
ASSEN MODEL UNITED NATIONS 2020
COMMITTEE GUIDE
SECURITY COUNCIL



Taking action in regard to the terrorist organization Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM).

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CHAIRS

Maksim Tibben

Hello, I'm Maksim Tibben and I will be chairing at the ASMUN conference. I'm excited to see how you will be dealing with problems and how you will work together to make sure you solve your committees' problem. I hope to see many creative ideas and ensure you will improve your debating and public speaking skills. I have been part of multiple MUN's and I have always enjoyed participating. I will see you at the conference!

Dominique Hemmes

My name is Dominique, 18 years old and I am in VWO TTO 6 at the moment. The past few years I have participated in several MUN conferences, but this is going to be my first time as a chair. I am looking forward to the conference. As a chair, I hope to make sure that you have as much fun as I had when I participated in my previous MUN's!

WRITER

Dear delegates,

First of all, I wish you a very nice time during ASMUN. I enjoyed researching the matters in the Sahel region regarding AQIM. For me it was really interesting studying this topic, so I hope you will enjoy it too. It is a major conflict so do your best to make a perfect resolution to solve this crisis, good luck!!

Kind regards,
Pim Beute

COUNTRIES IN THE COMMITTEE

- The United States of America
- People's Republic of China
- Russian Federation
- French Republic
- The United Kingdom
- Libya
- Italy
- Egypt
- Morocco
- Nigeria
- Tunisia
- Sudan
- Burkina Faso
- Chad
- Algeria
- South Africa



HISTORY OF 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.



INSURGENCY IN THE MAGHREB: WHAT IS GOING ON?

Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb is an Algerian Islamic terrorist organization. Its original purpose was to overthrow the Algerian regime in order to establish an Islamic state in Algeria. The group adheres to the Salafi movement within Islam. AQIM is the successor of the '*Salafiste pour la Prédication et le Combat*' (GSPC) Group. In 2006, the GSPC joined the Al Qaeda global terrorist network. In its early years, the GSPC was mainly active in the periphery of the Kabyle, a mountainous area in northern Algeria.



The terror group was guilty of attacks on the Algerian army, the Algerian police and the Algerian authorities. From 2003, citizens also increasingly became the target of the GSPC / AQIM. Already in 2003, the GSPC said it supported the terrorist activities of Al Qaeda. In September 2006, the GSPC joined the global terrorist network of Al Qaeda, and in January 2007 the group changed its name to "Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb." Whether the AQIM and Al Qaida actually work together or whether it is just a symbolic connection cannot be said with certainty, but the number of attacks carried out by AQIM has increased sharply since the beginning of 2007. The current AQIM is active in Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Libya. Militia from AQIM are also active in Western Europe, in particular in France and the United States. It is estimated that the current AQIM has around 4,000 members.

AQIM adheres to Salafism, Salafism strives for strict adherence to the Quran as the early days of Islam in the 7th century AD. Initially, the GSPC and later the AQIM wanted to overthrow the secular government of Algeria to establish an Islamist state on the territory of Algeria. The goals of AQIM have constantly broadened, AQIM now has set itself the goal of expelling all the regimes that are apostate in North Africa. The AQIM defines apostate regimes as regimes that are not based on Islam and Sharia. Furthermore, AQIM is conducting a global jihadist struggle against Western countries that, according to the AQIM, endanger Islam and Islamic identity. These are all Western European countries and America. AQIM earns their money for all their attacks by kidnapping people, they have already earned 50 million dollars in the last decade with it.

INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE



In 2013 the French government deployed its military as international response to AQIM to counter an advance by Ansar al Dine. Joining forces together with Chad, but also local troops, France killed or captured key AQIM figures and ousted Islamic leaders from major towns in northern Mali. An enduring French counterterrorism mission in Sahel subsumed

under operation Berkhane has been deployed by France since 2014. In 2013 the U.N. Security Council helped to stabilize Mali by establishing a U.N. peacekeeping operation (MINUSMA), however the operation is not mandated to conduct counterterrorism operations.

The U.S. military also supports Operation Berkhane by providing logistical and intelligence support. The United States also provides counterterrorism assistance including under the Trans-Sahara Counter-Terrorism Partnership (TSCTP) which is a long-running State Department-led interagency initiative, to countries located in North and West Africa. Congress has been funding and providing increased authorities to build foreign partner forces in order to expand Defense Department-administered security cooperation activities in the Sahel over the past decade. The United States has also inflicted targeted sanctions on AQIM and various related groups, and individual leaders within them.



In 2017 Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Burkina Faso, and Chad, five countries known as the G5 Sahel proposed a joint force to counter terrorism and other cross-border threats in the region, an initiative backed by France and the African Union. \$60 million in funding has been pledged by the Trump Administration for the force's constituent militaries in October 2017. Different pledges also have been made by the European Union, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates. Whether or not the joint forces will be successful will remain uncertain, given enduring mutual distrust and capacity shortfalls among G5 member states.



BLOC POSITIONS

Forming a bloc is maybe one of the most important tasks during a MUN. alone as delegate you cannot achieve that much, you need other people to support your ideas and strategies. MUN is not only about solving a major problem by making a resolution, but also about socializing and making new friends. Talk with new people, start to know each other. Ask about their opinion, not only about the MUN topic, but also about other things in life. If you know people better it is easier to make a bloc and work together. If you know how people think you could persuade them to work together with you.

Here are some bloc positions so you know which countries work together, have the same problem or support other countries.

G5 Sahel bloc

Mali, Niger, chad, Burkina Faso and Mauritania are called the G5 Sahel and they formed a joint force to counter terrorism, they are supported by France. All five countries are all French colonies. Their goal is to stop terrorism in the west of Africa.

African bloc

- Libya
- Tunisia
- Nigeria
- Mali
- Mauritania
- Niger
- Burkina Faso
- Chad
- Algeria











All these countries suffer from terrorist attacks by AQIM. Mauritania relies on support from Morocco, France and Algeria to stop the AQIM. Mali also request help from France. The UN is also supporting Mali with peacekeeping missions like MINUSMA,

Supporting bloc


- Italy
- France
- Egypt
- the United Kingdom
- the United States
- Sudan

the United States and United Kingdom started the Operation Enduring Freedom – Trans Sahara to help governments in the region. France deployed a large military group in the Sahel region. The united states supports the attacked countries by sending troops that train the soldiers in that particular countries so they can defend their own country.

Total armed forces:

-  Algeria: 520,000
-  Mauritania: 15,870
-  Tunisia: 45,000; 6,000 deployed in Chaambi
-  Libya: 35,000
-  Mali: 7,350
-  MINUSMA: 9,754
-  AFISMA: 2,900
-  Niger: 12,000
-  Chad: 30,350
-  France: 4,000 deployed in the Sahel

Supported by:

-  United States: 1,325+ advisors, trainers

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