reasoning is based on claims, we may be yet to be surprised by the Arab states in the upcoming meeting.

## AFRICA

Africa is one of the regions in the world that has seen mass exploitation at its worst and are therefore able to share sympathy with the Bosnians. States within this region have faced, in colonial times, the same crimes that many Bosnians deal with today and had to deal with mass genocides as well. Therefore, African states have the knowledge and experience that is required to deal with the mass exploitation and persecution of these (minority) groups. Also considering that a large part of the African population, prominently the north of Africa, is Muslim, the fact that Bosnian Muslims are being persecuted touches many African states. Taking into account that African states simply are not able to provide assistance in the form of funding or military support, they should consider other ways to contribute to the problem, whether it be strategical or logistical support or support towards the victims during and after the crisis. The main goal of these states is to provide support in any way possible, considering the current economic state, whether it be through logistical, strategical or refugee support.

## LATIN-AMERICA

Just as many African states, Latin-American states have a rich history concerning colonialism and therefore also large scale exploitation. Nowadays Latin-American states are known for their beautiful nature and rich culture, but sadly also for the poverty stricken slums and corrupt governments. Therefore, Latin-American states are in the same boat as African states. Providing assistance in the form of funding is possible, however this can only be granted by the more well faring states within the region, and assistance in the form of military intervention is virtually impossible, if you take into account that the Latin-American armies are quite small and haven't been active for quite some time, and that Latin-America is too far away from Yugoslavia. Therefore, many Latin-American states should consider the possibility of assisting the victims, for example through PTSD and stress therapy by professionals, or through logistical and strategical assistance in the UNSC. The main goal of these states is to seek ways to provide assistance any way possible, regarding the economic stability and the resources that are currently available.

## QUESTIONS A RESOLUTION MUST ADDRESS (QARMA'S)

We believe the delegations will be able to recognize points that need to be addressed during the conference and that need to be included in a good resolution, with help of this committee guide.

Best of luck, delegates.



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