



NHSMUN

C34

BACKGROUND GUIDE

Secretary-General
Terry Wang

Director-General
Jordan Baker

Delegate Experience
Nastasja Vásquez

Global Partnerships
Daniela Maciel
Sebastian Jimenez

Under-Secretaries-General

Nachiketh Anand
Alina Castillo

Seonghyun Chang
Naina Dhawan

Ximena Faz
Kellie Fernandez

Grace Harb
Adiva Ara Khan

Anshul Magal
Analucia Tello

Sofia Velasco
Renata Venzor

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to NHSMUN 2025! My name is Divya Shenoy, and I am thrilled to be serving as your Session I director on the C-34 Committee for Peacekeeping Operations. I am a sophomore at Rice University double majoring in cognitive sciences and social policy analysis. My co-director, Haruko Orozco, and I are looking forward to guiding you through debate and witnessing the insightful perspectives you bring to the table. We have carefully curated topics that are not only timely and relevant, but also require innovation to resolve. The C-34 Committee has never been simulated before at NHSMUN, so this is a great opportunity to break new ground as you develop creative solutions to complex peacekeeping issues.

I have been involved with Model UN since my freshman year of high school, where I held the position of Vice President of Research as a junior. During this time, I mentored underclassmen, assisted with research and position paper writing, and was the editor-in-chief of the current affairs newsletter. This role was incredibly rewarding and encouraged me to continue my Model UN journey in college, where I am now an active member of Rice's club. This will be my second year as a director on the World Health Organization committee for the university's conference. These experiences have not only expanded my understanding of global issues, but also cultivated my leadership skills and allowed me to be a part of a supportive and intellectually stimulating environment.

Outside of academics, I enjoy dancing, playing the violin, photography, and basketball. At Rice, I am a member of the Bollywood fusion dance team, where we participate in national collegiate competitions. I am also a huge music enthusiast and love traveling!

My selection of the topic "Implementing Protective Measures in Jammu and Kashmir" stems from my South Asian background, as well as an interest in keeping up with the region's evolving dynamics over the past few years. Jammu and Kashmir's complex historical and political situation has been a flashpoint for conflict between India and Pakistan for decades, and civilians are facing the brunt of these hostilities. As delegates of the C-34 Committee, you will be navigating the delicate balance between national sovereignty and the need for international intervention to protect human rights and maintain peace. Because this is a highly sensitive topic, the strategies you develop should be respectful of the diverse viewpoints involved. Above all, I encourage you to approach this issue with creativity and a commitment to generating solutions that are both plausible and effective. I am so excited to see the innovative ideas you will bring to committee in March, and I cannot wait to meet you all!

Sincerely,

Divya Shenoy

C-34 Director

Session I

nhsmun.c34@imuna.org



Secretary-General
Terry Wang

Director-General
Jordan Baker

Delegate Experience
Nastasja Vásquez

Global Partnerships
Daniela Maciel
Sebastian Jimenez

Under-Secretaries-General

Nachiketh Anand
Alina Castillo

Seonghyun Chang
Naina Dhawan
Ximena Faz

Kellie Fernandez
Grace Harb

Adiva Ara Khan
Anshul Magal
Analucia Tello

Sofia Velasco
Renata Venzor

Hello Delegates!

My name is Haruko Orozco. I am thrilled to be your Session 2 Director for the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, also known as C-34. I cannot wait to meet all of you and share the topics we will be discussing this year and the information our staff has prepared for all of you! C-34 is a great committee for creating recommendations for all United Nations Peacekeeping Operations. This plays an important role in international peace and humanitarian aid to affected countries. Your participation in this committee is vital, and together, we have the opportunity to come up with meaningful resolutions and international peace efforts.

To give you some information about me, I live in Mexico and am a junior at the University of Monterrey. I study Law, and I plan to minor in Finance. Other than school, I also do research as a research assistant. This semester, I am doing community service and involved in some university student groups. I hope to study abroad in England or France next semester because I would love to travel and get to know many European countries. I love to read, go to concerts, and travel.

This is my second time as a staff member at NHSMUN. Last year, I was the Session 2 Director for CND. I had so much fun last year with my committee, and I am sure we will have a blast during the committee. I hope to have a great and fun experience for you all, and I look forward to meeting all of you. I have also been a delegate many times, so I understand the challenges and opportunities of this role. Therefore, I hope to give you the best advice and guidance during the sessions.

The Committee Sessions are going to be challenging in the best way possible! The committee is going to have intensive sessions of debate, problem-solving, discussions, and teamwork. That is why I encourage every single one of you to research the topics of Intercommunal Violence in South Sudan and Protective Measures in Jammu and Kashmir. This will give you the information needed to engage with other students on the matter in order to come up with great, innovative, and holistic resolutions. As your director, I have dedicated hours of research on the topics, so if you have any questions, never hesitate to contact me. I am more than happy to help with any questions you might have.

Let's make this opportunity the best experience filled with learning and collaboration. I cannot wait to meet all of you and see your amazing work and effort into this. Together, we can make great resolutions for our Committee and contribute to peacekeeping missions and peace worldwide!

Best Regards,

Haruko Orozco
C-34 Director
Session II
nhsmun.c34@imuna.org



Table of Contents

A Note on the NHSMUN Difference	5
A Note on Research and Preparation	7
Committee History	8
Reducing Intercommunal Violence in South Sudan	9
Introduction	10
History and Description of the Issue	11
Current Status	23
Bloc Analysis	29
Committee Mission	31
Implementing Protective Measures in Jammu and Kashmir	32
Introduction	33
History and Description of the Issue	34
Current Status	47
Bloc Analysis	52
Committee Mission	54
Research and Preparation Questions	55
Important Documents	56
Works Cited	57

A Note on the NHSMUN Difference

Esteemed Faculty and Delegates,

Welcome to NHSMUN 2025! We are Terry Wang and Jordan Baker, and we are this year's Secretary-General and Director-General. Thank you for choosing to attend NHSMUN, the world's largest and most diverse Model United Nations conference for secondary school students. We are thrilled to welcome you to New York City in March.

As a space for collaboration, consensus, and compromise, NHSMUN strives to transform today's brightest thinkers, speakers, and collaborators into tomorrow's leaders. Our organization provides a uniquely tailored experience for all through innovative and accessible programming. We believe that an emphasis on education through simulation is paramount to the Model UN experience, and this idea permeates throughout numerous aspects of the conference:

Realism and accuracy: Although a perfect simulation of the UN is never possible, we believe that one of the core educational responsibilities of MUN conferences is to educate students about how the UN System works. Each NHSMUN committee is a simulation of a real deliberative body so that delegates can research what their country has said in the committee. Our topics are chosen from the issues currently on the agenda of that committee (except historical committees, which take topics from the appropriate time period). We also strive to invite real UN, NGO, and field experts into each committee through our committee speakers program. Moreover, we arrange meetings between students and the actual UN Permanent Mission of the country they are representing. Our delegates have the incredible opportunity to conduct first-hand research, asking thought-provoking questions to current UN representatives and experts in their respective fields of study. These exclusive resources are only available due to IMUNA's formal association with the United Nations Department of Global Communications and consultative status with the Economic and Social Council. No other conference goes so far to deeply immerse students into the UN System.

Educational emphasis, even for awards: At the heart of NHSMUN lies education and compromise. Part of what makes NHSMUN so special is its diverse delegate base. As such, when NHSMUN distributes awards, we strongly de-emphasize their importance in comparison to the educational value of Model UN as an activity. NHSMUN seeks to reward students who excel in the arts of compromise and diplomacy. More importantly, we seek to develop an environment in which delegates can employ their critical thought processes and share ideas with their counterparts from around the world. Given our delegates' plurality of perspectives and experiences, we center our programming around the values of diplomacy and teamwork. In particular, our daises look for and promote constructive leadership that strives towards consensus, as real ambassadors do in the United Nations.

Debate founded on strong knowledge and accessibility: With knowledgeable staff members and delegates from over 70 countries, NHSMUN can facilitate an enriching experience reliant on substantively rigorous debate. To ensure this high quality of debate, our staff members produce detailed, accessible, and comprehensive topic guides (like the one below) to prepare delegates for the nuances inherent in each global issue. This process takes over six months, during which the Directors who lead our committees develop their topics with the valuable input of expert contributors. Because these topics are always changing and evolving, NHSMUN also produces update papers intended to bridge the gap of time between when the background guides are published and when committee starts in March. As such, this guide is designed to be a launching point from which delegates should delve further into their topics. The detailed knowledge that our Directors provide in this background guide through diligent research aims to increase critical thinking within delegates at NHSMUN.

Extremely engaged staff: At NHSMUN, our staffers care deeply about delegates' experiences and what they take away from their time at NHSMUN. Before the conference, our Directors and Assistant Directors are trained rigorously through hours of workshops and exercises both virtual and in-person to provide the best conference experience possible. At the conference,

delegates will have the opportunity to meet their dais members prior to the first committee session, where they may engage one-on-one to discuss their committees and topics. Our Directors and Assistant Directors are trained and empowered to be experts on their topics and they are always available to rapidly answer any questions delegates may have prior to the conference. Our Directors and Assistant Directors read every position paper submitted to NHSMUN and provide thoughtful comments on those submitted by the feedback deadline. Our staff aims not only to tailor the committee experience to delegates' reflections and research but also to facilitate an environment where all delegates' thoughts can be heard.

Empowering participation: The UN relies on the voices of all of its member states to create resolutions most likely to make a meaningful impact on the world. That is our philosophy at NHSMUN too. We believe that to properly delve into an issue and produce fruitful debate, it is crucial to focus the entire energy and attention of the room on the topic at hand. Our Rules of Procedure and our staff focus on making every voice in the committee heard, regardless of each delegate's country assignment or skill level. Additionally, unlike many other conferences, we also emphasize delegate participation after the conference. MUN delegates are well researched and aware of the UN's priorities, and they can serve as the vanguard for action on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Therefore, we are proud to connect students with other action-oriented organizations to encourage further work on the topics.

Focused committee time: We feel strongly that face-to-face interpersonal connections during debate are critical to producing superior committee experiences and allow for the free flow of ideas. Ensuring policies based on equality and inclusion is one way in which NHSMUN guarantees that every delegate has an equal opportunity to succeed in committee. In order to allow communication and collaboration to be maximized during committee, we have a very dedicated administrative team who work throughout the conference to type up, format, and print draft resolutions and working papers.

As always, we welcome any questions or concerns about the substantive program at NHSMUN 2025 and would be happy to discuss NHSMUN pedagogy with faculty or delegates.

Delegates, it is our sincerest hope that your time at NHSMUN will be thought-provoking and stimulating. NHSMUN is an incredible time to learn, grow, and embrace new opportunities. We look forward to seeing you work both as students and global citizens at the conference.

Best,

Terry Wang
Secretary-General

Jordan Baker
Director-General

A Note on Research and Preparation

Delegate research and preparation is a critical element of attending NHSMUN and enjoying the debate experience. We have provided this Background Guide to introduce the topics that will be discussed in your committee. We encourage and expect each of you to critically explore the selected topics and be able to identify and analyze their intricacies upon arrival to NHSMUN in March.

The task of preparing for the conference can be challenging, but to assist delegates, we have updated our [Beginner Delegate Guide](#) and [Advanced Delegate Guide](#). In particular, these guides contain more detailed instructions on how to prepare a position paper and excellent sources that delegates can use for research. Use these resources to your advantage. They can help transform a sometimes overwhelming task into what it should be: an engaging, interesting, and rewarding experience.

To accurately represent a country, delegates must be able to articulate its policies. Accordingly, NHSMUN requires each delegation (the one or two delegates representing a country in a committee) to write a position paper for each topic on the committee's agenda. In delegations with two students, we strongly encourage each student to research each topic to ensure that they are prepared to debate no matter which topic is selected first. More information about how to write and format position papers can be found in the NHSMUN Research Guide. To summarize, position papers should be structured into three sections:

I: Topic Background – This section should describe the history of the topic as it would be described by the delegate's country. Delegates do not need to give an exhaustive account of the topic, but rather focus on the details that are most important to the delegation's policy and proposed solutions.

II: Country Policy – This section should discuss the delegation's policy regarding the topic. Each paper should state the policy in plain terms and include the relevant statements, statistics, and research that support the effectiveness of the policy. Comparisons with other global issues are also appropriate here.

III. Proposed Solutions – This section should detail the delegation's proposed solutions to address the topic. Descriptions of each solution should be thorough. Each idea should clearly connect to the specific problem it aims to solve and identify potential obstacles to implementation and how they can be avoided. The solution should be a natural extension of the country's policy.

Each topic's position paper should be **no more than 10 pages** long double-spaced with standard margins and font size. **We recommend 3–5 pages per topic as a suitable length.** The paper must be written from the perspective of your assigned country and should articulate the policies you will espouse at the conference.

Each delegation is responsible for sending a copy of its papers to their committee Directors via [myDais](#) on or before **February 21, 2025**. If a delegate wishes to receive detailed feedback from the committee's dais, a position must be submitted on or before **January 31, 2025**. The papers received by this earlier deadline will be reviewed by the dais of each committee and returned prior to your arrival at the conference.

Complete instructions for how to submit position papers will be sent to faculty advisers via email. If delegations are unable to submit their position papers on time, please contact us at info@imuna.org.

Delegations that do not submit position papers will be ineligible for awards.

Committee History

The Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (C34) was created in 1965.¹ It was created within the Fourth Committee of the United Nations General Assembly. Its goal is to assess all matters relating to peacekeeping operations. Consisting of 157 member states, it also creates different recommendations to support ongoing peacekeeping operations. It does this through annual reports that are approved by a consensus of member states.²

The United Nations (UN) was created following the Second World War to preserve international peace and security. One of the ways that the UN does this is through peacekeeping operations. UN peacekeeping operations are support missions that are created through the authority of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). The purpose of peacekeeping operations is to provide support for states involved in conflict and create conditions needed for a permanent peace situation. The specific purpose of a peacekeeping operation can vary based on the nature of the conflict and potential challenges that arise. For example, some peacekeeping missions are focused on reducing and preventing conflict between two or more states. This includes the United Nations Military Observer Group in Indian and Pakistan (UNMOGIP). Other missions focused on ethnic conflict within one state, such as the United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS). In addition to conflict, peacekeeping operations also support governments as they move towards a democratic, stable, and free society.³ This includes the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA). UN peacekeeping operations consist of peacekeepers from different member states from all over the world.

C34 is the only body within the United Nations with a mandate to “comprehensively review” peacekeeping operations in all facets. Thus, it is faced with the unique task and responsibility of making crucial input into policies and other issues related to United Nations peacekeeping operations. In recent years, C34 has discussed various topics such as civilian harm prevention, community involvement, women and the peacekeeping process, and peacekeeper training. Since its establishment, the subcommittee has successfully brought several peacekeeping operations stakeholders together and formulated recommendations and goals for the United Nations consideration. The work of the subcommittee has been able to assist other organs of the United Nations, such as the General Assembly and the Security Council, on peacekeeping matters while also acknowledging the various barriers that remain within the international peacekeeping system.⁴ Although the subcommittee can propose recommendations and reforms to the international peacekeeping system, the subcommittee depends on the UN Secretariat, the General Assembly, the Security Council, and individual member states to implement those recommendations and reforms.⁵ Regarding its limitations, it has provided a groundwork for deciding when and how to deploy UN peacekeeping as a tool to both reinstate and maintain international peace and security.

1 Alison Giffen, “New Report by the UN Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (C-34) Advances and Limits the Protection of Civilians,” Center for Civilians in Conflict, May 10, 2021, <https://civiliansinconflict.org/blog/2021-c34-report/>.

2 United Nations Peacekeeping, “Recommendations of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (C34),” United Nations Peacekeeping, accessed October 20, 2024, <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/recommendations-of-special-committee-peacekeeping-operations-c34>.

3 United Nations Security Council, “United Nations,” March 15, 2018, https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/a_72_19.pdf.

4 United Nations Peacekeeping, “Our Successes,” United Nations Peacekeeping (United Nations, 2017), <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/our-successes>.

5 Jorgenson and Giffen, “New Report by the UN Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (C-34) Advances and Limits the Protection of Civilians”



C34

NHSMUN 2025

TOPIC A: REDUCING INTERCOMMUNAL VIOLENCE IN SOUTH SUDAN

Photo Credit: DFID - UK Department for International Development

Introduction

Before South Sudan gained its independence from the Republic of Sudan in 2013, the country went through a long and violent war. The historical division and conflict between the north and south parts of the country led to multiple civil wars. This included the displacement of more than 2.5 million people, as well as human rights violations. In 2005, as a response to the Second Sudanese War, the Comprehensive Peace Agreement was signed.¹ This agreement contained the acceptance of international aid in Sudan and a ceasefire. It also stated that in January 2011, South Sudan would hold a public vote on independence. This allowed the Southern region to decide if it wanted to separate from the North. In July 2011, the people voted for the birth of a new country called the Republic of South Sudan.²

Yet, South Sudan never gained full stability after independence due to a conflict between the government and opposing forces. In 2013, civil war erupted in South Sudan because of disputes between ethnic groups.³ Intercommunal violence became the biggest threat to the region. As a political tactic, military elites manipulated long-standing ethnic frictions. Violent clashes emerged between the main political parties of the country, the Sudan People's Liberation Movement and the SPLM-In Opposition.⁴ Almost 13 years after its birth, South Sudan struggles to find stability and peace. There has been an extreme delay in applying the 2018 Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan. This Agreement was signed to end South Sudan's civil war. It contained a permanent ceasefire, a transitional government, and the promise of free and fair elections. The lack of action from the national government and the continuous violence have added another layer of humanitarian risks to the state's violent and unstable past.⁵

The implementation of South Sudan's peace agreement needs to be faster. This is largely due to recent outbursts of violence.

Peace agreements and efforts fall short due to a lack of national unity, political interests, and ineffective law enforcement. One of the most important tools used to protect civilians and build peace is the United Nations Mission In South Sudan (UNMISS). The UNMISS was established on July 8, 2011 by the Security Council.⁶ This mission was a response to the extreme violence, security risks, and international peace coming under threat. Since its creation, the mandate has continued to prioritize the protection of civilians and human rights. On April 29, 2024, the mandate was renewed. The Security Council expanded the mandate of UNMISS until April 30, 2025. Today, the UNMISS addresses the situation by using peacekeeping actions to provide help and control human rights violations. These actions include supporting security reforms, weapon control, protecting civilians, and supporting the national government.⁷ There are more than 20,000 people in South Sudan serving the UNMISS and building peace in the affected country.⁸ The mandate also addresses the challenges in the country, such as group clashes, gender-based attacks, and electoral feuds.⁹

1 Madhav Joshi, et al, "Annualized implementation data on comprehensive intrastate peace accords, 1989–2012," *Journal of Peace Research* 52, (2015): 551-562. <https://peaceaccords.nd.edu/accord/sudan-comprehensive-peace-agreement>.

2 Marina Ottaway and Amr Hamzawy, "The Comprehensive Peace Agreement," Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, (January, 2014): 1-4, <https://carnegieendowment.org/research/2011/01/the-comprehensive-peace-agreement?lang=en>.

3 "Background," United Nations Mission in South Sudan, 2014. <https://unmiss.unmissions.org/background>.

4 "South Sudan," Global Centre for Responsibility to Protect, last modified May 31 2024, <https://www.globalr2p.org/countries/south-sudan/#:-:text=During%20the%20last%20quarter%20of,63%20subjected%20to%20sexual%20violence>.

5 "South Sudan 'revitalized' peace deal must be inclusive, Security Council hears," United Nations News, last modified June 28, 2018, <https://news.un.org/en/story/2018/06/1013452>.

6 "South Sudan 'revitalized' peace deal must be inclusive, Security Council hears."

7 "Military," United Nations Mission in South Sudan, last accessed August 8, 2024, <https://unmiss.unmissions.org/military>.

8 "About UNMISS," United Nations Mission in South Sudan, last accessed August 8, 2024, <https://unmiss.unmissions.org/about-unmiss>.

9 What's In Blue, *UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS): Vote on Draft Mandate Renewal Resolution*, (New York: Security Council Report, April 2024), <https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/whatsinblue/2024/04/un-mission-in-south-sudan-unmiss-vote-on-draft-mandate-renewal-resolution.php>.

History and Description of the Issue

Civil War and Peace Process

The origin of South Sudan's conflict can be traced back to colonial rule. From 1899 to 1956, the United Kingdom governed Sudan through the "Anglo-Egyptian Condominium." This meant that Sudan had a separate political status from the British crown. Sudan's sovereignty was shared by Egypt and the British monarchy.¹⁰ Because of this, Sudan did not have any right to exercise supreme political authority over its people.¹¹ During this period, the British divided the country into two parts. This policy only consolidated the domination of the North over the South. The Southern region was extremely excluded from economic development.¹² The appearance of Northern elites in the political administration of Sudan established an unjust power structure that continued after the colonial era.¹³

After World War II, the attitude of the British government toward South Sudan changed when Northern nationalists and Egypt attempted to create an independent and united Sudan. Ismail al-Azhari, president of the National Unionist Party, planned to unite Sudan with Egypt.¹⁴ In 1954, political groups representing residents of the southern part of Sudan held a conference to discuss their future.¹⁵ They tried to make the South independent from Egypt, allowing them to

become a self-governing state. Northern governors rejected this initiative. On January 1, 1956, Sudan was proclaimed independent.¹⁶ A year before its official independence, the first Sudanese Civil War began.¹⁷ This culminated in ethnic, racial, economic, and political problems that had existed since the Turco-Egyptian conquest of the country in 1821. During this time, the South was denied the right to rule itself.¹⁸ Because the State of Sudan was unable to create a unified identity, the country continued to be divided into the Islamic North and the Arab South.¹⁹ Between 1955 and 1972, it is estimated that around half a million civilians died during the war, and thousands fled their homes.²⁰

To end the armed conflict, the North and the Southern Sudan Liberation Movement (SSLM) signed the Addis Ababa Agreement.²¹ Ethiopia served as a third-party mediator. The agreement allowed for regional self-government in the southern provinces but did not include independence. The provinces consisted of Bahr El Ghazal, Equatoria, and Upper Nile. They could self-govern and have their own legislative and executive organs. These organs were The People's Regional Assembly and the High Executive Council. Still, they would have no power over national decisions, such as economic and social development and national defense.²² Most Southerners were displeased with the negotiation since it gave up their main goal of independence. The SSLM did not negotiate for

10 Robert O. Collins, "History of Sudan: The Sudan under the Anglo-Egyptian Condominium," last modified August 14, 2023, <https://www.britannica.com/topic/history-of-Tuvalu>

11 Ramana Tatar and Adela Moisi, "The concept of sovereignty," *Journal of Public Administration, Finance and Law*, no. 24 (2022): 292-293, <https://doi.org/10.47743/jopafl-2022-24-27>

12 Degefe Kebede Gemechu, "Political and Social Conflicts in South Sudan: The Post-Independence Challenges," *Journal of Modern Science*, 2/2023 vol. 51 (2023): 237-241, <https://doi.org/10.13166/jms/166650>

13 David Lin, "The Role of British Colonial Policy in the South Sudanese Civil War: A Postcolonial Conflict Analysis (2018)" (BA diss., Seattle University, 2018), 2-5. <https://scholarworks.seattleu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1025&context=intl-std-theses>

14 University of Central Arkansas, "Republic of Sudan," Accessed August 30, 2024. <https://uca.edu/politicalscience/home/research-projects/dadm-project/sub-saharan-africa-region/70-republic-of-sudan-1956-present/>

15 "The growth of national consciousness," Britannica, last modified July 10, 2024, <https://www.britannica.com/place/Sudan/The-growth-of-national-consciousness>

16 Alemayehu Kumsa, "South Sudan struggle for independence, and it's implications for Africa," *RUDN Journal of Sociology*, 17(4) (December 2017): 513-523. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/321142466_South_Sudan_struggle_for_independence_and_it's_implications_for_Africa

17 "Civil War in Sudan," Council on Foreign Relations, July 24, 2024. <https://www.cfr.org/global-conflict-tracker/conflict/power-struggle-sudan>.

18 Scopas S. Poggo, *The First Sudanese Civil War: Africans, Arabs, and Israelis in the Southern Sudan, 1955-1972*, (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2009), https://www.sahistory.org.za/sites/default/files/archive-files/scopas_s._poggo_the_first_sudanese_civil_war_afbook4you.pdf.

19 M.V. van Baarsen, "The Netherlands and Sudan: Dutch Policies and Interventions with Respect to the Sudanese Civil War," *Clingendael Institute*, (2000): 17-35, <http://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep05430>.

20 "A Country Divided," United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, accessed July 10, 2024, <https://www.ushmm.org/genocide-prevention/countries/sudan/a-country-divided>.

21 <https://peacemaker.un.org/sudan-addisababa-southsudan72>

22 ATJHUB, *Addis Ababa Agreement on the Problem of South Sudan* (South Africa: African Transitional Justice Hub, 1972), <https://atjhub.csvr.org.za/addis-ababa-agreement-on-the-problem-of-south-sudan/>.



Difference between the Northerners and Southerners during the First Sudanese Civil War

Credit: Al Jazeera

full autonomy, which was their top priority.²³ A major concern was over the distribution of wealth across Sudan. Some Southerners expressed doubts about the agreement since the North was not providing sufficient funding to the South.²⁴

The agreement did not ensure sustained peace between both parties. In 1983, then President Jaafar al-Nimieri passed Sharia Law in Sudan.²⁵ Sharia Law is the Islamic legal system based on the Quran, which is the holy book of Islam.²⁶ The President also declared that Arabic would be the official language when imposing that law. The Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) and their leader, Doctor John Garang, rebelled. In the meantime, the northerners strengthened their political and military status. In 1989, the National Islamic Front (NIF) came to power due to a military coup. It continued to declare Sudan as an Islamic state and attempted to impose Islam and Arabism through Sudan.²⁷ As the North has always been predominantly Muslim, there were frequent attempts to convert the Southern

population. Northerners generally identify with Arab culture, whereas Southerners view themselves as African. This ethno-cultural gap between the Islamic North and the African South is considered to be the principal cause of the Second Sudanese Civil War.²⁸ This means that the main cause for war was ethnically different views in the same country.

As this violent conflict continued, it was estimated that around two million people died. As a result of the civil war, many died due to malnutrition and disease.²⁹ Attempts were made by regional, national, and international groups to end the war and restore peace in South Sudan. It was not until January 2005 that the National Congress Party (NCP) and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A) enacted the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. Putting an end to a two-decade-long war that left devastating consequences on civilians and the political, economic, and social status of the country. The CPA contained a clause that stated that

23 Douglas H. Johnson, *The Root Causes of Sudan's Civil Wars Old Wars and New Wars*, 3rd ed. (Martlesham: Boydell & Brewer, 2016), 39 - 58, <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781782048343.006>

24 David H. Shinn, "Addis Ababa Agreement: was it destined to fail and are there lessons for the Current Sudan Peace Process?," *Annales d'Ethiopie* 20, (2004): 244-245, <https://doi.org/10.3406/ethio.2004.1077>.

25 Gabriel R Warburg, "The Sharia in Sudan: Implementation and Repercussions, 1983-1989," *Middle East Journal* 44, no. 4 (1990): 624-37, <http://www.jstor.org/stable/4328194>.

26 Warburg, "The Sharia in Sudan: Implementation and Repercussions, 1983-1989,"

27 "Crises in Sudan and Northern Uganda," Human Rights Watch, accessed July 10, 2024, <https://www.hrw.org/legacy/campaigns/sudan98/testim/house-01.htm>

28 M.V. van Baarsen, "The Sudanese Civil War: The Netherlands and Sudan: Dutch Policies and Interventions with Respect to the Sudanese Civil War," (Wassenaar: Clingendael Institute, 2000), <http://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep05430.6>. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep05430.6?seq=2>

29 "Crises in Sudan and Northern Uganda."

at the end of six years, in January 2011, a public vote on independence be held. This would allow Southern Sudanese people the opportunity to choose between independence from the North or the continuation of the agreement.³⁰ Eventually, South Sudan gained its independence in July 2011.

Six years after signing the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, Southern Sudan voted for independence. The decision was submitted by a public vote.³¹ The result was acknowledged by the Sudanese President Omar Bashir. Yet, the road to an independent, strong, and secure country remained plagued by past and unresolved issues. Such as political and ethnic clashes, economic crises, violence towards civilians, food shortages, and consequently a massive displacement issue.

The Political Situation In South Sudan

Before the independence of South Sudan in 2011, there were many long and violent armed conflicts. More than 2.5 million people have died since the First Sudanese Civil War began in 1955. Millions were also forced to abandon their homes and became internally displaced people or refugees in other countries. In 2005, the Sudan government and Southern rebels left South Sudan due to the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement.³² Following a referendum six years later, the country gained its independence. Still, violence continued in the country. Armed conflicts in South Sudan often happen because of a lack of a strong and coherent national plan for development. These problems are intensified by politics based on ethnic identity and long-lasting ethnic conflicts, such as clashes between political leaders and among the Dinka, Nuer, and Misseriya ethnic groups over resources, especially for cattle herding.³³ The conflict that continues to put South Sudan in a

crisis is not a product of a new growing political strife but an overlap of pre-existing ethnic and political clashes. delegates need to understand the reason behind the violence and clashes in this country, as well as its roots and consequences.

The brutal clashes that occur in South Sudan are a product of these three forms: the conflict between the Old North and South Sudan (before South Sudan's independence), ethnic conflict over resources, and clashes between political parties.³⁴ The most prominent of them all continues to be intercommunal violence. Inter-communal conflict or violence is a conflict between competing groups within a state or country. In addition, disputes grow when there is scarce access to natural resources or political power. These clashes can grow into something bigger and more violent between two or more communities.³⁵

Before independence, the core conflict in Southern Sudan was the long and painful dispute between the Government of Sudan and the political party, the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement (SPLM). This conflict was rooted in land disputes since Sudan thought the state owned the land, whereas the SPLM considered it the land of the people.³⁶ It is estimated that Sudan's longest civil war lasted around 21 years. The disputes between the North and the South only created a cultural and political perception of the identity of "South Sudanese."³⁷ At the time, ethnic division along the 65 tribal groups was not considered a threat if managed lawfully. Many ethnic feuds often lead to national conflicts. Despite these major challenges, South Sudan gained its independence, but it did not end the internal ethnic clashes in the country.³⁸

Salva Kiir was elected president in 2010, before the country's

30 Marina Ottaway and Amr Hamzawy, "The Comprehensive Peace Agreement," *Carnegie Endowment for International Peace*, (January, 2014): 1-4, <https://carnegieendowment.org/research/2011/01/the-comprehensive-peace-agreement?lang=en>.

31 "Referendum", UK Parliament, accessed July 10 2024, <https://www.parliament.uk/site-information/glossary/referendum/>.

32 Madut Kon, "Institutional development, governance, and ethnic politics in South Sudan," *Journal of global economics* 3, no. 2 (2015): 1-6, <https://www.hilarispublisher.com/open-access/institutional-development-governance-and-ethnic-politics-in-south-sudan-2375-4389-1000147.pdf>.

33 Madut Kon, "Institutional development, governance, and ethnic politics in South Sudan."

34 Ciprian Sandu, "The South Sudan coup: A political rivalry that turned ethnic," *Conflict Studies Quarterly*, no. 7 (2014): 49-65, <http://www.csq.ro/wp-content/uploads/CSQ-7.-Sandu.pdf>.

35 Martin Ifeanyi, Desmond Nnamani, and Godwin Chukwuedo Dibia, "Intercommunal Conflict and Internally Displaced Persons in Nigeria: Analysis of Enugu and Anambra State, 2000-2007," *Practicum Psychologia* 8, no. 1 (October 2018): 1-3, <https://journals.aphriapub.com/index.php/PP/article/view/580>.

36 Degefe Kebede Gemechu, "Political and Social Conflicts in South Sudan: The Post-Independence Challenges," *Journal of Modern Science* 51, no. 2 (2023): 237-241, <https://doi.org/10.13166/jms/166650>.

37 The Guardian, "The long history of civil war in Sudan," *The Guardian*, April 26, 2023, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/apr/26/the-long-history-of-civil-war-in-sudan>.

38 Madut Kon, "Institutional development, governance, and ethnic politics in South Sudan," *Journal of global economics* 3, no. 2 (2015):

independence, in an article of the Transitional Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan.³⁹ This document allows a four-year presidential term. Since that election, no other person has been elected. Salva Kiir continues to be the most powerful person in the country.⁴⁰ Right after Salva Kiir was appointed head of state, Riek Machar was elected Vice President. Both the President and Vice President have struggled to come up with power-sharing agreements.⁴¹ Because of this, several conflicts have arisen.

In 2013, a civil war in South Sudan erupted as a result of a political difference between the top government members of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement. In South Sudan, many conflicts occur due to rival ethnic groups. This clash involved mainly the Dinka and Nuer ethnic groups.⁴² These are two of the biggest ethnic groups in South Sudan. Historically, the Dinka and Nuer have always competed over natural resources, including those involving their cattle.⁴³ The current

president of South Sudan, Salva Kiir, is of Dinka ethnicity, and Vice President Salva Kiir is of Nuer ethnicity. This led to conflict on December 15th, 2013, when President Salva Kiir imprisoned 13 politicians. He accused them of creating a coup against him, led by Vice President Riek Mahar.⁴⁴ Since then, more than 64 ethnic groups have been involved in the conflict. These forces have targeted civilians and have led to an increase in violence in the state.⁴⁵ Because of the political disputes between the president and vice president, a new political party has emerged. The Sudan People's Liberation Movement in Opposition (SPLM-IO) is the country's main rebel group, led by Riek Machar. SPLM has come into conflict with government soldiers, also known as the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA).

This civil war has created an economic and military collapse. Between 2021 and 2022, the national pound lost 60 percent of its value. Oil exports decreased from 350,000 barrels per

1-6, <https://www.hilarispublisher.com/open-access/institutional-development-governance-and-ethnic-politics-in-south-sudan-2375-4389-1000147.pdf>.

39 "Salva Kiir: South Sudan's president in a cowboy hat," *BBC*, June 21, 2018. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-12107760>.

40 "Salva Kiir: South Sudan's president in a cowboy hat."

41 Clemence Pinaud, "South Sudan: Civil war, predation and the making of a military aristocracy," *African Affairs* 113, no. 451 (2014): 192–211, <https://doi.org/10.1093/afraf/adu019>.

42 Climate Diplomacy, "Conflict between Dinka and Nuer in South Sudan," Accessed August 30, 2024. <https://climate-diplomacy.org/case-studies/conflict-between-dinka-and-nuer-south-sudan>.

43 "Conflict between Dinka and Nuer in South Sudan."

44 Degefe Kebede Gemechu, "Political and Social Conflicts in South Sudan: The Post-Independence Challenges," *Journal of Modern Science* 51, no. 2 (2023): 237-241, <https://doi.org/10.13166/jms/166650>.

45 "A Country Divided," United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, accessed July 10, 2024, <https://www.ushmm.org/genocide-prevention/countries/sudan/a-country-divided>.



Generals in South Sudan Celebrating Independence
Credit: Steve Evans

day to 150,000.⁴⁶ This change in oil exports has created a deep economic crisis. South Sudan is an oil-dependent country, meaning it relies on oil exports to make a profit for their people. The war has also caused a humanitarian crisis, affecting more than 2.3 million people and displacing them just three years after the conflict erupted.⁴⁷ Due to the crisis, the international community has tried to support South Sudan and bring peace. Yet, there were no legal regulations, and creating political and military arbitrariness from both parties has been challenging. This lack of regulations and overall impunity has increased the human rights violations in the country.⁴⁸

The political state of South Sudan has only caused further issues in the country. After independence, the country's main political party, the Sudan's People Liberty Movement, slipped into an ethno-centric leaning governance strategy. This strategy depended heavily on nepotism and political agenda over the skills of potential candidates. This creates conditions where military elites gain power by spreading violence and receive support by relying on ethnic ties, overstepping all government-community norms.⁴⁹ For instance, this has resulted in a lack of a unified military, making the armed forces highly based on personal ethnic loyalty. To illustrate, in 2013, the brown caterpillar, a Dinka militia group loyal to President Salva Kiir, carried out a massacre in Juba, the capital.⁵⁰ This political practice is one of the reasons why South Sudan has a weak system of governance. This has also led to complex challenges and problems for the country, such as corruption, lack of rule of law, violation of human rights, and ethnic exclusions. Problems worsened when other ethnic groups started using

dividing politics centered around ethnicity. This has only weakened the rule of law and security for South Sudan, delaying the development of secure institutions.

Regional and External Influences

The ongoing armed conflict in the region has affected the bordering countries in East Africa, especially South Sudan.⁵¹ Regional dynamics are crucial for South Sudan's political state and national security, including the previously mentioned civil war. Delegates need to know the dynamics in this area to understand the implications and consequences of the war to other countries. This is especially true in countries like Sudan, Uganda, Ethiopia, Egypt, etc. As well as the role of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and other actors in South Sudan.⁵²

Since 2011, Sudan and South Sudan's relationship has changed as they are now separate states. However, both countries rely on each other for oil. This situation has caused tensions between the two countries over export fees and infrastructure. All pipeline and refining infrastructure reside in Sudan, while 75 percent of oil is taken from South Sudan.⁵³ The border has also been subject to conflict. After the independence, the border between South Sudan and Sudan was not determined. There were issues involving the negotiations over the border, such as where the border was and the type of border.⁵⁴ Technically, the border between Sudan and South Sudan originated from the colonial government of the Anglo-Egyptian Arrangement. This land is a great zone and holds economic and agricultural

46 ACAPS, *SOUTH SUDAN: Conflict-related displacement* (Switzerland: Acaps, 2023), https://www.acaps.org/fileadmin/Data_Product/Main_media/20230517_acaps_briefing_note_south_sudan_conflict_related_displacement__1_.pdf.

47 UNSC, *Report of the Secretary-General on South Sudan* (New York: United Nations Security Council, 2016), https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s_2016_138.pdf.

48 Ioana Bakardzhieva, *The conflict in South Sudan: Energy and Political Challenge* (Groninhen: The University of Groningen, 2016), https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Ioana-Bakardzhieva/publication/304335044_South_Sudan_Energy_and_Political_Challenge_A_Policy_Report_for_the_African_Union_Commission/links/576c03c708aedb18f3eb0daa/South-Sudan-Energy-and-Political-Challenge-A-Policy-Report-for-the-African-Union-Commission.pdf.

49 Lauren Hutton, "Blurring the Lines: Ethnicity, Governance, and Stability in South Sudan, Africa Center for Strategic Studies," last modified May 28, 2018, <https://africacenter.org/spotlight/blurring-the-lines-ethnicity-governance-and-stability-in-south-sudan/>.

50 Katherine Noel, "Understanding the Roots of Conflict in South Sudan," Council on Foreign Relations, last modified September 14, 2016, <https://www.cfr.org/interview/understanding-roots-conflict-south-sudan>

51 Berouk Mesfi, *East Africa Report: The regionalisation of the South Sudanese crisis* (South Africa: Institute for Security Studies, 2015), https://www.files.ethz.ch/isn/191757/E_Africa_Report_4.pdf.

52 Victor Angelo and Kate McGuinness, *Security and Stability: Reflections on the Impact of South Sudan on Regional Political Dynamics* (Oslo: Norwegian Institute of International Affairs Department of Security and Conflict Management, 2012), <https://nupi.brage.unit.no/nupi-xmlui/bitstream/handle/11250/276448/NUPI%2BReport-SIP-7-Angelo-McGuinness.pdf?sequ>.

53 LandLinks, "South Sudan," Accessed August 30, <https://www.land-links.org/country-profile/south-sudan/>.

54 Berouk Mesfi, *East Africa Report: The regionalisation of the South Sudanese crisis* (South Africa: Institute for Security Studies, 2015), https://www.files.ethz.ch/isn/191757/E_Africa_Report_4.pdf.

value. Therefore, neither country was willing to come to terms on the border.⁵⁵ In fact, after the independence, about 75 percent of Sudan's oil was produced below the border. This led to greatly reduced oil revenues. These disagreements led to constant boundary disputes. As a result, in 2012, the Agreement Between The Republic of South Sudan and The Republic of South Sudan on Border Issues was created.⁵⁶ This pact made both nations stop the war and implement all the security agreements reached in previous negotiations. Also, it adopts a "soft border," which means that people, trade, and other goods can be transported easily.⁵⁷

Recently, South Sudan and Sudan have had to improve political stability by enhancing peace and cooperation. In 2022, the President of South Sudan, Salva Kiir, talked with Sudan's leaders to promote strong, healthy relations.⁵⁸ However, the eruption of the Sudanese civil war in 2023 happened. They resulted in a significant displacement of both Sudan's civilians and South Sudanese refugees in Sudan. Prior to the Sudanese civil war in 2023, Sudan hosted around 800,000 South Sudanese refugees. Now, more than 527,200 refugees have returned to South Sudan.⁵⁹ That is not the only effect South Sudan has received as Sudan's civil war unraveled. The South Sudan Country Focus Report 2024 states that South Sudan's economy is expected to decrease by five percent. The reason behind this is linked to the disruption of oil flow that occurred during Sudan's war.⁶⁰

The relationship between Uganda and South Sudan remains stable. South Sudan borders Uganda on the south. Efforts between both countries have existed since colonial times.

Uganda has long supported the SPLA when fighting against Sudan's government. After that, South Sudan and Uganda established a great trade partnership. Uganda remains their most lucrative trade partner, and therefore, it protects South Sudan from economic loss.⁶¹ Before 2011, South Sudan was a regional pawn between Sudan and Uganda. As tensions increased between the two nations, Uganda supported the liberation of the South from the North. Additionally, Uganda's President, Yoweri Museveni, is closely tied to President Salva Kiir. During the civil war, Uganda supported President Salva Kiir. He rescued the regime from an opposition attack. Uganda plays a vital role in South Sudan's political affairs. They have supported the national reign by deploying the Uganda People's Defence Force (UPDF). Since then, Uganda's President led a Peace Initiative. Uganda continues to make peace between both sides.⁶² South Sudan's situation is getting worse. Many people have fled to nearby countries. The United Nations Refugee Agency says there are about 2.2 million refugees, with 41 percent of them in Uganda. In response, the Ugandan government introduced new policies to help refugees access basic services.⁶³

Ethiopia is located in the Horn of Africa. It is the only country that borders both Sudan and South Sudan. Therefore, it fosters friendly relations with both countries. Ethiopia continues to suffer from the conflicts of Sudan and South Sudan. Historically, Ethiopia has been a close ally of South Sudan. Ever since the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement arose in 1938.⁶⁴ Ethiopia and South Sudan have similar goals, like using natural resources and growing their economies.

55 Sovereign Limits, "South Sudan–Sudan Land Boundary," Sovereign Limits, accessed October 6, 2024, <https://sovereignlimits.com/boundaries/south-sudan-sudan-land>.

56 United Nations Peacekeeping, *Agreement Between The Republic of South Sudan and The Republic of South Sudan on Border Issues*, (Addis Ababa: UN Peacekeeping, 2012), https://peacemaker.un.org/sites/peacemaker.un.org/files/SD%20SS_120927_Agreement%20on%20border%20issues.pdf.

57 "Summary of the Nine Agreements between Sudan and South Sudan," Embassy of the Republic of Sudan, last accessed August 11, 2024, <http://www.sudanoslo.no/the-nine-agreements-between-s-ii.html>.

58 Sudan Tribune, "South Sudan, Sudan will continue to foster bilateral relations: Gatluak," *Sudan Tribune*, last modified July 20, 2022, <https://sudantribune.com/article261481/>.

59 The UN Refugee Agency, *South Sudan situation* (Geneva: The United Nations Refugee Agency, 2023), <https://reporting.unhcr.org/operational/situations/south-sudan-situation>

60 Sudan Tribune, "South Sudan Economy Faces 5% Decline Due to Sudan War," *Sudan Tribune*, August 2, 2024, <https://sudantribune.com/article289002/>.

61 Berouk Mesfi, *East Africa Report: The regionalisation of the South Sudanese crisis* (South Africa: Institute for Security Studies, 2015), https://www.files.ethz.ch/isn/191757/E_Africa_Report_4.pdf.

62 "South Sudan – Uganda Relations," African Center for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes, last modified December 23, 2015, <https://www.accord.org.za/conflict-trends/south-sudan-uganda-relations/>.

63 The UN Refugee Agency, *South Sudan situation* (Geneva: The United Nations Refugee Agency, 2023), <https://reporting.unhcr.org/operational/situations/south-sudan-situation>

64 Berouk Mesfi, *East Africa Report: The regionalisation of the South Sudanese crisis* (South Africa: Institute for Security Studies, 2015),



South Sudan Map and Neighboring Countries

Credit: JRC, European Commission

Ethiopia has strong ties with South Sudan’s leaders, leading to a partnership through IGAD (a regional group).⁶⁵ This partnership works to improve South Sudan’s security and economy. They support trade and infrastructure and include young people and women in their plans.⁶⁶

The Intergovernmental Authority of Development (IGAD) is a strategic framework for the first Strategic Plan. The plan promotes regional cooperation between the member states while aiming to improve the well-being of all citizens. The IGAD was created in 1996 as a reaction to the effects of recurring droughts and natural disasters. These disasters resulted in famine, economic downfall, and ecological decay. It has eight members: Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan, Uganda, and South Sudan.⁶⁷ The IGAD has played a vital role in South Sudan. Its duty dates back to the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement and the negotiation of the Agreement on the Resolution of Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (ARCSS) in 2015. IGAD has constantly approached peace in South Sudan; however, it has failed to neutralize the warring parties in South Sudan.⁶⁸ It is believed

that the IGAD peace process failed because of a lack of understanding of the obstacles and opportunities to make a change. The situation in South Sudan is highly influenced by what’s happening in the region. Countries in the area can either help or make things worse. If a country is unstable, it can affect South Sudan. However, a country with great international policies can provide aid and help. Delegates must understand regional influence and how they can affect the ongoing crisis in South Sudan. As well as other factors, such as human rights violations. These violations are a big issue for the international community and must be dealt with quickly.

International Interventions

The recent conflicts in South Sudan show how hard it is to achieve peace consolidation in the country. Intercommunal violence is still a huge problem. Peace agreements and efforts have yet to be effective. Therefore, the international community must reflect carefully on what can be done to achieve peace. Delegates need to comprehend how important international support is in South Sudan.⁶⁹ The country is

https://www.files.ethz.ch/isn/191757/E_Africa_Report_4.pdf

65 Volkert Mathijs Doop, “How to Handle Your Neighbors’ Conflict: Ethiopia’s Relationships with Sudan and South Sudan,” *UNISCI Discussion Papers*, no. 33 (October 2013): 132-134, <https://www.redalyc.org/pdf/767/76728723009.pdf>

66 Aleu Garang, “The Role of the IGAD Mission in the Republic of South Sudan,” ACCORD, July 7, 2021, <https://www.accord.org.za/analysis/the-role-of-the-igad-mission-in-the-republic-of-south-sudan/>.

67 “About IGAD,” Intergovernmental Authority on Development, accessed July 17, 2024, <https://igad.int/about/>

68 Luka Kuol, and Africa Center for Strategic Studies, *Navigating the Competing Interests of Regional Actors in South Sudan: Envisioning a Stable South Sudan*, (Washington D.C: Africa Center for Strategic Studies, 2018), <http://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep19226.11>.

69 UNDP, *Breaking the Vicious Cycle of Conflict in South Sudan: A Call to Action* (New York: United Nations Development Programme,

dealing with complex conflicts involving armed and political groups. There are organizations trying to address the many humanitarian needs, helping over seven million people. However, humanitarian needs are growing faster every day.⁷⁰ The international community has responded in many ways. For example, the International Organization of Migration created the South Sudan Plan 2023-2025. They work with partners, communities, and key partners. The plan provides support to people in vulnerable situations. The program is adapting a community-based approach to changes in the area easier. To meet the goals of the Revitalized Peace agreement, the program is attempting to help the civilians affected and also supporting the national government.⁷¹

The United States has been a major ally of South Sudan for decades, and it has continued to support the country in these critical times of urgent humanitarian need. It is estimated that in the fiscal year of 2024, the U.S. government assisted South Sudan with almost USD 351 million. And overall, the U.S. has helped the young country with nearly USD 7.3 billion.⁷² This assistance has helped millions in South Sudan. In 2017 alone, nearly five million people received food assistance. One million children and pregnant women were medically treated for malnutrition, and three million people were aided with emergency health kits.⁷³ Also, many Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) are helping South Sudan. For example, OXFAM is an international NGO that is currently aiding more than 500,000 people suffering from the hunger crisis.⁷⁴ The International Rescue Committee is also an NGO aiding more than 1.5 million people by providing primary services like protection, reproductive health, and nutrition services

and refugees to internally displaced people.⁷⁵

The European Union is also helping South Sudan by designating funds to cover humanitarian actions. It is estimated that around 49.5 million euros were donated. Around EUR four million were destined to support mobile interventions for education in emergencies, food insecurity, and malnutrition. The European Union is doing its best to reduce excess mortality through emergency food assistance in all areas of the country.⁷⁶ There have been many responses from the international community for the protection and justice of the human rights violations occurring in South Sudan. Regarding justice and accountability, the African Union stepped up in 2013 to create a Hybrid Court of South Sudan. The purpose of this was to investigate the violations and abuses committed during the armed clashes and create recommendations for reconciliation, healing, and, most importantly, Accountability for the horrible crimes. Not only was this a great way for the African Union to demonstrate regional leadership and help a fellow African country, but it displayed zero tolerance for impunity and ended the abuses occurring. However, the creation of the project has been delayed, reflecting a need for more political will to punish the serious crimes.⁷⁷

In 2019, major international groups and countries launched the Support Platform for the Global Compact for Refugees (GCR). The parties involved are the Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD), the European Union, the United States and Germany, and the UNHCR. The members seek to facilitate and enable conditions for durable and sustainable solutions to provide a safe return for refugees. These efforts align with the IGAD member countries'

2016), <https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/migration/ss/Breaking-the-Vicious-Cycle-of-Conflict-in-South-Sudan-Dropbox.pdf>

⁷⁰ "Accessing South Sudan: Humanitarian Aid in a Time of Crisis," Center for Strategic and International Studies, last modified November 27, 2018, <https://www.csis.org/analysis/accessing-south-sudan-humanitarian-aid-time-crisis>

⁷¹ "South Sudan Crisis Response Plan 2023 - 2025," United Nations International Organization Migration, last modified March 28, 2024, <https://crisisresponse.iom.int/response/south-sudan-crisis-response-plan-2023-2025>

⁷² United States Agency International Development, "The United States Provides More Than \$57 Million in Humanitarian Assistance for South Sudan," news release, July 5, 2024, <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jul-05-2024-united-states-provides-more-57-million-humanitarian-assistance-south-sudan#:~:text=The%20United%20States%20has%20stood,date%20in%20fiscal%20year%202024>

⁷³ "Accessing South Sudan: Humanitarian Aid in a Time of Crisis," Center for Strategic and International Studies, last modified November 27, 2018, <https://www.csis.org/analysis/accessing-south-sudan-humanitarian-aid-time-crisis>

⁷⁴ "Hunger crisis in South Sudan," OXFAM International, last accessed August 8, 2024, <https://www.rescue.org/country/south-sudan>.

⁷⁵ "South Sudan," International Rescue Committee, last accessed August 8, 2024, <https://www.rescue.org/country/south-sudan>.

⁷⁶ "South Sudan," European Commission, last accessed July 17, 2024, https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/where/africa/south-sudan_en

⁷⁷ "South Sudan: African Union's abandoned commitment to justice in Africa: the case of the Hybrid Court for South Sudan," ReliefWeb, last modified November 23, 2022, <https://reliefweb.int/report/south-sudan/south-sudan-african-unions-abandoned-commitment-justice-africa-case-hybrid-court-south-sudan>

agreement with the IGAD Nairobi Declaration (Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Uganda) to create durable solutions for refugees while securing their protection in host countries.⁷⁸

One of the most important tools the international community uses to protect civilians and build peace in South Sudan is the United Nations Mission In South Sudan. The UNMISS was established on July 8, 2011, as a response from the Security Council (resolution 1996 (2011)) to extreme violence, threat to security, and disturbance of international peace. Since then, the mandate has continued to be extended to prioritize the protection of civilians and human rights. The last renewal of the mandate was on April 29, 2024, when the Security Council adopted resolution 2729, renewing the mandate of UNMISS until April 30, 2025. This resolution received 13 votes in favor and two abstentions from China and Russia.⁷⁹

The UNMISS is one of eleven peacekeeping operations under the United Nations Peacekeeping, a United Nations Peace Operations department. Founded in 1945, UN Peacekeeping has been a significant tool for pacifying and mitigating

conflict, fostering peace, and ensuring global security. Peacekeeping assists countries in transitioning from violence to peace by addressing conflict and engaging in diplomatic actions with hostile parties to negotiate agreements. The UN Peacekeeping operates under three key principles: consent of the parties, impartiality, and using armed force only in self-defense or defense of the mandate. Its unique strengths include legitimacy, the ability to deploy troops and police around the world, burden sharing, and the integration of troops with civilian peacekeepers.⁸⁰

UNMISS is authorized to use all necessary actions to implement and respect its mandate because the UN Peacekeeping acts under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations. Therefore, UNMISS now has almost 20,000 peacekeepers serving the mission to protect civilians and assist the conflict-affected nation. More than 73 countries are deploying personnel, such as police, military, and civilians, to carry out the duties the mandate provides. The primary four duties are the protection of civilians, the delivery of humanitarian aid, supporting the implementation of the peace process and the

78 UNHCR, *The Pockets of Hope Initiative: Realizing Solutions in South Sudan*, (Geneva: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, 2022), <https://www.unhcr.org/sites/default/files/legacy-pdf/62b17f7a4.pdf>

79 “United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) - Mandate,” United Nations, last accessed July 18, 2024, <https://unmiss.unmissions.org/mandate>

80 “What is Peacekeeping?,” United Nations Peacekeeping, last accessed July 18, 2024, <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/what-is-peacekeeping>

International Humanitarian Aid for More Than 14,000 People in Malakal, South Sudan

Credit: Oxfam East Africa



revitalized agreement, and monitoring and reporting human rights.⁸¹

The international community has made several interventions regarding the situation in South Sudan, from international programs to peacekeeping. It is now crucial that all countries come together to assist the peace process in South Sudan, protect all civilians from potential violations of their human rights, and assist all those who have been victims. International interventions are key to maintaining international peace and restoring conflict.

Justice and Human Rights Considerations

According to the United Nations, human rights are rights all humans have for the mere reason of existing and are not granted by any state. The rights are inherent to all human beings, regardless of nationality, ethnic origin, sex, religion, etc.⁸²

More than 10 years after the outbreak of the civil war in South Sudan, the constant conflict has had a devastating impact on the human rights of all civilians in the nation. There had been relentless violations and abuses of human rights, international law, and crimes against humanity.⁸³ South Sudan continues to struggle with political differences along with ethnic disputes. This has led to a massive negative impact on human rights and the lives of people living in South Sudan. There has been a huge loss of lives, poverty, hunger, arbitrary arrest and detentions, displacement crisis, and more. The United Nations Development Program states that the situation has impacted the country's fragile peace and triggered a humanitarian emergency. In 2023, it was estimated that 9.4 million people needed support. An additional 8.3 million people required assistance,

and 7.76 million were experiencing food insecurity.⁸⁴ During this time, the main activity of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) has been monitoring, reporting, and protecting the human rights situation. Just one year after the violence erupted in Juba, the capital of South Sudan, seven out of the ten states of South Sudan were affected by the brutality and violence. An estimated 10,000 people died, and over one million people were displaced. This is a mere example of what only one year of the long-term armed conflict in South Sudan has caused to civilians around the country.⁸⁵ In just the fourth quarter of 2023, the United Nations Mission in South Sudan determined that at least 862 civilians were directly affected by violence. From those 862, 406 were killed, 293 injured, and 100 abducted. The main source affecting civilians continues to be the inter-communal violence led by militias and civil defense groups.⁸⁶

Political tension also has created an environment in South Sudan where arbitrary arrests are used as an intimidation tool to silence the opposition. Different political views are often met with harsh reactions, creating a climate of overall fear and censorship. The perpetrators (militias and civil defense groups) continue this cycle of abuse of power and violation of human rights because of a lack of accountability in the country. In order to approach this issue, holistic resolutions have to be implemented in order to address the root causes of these violations. These resolutions include strengthening the law and the protection of human rights.⁸⁷

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights Article 25(1) states that “everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and his family, including food, clothing, housing.” This is known as

81 “Mandate,” United Nations Mission in South Sudan, accessed July 20, 2024, <https://unmiss.unmissions.org/mandate>.

82 “What are human rights?,” United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner, accessed July 17, 2024, <https://www.ohchr.org/en/what-are-human-rights>.

83 Nhial Tiitmamer, *Policy Brief: Transitional Justice for Stabilizing South Sudan: Lessons from Global and Local Contexts* (Juba: The Sudd Institute: 2016), https://www.suddinstitute.org/assets/Publications/57944dc78f034_TransitionalJusticeForStabilizingSouthSudanLessonsFrom_Full.pdf.

84 UNDP, *2022 Annual Report: Support to Access to Justice, Security and Human Rights Strengthening Programme in South Sudan* (New York: United Nations Development Program, 2022), https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/2024-03/dld599_undp_ss_-_ar_support_to_access_web_0.pdf.

85 Carlo Koos and Thea Gutschke, “South Sudan’s Newest War: When Two Old Men Divide a Nation,” *German Institute of Global and Area Studies*, no. 2 (2014): 1-5, https://www.files.ethz.ch/isn/180522/gf_international_1402.pdf.

86 UNMISS, *Brief on Violence Affecting Civilians* (New York: United Nations Mission in South Sudan, 2023), https://unmiss.unmissions.org/sites/default/files/q4_brief_on_violence_affecting_civilians_0.pdf.

87 Francis G. Nazario, “Arbitrary arrest in South Sudan,” *Sudan Tribune*, May, 2024, <https://sudantribune.com/article285298/>.

the right to adequate food. However, South Sudan is hosting one of the world's biggest food crises.⁸⁸ In 2020, The United States Agency for International Development estimated that around six million people face extremely acute food insecurity levels. Also, 6.5 million people were projected to face these similar rates of food insecurity. Food assistance programs are the main food source for many vulnerable families in South Sudan. The ongoing effects of the violent political conflict are creating poor economic decisions, cereal (grain used for food) production shortages, low access to cattle and livestock, and the inflation of food prices.⁸⁹ In February 2017, the UN declared famine in two counties of South Sudan, where 100,000 people are facing famine and one million are on the brink of starvation. 4.9 million people are already suffering from severe food insecurity, and 47 percent of the population is expected to be severely food insecure in July, at the peak of the lean season. 60 percent of counties have acute malnutrition rates at or above the 15 percent emergency threshold.⁹⁰

Unfortunately, South Sudan has become the host of the largest refugee crisis in Africa and the third-largest crisis in the world. Since the violence of 2013, an estimated 2.3 million South Sudanese have fled the country to neighboring states, such as Sudan, Uganda, Ethiopia, Kenya and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.⁹¹ These refugees have encountered warnings of attacks, and many have reported paying armed militant groups to allow them to cross the border with other countries in the hope of escaping the constant violence. The majority of the refugees are women and children, around 83 percent, with children making up almost 65 percent of the entire refugee population. Sadly, women and children are

victims of various brutal attacks and sexual assaults. Often, children have to separate from their parents and find the need to flee the country alone.⁹²

The refugee crisis only grew more complex as external regional conflicts occurred in 2023, with Sudan experiencing a civil war. Since then, South Sudan has experienced a rush of refugees from Sudan, as well as returnees (a refugee who has returned to their home country) at the border. By the end of April 2023, South Sudan received more than 3,731 households and 23,611 individuals. The recent displacements will only aggravate an already alarming humanitarian and refugee crisis.⁹³ The injustice in South Sudan has deep roots stemming from decades of conflict characterized by major human rights violations. The resolution for such conflict is complex. People's lives have been impacted and scarred; unfortunately, the situation only seems to decay. Many abuses come from military leaders and high political figures, resulting in a lack of accountability in the region.⁹⁴ According to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, atrocity crimes are present in South Sudan. Nearly all 14 risk factors for such crimes are present. The United Nations defines "atrocity crimes" with three terms: genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes. This showcases the importance of taking international action more than ever.⁹⁵

The Human Rights Council took action by creating the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan. The mission expresses concern over the humanitarian situation. It acknowledges the threat impunity creates in the region. Despite these efforts, South Sudan continues to experience a humanitarian crisis. The international community, officials,

88 United Nations General Assembly, *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)* (New York: United Nations General Assembly, 1948), https://www.un.org/en/udhrbook/pdf/udhr_booklet_en_web.pdf.

89 "Food Assistance Fact Sheet - South Sudan," United States Agency International Development, last modified March 30, 2020, <https://www.usaid.gov/food-assistance/south-sudan#:~:text=An%20estimated%206%20million%20people,the%20most%20recent%20IPC%20analysis>

90 European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations, *South Sudan crisis* (Brussels: European Commission, 2017), https://ec.europa.eu/echo/files/aid/countries/factsheets/fs_south_sudan_april2017_clean_final.pdf.

91 "South Sudan Refugee Crisis Explained," *USA for the UN Refugee Agency*, July 24, 2024, <https://www.unrefugees.org/news/south-sudan-refugee-crisis-explained/>.

92 OECD, *Responding to Refugee Crises: Lessons from evaluations in South Sudan as a country of origin* (Paris: The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, 2017), https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/sites/default/files/migrated/2017-09/south_sudan_-_responding_to_refugees_in_crisis_-_lessons_from_evaluations_in_south_sudan_as_a_country_of_origin_.pdf.

93 ACAPS, *SOUTH SUDAN: Conflict-related displacement* (Switzerland: Acaps, 2023), https://www.acaps.org/fileadmin/Data_Product/Main_media/20230517_acaps_briefing_note_south_sudan_conflict_related_displacement__1_.pdf.

94 Human Rights Council, Session 52, State of Impunity: the persistence of violence and human rights violations in South Sudan, A/HRC/52/CRP.3, 3 (Apr 3, 2023), https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/hrbodies/hrcouncil/sessions-regular/session52/A_HRC_52_CRP3.pdf.

95 United Nations, *Framework of Analysis for Atrocity Crimes* (Geneva: United Nations, 2014), https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/about-us/Doc.3_Framework%20of%20Analysis%20for%20Atrocity%20Crimes_EN.pdf.

politicians, organizations, and civilians must not overlook the situation. All parties must unite to help reduce abuses to civilians and build long-lasting peace in the country.⁹⁶ This situation demands urgent attention from the international community, high-ranking officials, politicians, organizations, and civilians. All parties must unite to reduce abuses against civilians and work towards building lasting peace in the country.

Peacebuilding Efforts

Peacebuilding strategies and efforts in South Sudan have been crucial for addressing long-standing conflicts and fostering stability. However, they have not yet overcome the years of turmoil in the region. Delegates must comprehend the significance of peacebuilding, its strategies, its role in South Sudan, and its impact. Peacebuilding creates effective political relationships across any boundaries. Its objective is to solve injustice in a region peacefully. Therefore, it transforms the original conditions that create conflict. Conflict prevention, resolutions, and peace can manifest in peacebuilding. It can become an effective strategy when it meets its purpose in the long run and establishes a relationship among people. Peacebuilding can resolve conflicts and also build societies and institutions to sustain peace and justice.⁹⁷

Efforts in South Sudan officially ended wars, such as the Second South Sudanese Civil War, by signing the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. However, the implementation failed. Unfortunately, violence in South Sudan continues, only reiterating the fragility of the peace forged by the CPA. Sadly, it left South Sudan vulnerable to continual relapse into conflict. Many believe the reason for this relies on the fact that decision-making is centralized within certain groups. Politicians and international actors build plans that trickle down to the

general population. There has been very little participation from local groups, women and youth groups, and NGOs.⁹⁸ Pairing big initiatives and peace agreements from governments with initiatives from local actors can benefit the situation.

The Intergovernmental Authority on Development has played a crucial role in South Sudan's peace-building strategies. For instance, from 2013 to 2015, IGAD inaugurated the South Sudan Peace talks, led by high political figures from Ethiopia, Kenya, and Sudan, to discuss the peace process in the country. Eventually, in 2015, the Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan was signed thanks to the pressure from IGAD and other countries. The parties compromised on the cessation of hostilities and the cessation of the war. The IGAD has made significant progress in peace by facilitating diplomatic talks between warring parties. However, the efforts remain insufficient, and many challenges make peacebuilding complex. Examples of this include a lack of national reconciliation, elite interests and political agenda, ineffective law enforcement, and the spread of small arms. The government has trouble diminishing ethnic divisions and tensions between groups. Making it harder to reconcile the country. Following that, politicians in South Sudan fight over personal power and wealth by using militias. This only fueled clashes between ethnic groups.⁹⁹ As the conflict continued, law enforcement, such as police services, could not deliver proper security and justice. Also, the government has failed to create a clear policy regarding disarmament. Making it easy for unlicensed civilians to possess small arms, putting them at risk communities.¹⁰⁰ Lastly, It is believed that many members of the organization lack impartiality and credibility because they are parties involved in the conflict. Therefore, IGAD's leaders fail to condemn the perpetrators for violating peace agreements. Instead, they maintain neutrality during violent

⁹⁶ "South Sudan Events of 2023," Human Rights Watch, last accessed July 19, 2024, <https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2024/country-chapters/south-sudan>.

⁹⁷ "What is Strategic Peacebuilding?," University of Notre Dame Kroc Institute, last accessed July 19, 2024, <https://kroc.nd.edu/about-us/what-is-peace-studies/what-is-strategic-peacebuilding/#:-:text=Peacebuilding%20is%20the%20development%20of,conditions%20that%20generate%20deadly%20conflict>

⁹⁸ Emmaculate Asige Liaga, *Situating 'The Local' In Peacebuilding In South Sudan* (Washington D.C: Wilson Center, 2017), https://www.wilsoncenter.org/sites/default/files/media/documents/publication/research_paper_-_situating_the_local_in_peacebuilding_in_south_sudan.pdf

⁹⁹ Stefan Bakumenko, "Blame South Sudan's Civil War on Elites, Not "Ethnic Tensions," Jacobin, last accessed August 8, 2024, <https://jacobin.com/2024/04/south-sudan-civil-war-oil-elites>.

¹⁰⁰ SaferWorld, *Peace and stability in South Sudan: Challenges and recommendations* (London: SaferWorld, 2019), <https://www.saferworld-global.org/downloads/peace-and-stability-in-south-sudan.pdf>.

times.¹⁰¹

As mentioned before, in 2015, a very ambitious peace agreement called the Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan was signed. This peace agreement aimed to end the violent civil war two years earlier. It addresses the need for an inclusive government, efficient mechanisms of justice and accountability, demilitarization, and humanitarian access. The ARCSS was a vital tool for preventing the parties from engaging in more conflict. However, in 2016, conflict erupted again.¹⁰² Therefore, South Sudan's most recent peacebuilding agreement was the 2018 Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan. The agreement was signed between the Transnational Government of National duty, the government side, and the main opposition like the South Sudanese People's Liberation Army, Former Detainees, The South Sudan Opposition Alliance, and other opposition parties. The Intergovernmental Authority negotiated the agreement on Development (IGAD).¹⁰³ Its main objective is the end of South Sudan's civil war by a permanent ceasefire, a transitional government, and elections. This agreement, finalized in September 2018, pushed a transitional period that would end political elections in 2024 and attenuate violent conflict in South Sudan and pushed a period that would lead to elections in 2024.¹⁰⁴

To fund the peace process in South Sudan, the UN Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) has supported peacebuilding initiatives since 2011. In 2021 alone, the Peacebuilding Fund approved over USD 16 million in peacebuilding investments. This made South Sudan the largest recipient of PBF funds for that year and the 12th largest since the fund's origin. The Peacebuilding has USD 26.9 million in approved funding and nine active projects. The investments help the implementation of the important 2018 Revitalized

Agreement to Resolve the Conflict in South Sudan. The PBF focuses on strengthening national democratization, reinforcing justice processes, promoting local and regional peace, and fostering women and youth participation.

Current Status

Recent Conflicts

The humanitarian crisis in South Sudan continues to worsen as conflict increases in the country. Violent uprisings have become increasingly popular due to the country's failure to govern. The issues of political instability, food insecurity, displacement of civilians, and violence motivate groups to take matters into their own hands. In terms of a current peace agreement, President Salva Kiir formed a unity government with Vice President Riek Machar in 2020. This peace approach has been installed to restore peace to the country. However, the process of such hope has continuously been delayed because of constant flare-ups of violence. The implementation of the peace agreement was scheduled for February 2023. However, the government has extended that period to February 2025. Since then, the violence has continued, leaving South Sudan in a precarious state as it approaches the upcoming elections scheduled for December 2024.¹⁰⁵ Between April and June 2023, UNMISS recorded 222 violent episodes that affected 871 civilians, including 128 children. During these incidents, 395 civilians died, 281 were injured, 166 were kidnapped, and 29 were victims of sexual violence.

Clashes over natural resources for cattle herding are adding to the violence faced by the country today. In South Sudanese culture and society, livestock is an important source of food, especially milk. However, cattle, in particular, symbolize

101 Negera Gudeta Adula, "IGAD's peace building effort in South Sudan," *Academicresearch Journals*, no. 6(3) (May, 2018): 85-89, <https://www.academicresearchjournals.org/IJPSD/Index.html>

102 "Peace agreement in South Sudan: Ambitious but hard to deliver," European Commission, last modified February 2, 2016, [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document/EPRS_BRI\(2016\)573965#:~:text=In%20August%202015%2C%20under%20considerable,oil%20in%20a%20devastated%20country.](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document/EPRS_BRI(2016)573965#:~:text=In%20August%202015%2C%20under%20considerable,oil%20in%20a%20devastated%20country.)

103 HORN, *The Revitalized Agreement for Resolution of Conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCSS): Addressing the Challenges to Power Sharing* (London: International Institute for Strategic Studies, 2019), <https://horninstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/No.-17.-The-Revitalized-Agreement-for-Resolution-of-Conflict-in-South-Sudan-R-ARCSS-1.pdf>

104 "RJMEC report on the status of implementation of the Revitalized agreement on the resolution of the conflict in the Republic of South Sudan for the Period 1st April to 30th June 2024," ReliefWeb, last modified November, 2017, <https://reliefweb.int/report/south-sudan/rjmec-report-status-implementation-revitalised-agreement-resolution-conflict-republic-south-sudan-period-1st-april-30th-june-2024>

105 Center for Preventive Action, "Instability in South Sudan," Council on Foreign Relations, last modified July 11, 2024, [https://www.cfr.org/global-conflict-tracker/conflict/civil-war-south-sudan.](https://www.cfr.org/global-conflict-tracker/conflict/civil-war-south-sudan)

wealth, status, and power. They are considered a main asset for herders. Some people look after livestock.¹⁰⁶ Therefore, cattle raiding is a tool used in conflict because it targets a highly economically and socially valuable asset.¹⁰⁷ In February 2023, clashes in Kajo Keji County, in the Central Equatoria State, left 27 civilians dead. The dispute over natural resources in Lire Payam occurred when unidentified armed assailants attacked the village. It is suspected that the assailants are from the Bor community. Bor is a town and an agricultural center in South Sudan, known for herding livestock.¹⁰⁸ The victims of this brutal attack were 21 farmers and six herders. These were people from the Nuer community known as “cattle-raising people devoted to their herds.”¹⁰⁹ It is believed that the attack was revenge for another murder that occurred a few weeks prior.¹¹⁰ This increase in violence is a product of the government’s lack of efforts to create a unified army and deny arms access to local militias.¹¹¹

According to the United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner, there has been a rise in extrajudicial executions. These are killings of an individual outside any legal framework.¹¹² Between the beginning of 2023 and mid-2024, around 76 civilians, including children, were killed by a firing squad. As there was no trial, a grave violation of the right to life and due process occurred.¹¹³ This is the result of two things: conflict in South Sudan and a lack of accountability, leading to total impunity.

Another rise of violence important to the peaceful state of

South Sudan is the current insurgency in the Equatoria. The state of Equatoria is the southernmost region of South Sudan and holds the country’s capital, Juba. In December 2013, when the civil war erupted, the main area of conflict was the Bahr el Ghazal region in the country’s northwest (supporters of President Salva Kiir) and the Greater Upper Nile Region in the northeast part of the country. Therefore, the third region, Equatoria, remained relatively calm during the political outburst. However, since 2016, it has positioned itself as an active hot stop for conflict. The area intensified after the ARCSS signing. The Equatorians started fighting for more local or regional autonomy in the Equatoria, which is predominantly led by the Dinka.¹¹⁴ According to Amnesty International, in 2021, in just two months, more than a dozen civilians were killed, and thousands were displaced as a consequence of the ongoing conflict. As several militia groups affiliated with Sudan’s People’s Defense Forces and the Sudan People’s Liberation Army-In Opposition centered around Tambura county, conflict only grew.¹¹⁵

There has been a very slow process to peace; various acts of violence happen almost periodically. For instance, in February 2024, it was reported that in the Western South, at least 26 civilians were killed due to fighting between local groups in the community. Because of that, President Salva Kiir and Vice President Reik Machar made a public announcement to end the rise of intercommunal violence in the state. However, it was not enough.¹¹⁶ Since then, many organizations have been looking to help South Sudan. For example, the Swiss Peace

106 “Growing concern for South Sudan’s herders as conflict displaces millions of cattle,” Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, last modified December 31, 2014, <https://www.fao.org/newsroom/detail/Growing-concern-for-South-Sudan-s-herders-as-conflict-displaces-millions-of-cattle/>.

107 Iffat Idris, *Livestock and conflict in South Sudan* (Birmingham: GSDRC University of Birmingham, 2018), https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5c6abdec40f0b61a22792fd5/484_Livestock_and_Conflict_in_South_Sudan.pdf.

108 The Editors of Encyclopaedia Britannica, “Bor South Sudan,” Britannica, accessed by August 4, 2024, <https://www.britannica.com/place/Bor-South-Sudan/>.

109 The Editors of Encyclopaedia Britannica, “Nuer,” Britannica, accessed by August 4, 2024, <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Nuer>

110 “South Sudan: Clashes kill 27 people in Kajo Keji County, Central Equatoria State,” Crisis 24, last modified February 3, 2023, <https://crisis24.garda.com/alerts/2023/02/south-sudan-clashes-kill-27-people-in-kajo-keji-county-central-equatoria-state-feb-2>

111 James Barnett, “War and Peace in South Sudan,” New Lines Magazine, February 5, 2024, <https://newlinesmag.com/reportage/war-and-peace-in-south-sudan/>.

112 “Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions,” United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner, accessed August 4, 2024, <https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-executions>.

113 “South Sudan: Rise in extrajudicial executions,” United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner, accessed August 4, 2024, <https://www.ohchr.org/en/statements/2024/07/south-sudan-rise-extrajudicial-executions>.

114 Alan Boswell, *Special Report No. 493* (Washington D.C: United States Institute of Peace, 2021), https://www.usip.org/sites/default/files/2021-04/sr_493-conflict_and_crisis_in_south_sudans_equatoria.pdf.

115 “South Sudan: Survivors describe killings, mass displacement and terror amid fighting in Western Equatoria,” Amnesty International, last modified December 9, 2021, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2021/12/south-sudan-survivors-describe-killings-mass-displacement-and-terror-amid-fighting-in-western-equatoria/>.

116 Reuters, “Fresh fighting in South Sudan kills 26 people, officials say,” *Reuters*, last modified February 6, 2024, <https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/fresh-fighting-south-sudan-kills-26-people-officials-say-2024-02-06/>.



Sudan People's Liberation Movement Soldiers in Juba, South Sudan

Credit: Jason Patinkin (VOA)

contributes to peace and reconciliation in the states of Lakes and Unity.¹¹⁷In April 2024, a group of young men shot fire in a village in Western South Sudan, resulting in the deaths of 12 civilians and the disappearance of nearly 15 children. Activists in the area believe the rise of violence is due to the upcoming elections that are set to be in December 2024.¹¹⁸ The 2018 peace agreement demands electoral reforms and strong institutions. South Sudan has yet to create an environment allowing free and fair elections. Therefore, it was announced that the elections will be held by the end of 2024. This caused outrage from the opposition because Kiir's party drives the election process. The opposition protested for nonparticipation in elections. Causing more conflict between Kiir's party and the opposition.¹¹⁹

There has also been a recent outburst of conflict on the border of South Sudan and Sudan. The Abyei area is a territory located on the border of Sudan and South Sudan and has been disputed for a long time due to oil reserves and production.

Since the Comprehensive Peace Agreement signed in 2005, which ended the Second Sudanese Civil War, the region has remained under a "special administrative status" between the two countries. Therefore, the two countries have disputed who controls the oil-rich area in the Defra Fields. Additionally, historical ethnic disputes have played an important role in the current violence in the region.¹²⁰ The region has deep connections with the Ngok Dinka community (the northernmost Dinka people in South Sudan) and Arabic Misseriya (an indigenous group of Arabic tribes in Sudan). As a response to the conflict, in May 2024, both the Ngok Dinka and Misseriya communities signed a Peace Agreement to foster undistributed grazing and farming activities in the region and to create stronger intercommunal bonds.¹²¹

Tension in the Abyei region continues to grow as ethnic violence between the Ngok Dinka and Twic Dinak, tribal members from Warrap State, dispute over possession of land in the region of Aneet, located at the border.¹²² According to a

117 "Strengthening Local Conflict Prevention and Resolution Mechanisms in South Sudan," Swiss Peace, last modified February 28, 2022, <https://www.swisspeace.ch/articles/strengthening-local-conflict-prevention-and-resolution-mechanisms-in-south-sudan>.

118 Waakhe Simon Wudu, "At least 12 killed, 15 children missing in South Sudan attack," *Reuters*, last modified April 2, 2024, <https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/least-12-killed-15-children-missing-south-sudan-attack-2024-04-02/>.

119 Duop Chak Wuo, "Opinion| Casting shadows: The dangers of premature elections in South Sudan," *Radio Tamazuj*, July 19, 2024, <https://www.radiotamazuj.org/en/news/article/opinion-casting-shadows-the-dangers-of-premature-elections-in-south-sudan>,

120 Jan Pospisil, "Crisis in Abyei: South Sudan must act and stop violence between Dinka groups," *The Conversation*, last modified March 5, 2024, <https://theconversation.com/crisis-in-abyei-south-sudan-must-act-and-stop-violence-between-dinka-groups-224409>.

121 UNISFA, *Ngok Dinka and Misseriya Commit to Peaceful Coexistence as Abyei Post Migration Ends* (New York: United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei, 2024), <https://unisfa.unmissions.org/ngok-dinka-and-misseriya-commit-peaceful-coexistence-abyei-post-migration-ends>.

122 Deng Machol, "37 people killed in disputed oil-rich African region of Abyei in fighting linked to spiritual leader," *AP News*, last

statement from authorities in the Abyei Special Administrative Area, the fighting occurred as a group of young rebels from the Twic community carried out a series of attacks. The attacks are believed to be linked to resentment from Twic politicians. The Twic community felt ignored by the national government and the Ngok Dinka community, as they controlled the Abyei area. Because the Twic felt excluded from decision-making, conflict erupted.¹²³ In the first couple of months of 2024, violence in the area resulted in the killing of at least 136 civilians, including two peacekeepers.¹²⁴

As violence continuously disturbs the peace processes in South Sudan, there is an urgent need for political stability and a cessation of hostilities between communities. In addition, international aid and holistic resolutions are extremely beneficial in times like this. According to the United Nations Mission in South Sudan Human Rights Division's 2023 Report of Violence on Civilians, in just the fourth quarter of 2023, more than 863 civilians were killed.¹²⁵ This reflects the need for humanitarian aid to those affected by the current political crisis, armed violence, hunger crisis, and displacement crisis. Delegates need to understand the current eruptions of violence along with other factors affecting the situation in South Sudan to turn out initiatives that can fully put an end to the devastating situation in the country and the current humanitarian emergency.

The Role of UNMISS in Humanitarian Aid

After more than 13 years since its independence, South Sudan struggles to maintain peace and stability for its citizens. A combination of violent conflict, lack of security, poor public health conditions, intercommunal clashes, and impunity have pushed the country's current situation towards a humanitarian

emergency. The people of South Sudan are facing a protection crisis, as levels of abuse, conflict-related sexual violence, and gender abuse are incredibly high.¹²⁶ In 2022, the Humanitarian Development Index (HDI) ranks South Sudan very low. The HDI measures a series of factors to determine the human development of a country and the standard of living of that country. While a score of .800 is very high and .550 is medium, South Sudan earned a score of .381, which is extremely low.¹²⁷

Even though there have been numerous attempts to reinstate peace in the country, the attempts have fallen short. Some reasons are the lack of national reconciliation, intercommunal violence, and political instability. However, humanitarian contributions are always beneficial in times like this. In 2011, after the referendum that led to the independence of South Sudan, the United Nations Security Council determined that the conditions the country faced were not beneficial and threatened peace in the region and internationally. Therefore, by the adaptation of resolution 1996 (2011), the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) was established.¹²⁸ The main objective was to consolidate peace and establish conditions for the country's development.

The UNMISS constitutes a tremendous international tool to deploy humanitarian aid, help protect civilians, and support the implementation of the Revitalised Agreement. At first, the scope of the mandate remained very broad to support the South Sudanese government in protecting civilians by reporting rights violations and supporting the government and military. This was a very optimistic resolution since it stood on the assumption that the South Sudanese government would cooperate by willingly protecting the stability of its country. However, that was not entirely true.¹²⁹ In April 2024, the United Nations Security Council had to extend the mandate

modified February 4, 2024, <https://apnews.com/article/south-sudan-abyei-land-dispute-cc6d77f2eec8f3e0e8b8603aea5738b0>.

123 Deng Machol, "37 people killed in disputed oil-rich African region of Abyei in fighting linked to spiritual," *AP News*, last modified February 4, 2024, <https://theconversation.com/crisis-in-abyei-south-sudan-must-act-and-stop-violence-between-dinka-groups-224409>.

124 Un News, *Peacekeepers and civilians killed during clashes in disputed Abyei region* (New York: United Nations, 2024), <https://news.un.org/en/story/2024/01/1146007>.

125 HRD UNMISS, *Brief on Violence Affecting Civilians* (New York: Human Rights Division United Nations Mission in South Sudan, 2023), https://reliefweb.int/attachments/9f5e5605-3268-41b7-a147-a80ec1004918/q4_brief_on_violence_affecting_civilians.pdf.

126 "Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan South Sudan. New York: United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs," OCHA, accessed August 4, 2024, <https://www.unocha.org/south-sudan>.

127 "Human Development Index (HDI)," Human Development Reports United Nations Development Program, accessed August 4, 2024, <https://hdr.undp.org/data-center/human-development-index#/indicies/HDI>.

128 "UNMISS Fact Sheet," United Nations Mission in South Sudan, accessed August 4, 2024, <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/unmiss>.

129 Eli Stamnes, *The United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS): Protecting Civilians in a Volatile Environment* (Oslo: Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, 2015), <https://www.files.ethz.ch/isn/193787/NUPI-Policy-Brief-24-15-Stamnes-3.pdf>.

for one more year since South Sudan had failed to establish the 2018 Revitalized Agreement, delaying the peace process even more.¹³⁰

With the extension of the mandate, 17,000 troops, 2,000 police, and 2,000 civilians are deployed to carry out the multidimensional peacekeeping operation. As intercommunal violence continues to invade the country, especially in areas in the Abyei region, Unity, and Warrap states, the UNMISS has been significant in limiting the impact on civilians.¹³¹ The operation responds quickly to fresh outbreaks of violence. For instance, in April 2024, in Jonglei, a group of armed militia affiliated with the Greater Pibor Administrative Area attacked a group of cattle keepers in Tambura, in the Equatoria area. It was reported that civilians were murdered, women and children were taken hostage, and a significant amount of cattle were abducted. As a response, the UNMISS demanded the Greater Pibor Administrative Area authorities retrieve the abducted victim, as well as impose the law on those who committed the

atrocious crimes. Also, because of fear of violence escalating, more than 13,000 people fled and sought sanctuary outside a UNMISS camp. Thus, the UNMISS deployed another 76 military peacekeepers in Tambura to protect the families and victims of the serious attacks.¹³²

Overall, the UNMISS continues to be significant in restoring peace in the country. Right now, several council members consider the following issues crucial to the operation in South Sudan. Firstly, the implementation of the 2018 peace agreement (R-ARCSS). With the upcoming elections to be held in December 2024, it is important to have a permanent plan to maintain security during the elections since the electoral period can bring unrest.¹³³

Another important pillar to look out for in the Mission in South Sudan is the protection of civilians, especially women and children, from being victims of sexual or gender violence. Widespread rape and sexual violence is being used as a tactic

130 United Nations, “Security Council Renews United Nations Mission in South Sudan for One Year, Adopting Resolution 2729 (2024) by Vote of 13 in Favour, 2 Abstentions,” press Release, April 29, 2024, <https://press.un.org/en/2024/sc15687.doc.htm>.

131 IPI, *Prioritizing and Sequencing Security Council Mandates in 2024: The Case of UNMISS* (New York: International Peace Institute, February 2024), https://www.ipinst.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/2403_The-Case-of-UNMISS2024.pdf.

132 UNMISS, *UNMISS responds rapidly to protect civilians and restore calm amidst fresh outbreaks of intercommunal violence* (New York: United Nations Mission in South Sudan, April 2024), <https://reliefweb.int/attachments/b55a1c6c-9029-46c3-a816-525fba01b173/PR%20-%20UNMISS%20responds%20rapidly%20to%20protect%20civilians%20and%20restore%20calm%20amidst%20fresh%20outbreak%20of%20intercom.pdf>.

133 IPI, *Prioritizing and Sequencing Security Council Mandates in 2024: The Case of UNMISS* (New York: International Peace Institute, February 2024), https://www.ipinst.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/2403_The-Case-of-UNMISS2024.pdf.

UN Protection of Civilians (PoC) site in Western Bahr el Ghazal, South Sudan.

Credit: Jill Craig (VOA)



by armed groups in the country. The government is also at fault for failing to either prevent these acts or punish them.¹³⁴ As a response, the UNMISS held a workshop in the Central Upper Nile, with more than 40 members of opposition focus, to identify resolutions and actions to eliminate sexual violence in the area.

Overall, the UNMISS represents a case of protecting civilians. The shelters where civilians are protected are called “Protection of Civilian Sites” (PoC sites). These sites are temporary shelters to provide refuge and protection to civilians whose physical safety is violated or threatened. The sites have attracted refugees and internally displaced people from other parts of the country. By June 2020, over 180,000 people were seeking protection for civilian sites. The sites are in Juba, Bentiu, Malakal, Bor, and Wau.¹³⁵ For example, in 2021, there was an armed attack in the Tambura area of Western Equatoria. A victim and witness of the atrocious attack revealed that the attack surprised all as a group of armed men started shooting and burning the village of Tinakpuro. The villagers left and sought shelter outside a church near a UNMISS site to feel safe. In that case, more than 30,000 people were sheltering in schools and churches close to the UNMISS operating base in Tambura. The PoC sites are often considered one of UNMISS’s most successful projects. However, the mandate has other requirements and missions, such as protecting human rights, the rule of law, and justice reforms, as well as creating conditions for a peace process.

Sustainable Development Goals

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a product of all countries’ urgent calls for action to adopt the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In 2015, all United Nations Member States adopted this resolution as a global partnership

to understand, recognize, and reduce levels of inequality and poverty, improve health and educational conditions, and tackle climate change. There are 17 SDGs. Some examples are SDG 1 (no poverty), SDG 5 (gender equality), and SDG 16 (peace, justice, and strong institutions).¹³⁶ Each goal can be applied and viewed within the context of a country. For example, the 2024 Sustainable Development Report on South Sudan highlights that, because of violence and the refugee crisis, there has been no progress on goal 1. However, concerning goal 5. There has been progress as women now have representation in the national parliament.¹³⁷

One of the main objectives of the 2030 Agenda is peace. The United Nations is determined to create peaceful, inclusive, and fair societies. The General Assembly and UN Security Council are determined to establish conditions for development and peace by reinforcing the protection of human rights.¹³⁸

The Sustainable Development Goals are crucial to transform the world we know. They are also a guide on how to achieve that transformation. A country can improve in many ways, and by having these 17 goals, it can tackle all areas. They are universal and indivisible, yet customizable to each unique country and its situation. For instance, South Sudan has to work extremely hard to fully commit to the agenda in the face of the challenges of the country’s active context of conflict and humanitarian crisis.¹³⁹ In 2017, South Sudan officially started the challenge of committing and achieving the 2030 Agenda. The armed conflict in South Sudan has affected all areas of the country and the entire population. With over four million people fleeing their homes and another six million facing a food crisis, South Sudan must address the civilian’s needs with long-term efficient solutions. In fact, according to the Sustainable Development Report, South Sudan has an SDG

¹³⁴ “South Sudan: UN report highlights widespread sexual violence against women and girls in conflict, fueled by systemic impunity,” OHCHR, accessed August 4, 2024, <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2022/03/south-sudan-un-report-highlights-widespread-sexual-violence-against-women>.

¹³⁵ “In South Sudan, Protection of Civilians sites are transitioning into Internally Displaced Persons Camps,” United Nations Peacekeeping, accessed August 4, 2024, <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/south-sudan-protection-of-civilians-sites-are-transitioning-internally-displaced-persons-camps>.

¹³⁶ “The 17 Goals,” United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, accessed August 5, 2024, <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>.

¹³⁷ United Nations, “Sustainable Development Report 2024: South Sudan,” 2024, <https://dashboards.sdgindex.org/static/profiles/pdfs/SDR-2024-south-sudan.pdf>.

¹³⁸ “Peace and Conflict Prevention,” United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, accessed August 5, 2024, <https://unsceb.org/topics/peace-and-conflict-prevention#:~:text=The%202030%20Agenda%20for%20Sustainable,peaceful%2C%20just%20and%20inclusive%20societies.>

¹³⁹ “Our Work on the Sustainable Development Goals in South Sudan,” United Nations South Sudan, accessed August 5, 2024, <https://southsudan.un.org/en/sdgs>.

Index Score of 40.16 (the regional average is 53.7) and an SDG Index Rank of 167/167, being placed last. This is extremely concerning and needs to be addressed immediately.¹⁴⁰ As South Sudan faces multiple challenges at once, one particular SDG needs immediate addressing. Goal 6, titled “Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions,” focuses on promoting inclusive societies and providing justice, accountability, and strong institutions. Some factors that serve as barriers to the achievement of goal 6 are homicides (14.1 per 100,000 population), lack of violence control, lack of access and affordability to justice, corruption, and unlawful detentions, to name a few.¹⁴¹

In 2023, the Global Hunger Index categorized the hunger situation in South Sudan as “alarming.” In 2022, almost two-thirds of the population will experience food insecurity.¹⁴² The 10-year-long civil war has caused many crises. The hunger crisis is an example, and the situation must be addressed. Goal 2 titled “zero hunger,” promotes food security, sustainable agriculture, and ending hunger. South Sudan must immediately address the issue by delivering aid to those affected by the hunger crisis. As well as eradicating all violence and establishing peace and stability once and for all.¹⁴³ South Sudan must understand the importance of creating conditions to respect the peace process and create a fairer society. Delegates must also understand the importance of the 2030 Agenda. The Sustainable Development Goals are applied in cases like South Sudan, where violence and humanitarian emergencies prevent the goals from being achieved.

Bloc Analysis

Points of Division

There are varying levels of concern and involvement within the global community about the conflict in South Sudan. Countries have different interests at stake, some being geopolitical, humanitarian, or historical. The first bloc includes countries

with strategic alliances or regional interests in South Sudan. These countries actively support South Sudan in promoting stability. This bloc’s main goal is to focus on ensuring that South Sudan protects its sovereignty and provides assistance to its people. Additionally, countries within this bloc see the region’s stability as crucial to its long-term stability. Assistance can come through funding, providing supplies, or personnel. Countries within this bloc may also look for more intensive peacekeeping efforts to end the conflict. However, delegates will need to address varying approaches toward peacekeeping within this bloc. The second bloc includes countries that do not actively support South Sudan. Members of this bloc are more reserved in the resources they provide if any at all. This bloc views the instability caused by South Sudan’s independence as a threat to the region and would rather have the country reunited with Sudan. Additionally, countries in this bloc may not support peacekeeping efforts for various reasons. Some countries view peacekeeping as larger foreign countries involved in smaller regional conflicts. Other countries may see peacekeeping efforts as invasive and the presence of foreign peacekeepers as unwelcome. Lastly, the third bloc includes countries not involved in peacekeeping operations in South Sudan. Members of this bloc take a conservative approach and do not participate in peacekeeping operations. While this bloc may appear to stand in the middle between the prior two blocs, countries within this bloc can take on a more unique approach. Countries would likely be more willing to look for solutions besides peacekeeping. They may also want peacekeepers to play a more humanitarian role while letting local forces resolve the conflict. This bloc would contain various views that could complement the first two blocs or propose a third unique path.

Countries with High Levels of Contributions to Peacekeeping Operations in South Sudan

These countries provide significant assessed contributions (Level A to C) or personnel (military or police personnel).

¹⁴⁰ “South Sudan Sub-Saharan Africa,” Sustainable Development Report, last accessed August 4 2024, <https://dashboards.sdindex.org/profiles/south-sudan>.

¹⁴¹ SDG Transformation Center, *Sustainable Development Report South Sudan* (Paris: Sustainable Development Goals Transformation Center, 2024), <https://dashboards.sdindex.org/static/profiles/pdfs/SDR-2024-south-sudan.pdf>.

¹⁴² Welt Hunger Life, *Global Hunger Index The Power of Youth In Shaping Food Systems* (Bonn: Welt Hunger Life, 2023), https://admin.concern.net/sites/default/files/documents/2023-10/2023%20Global%20Hunger%20Index_EN.pdf.

¹⁴³ “End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture,” United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, accessed August 11, 2024, <https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal2>

These countries want to contribute to foreign aid tools like the UNMISS. Countries contributing want to bring peace and establish conditions for growth in South Sudan. Examples include the United States, India, Bangladesh, and France. The levels of money contributions work the following way. Each country's budget is based on a formula. This formula uses mostly the country's capacity to pay. After that, they are categorized on levels. These levels are determined based on their per capita gross national product (GNP).¹⁴⁴

Contributions can be financial contributions or personnel contributions. Both are extremely important in carrying out the missions. In the financial year of 2020-2021, the countries with the highest contribution were the United States, China, Japan, Germany, and the United Kingdom.¹⁴⁵ Countries help to gain respect from the international community and have a voice in security issues. Therefore, the five permanent United Nations Security Council members have more financial responsibility than other countries regarding the budget.¹⁴⁶ This bloc also includes countries that are contributing personnel to the UN Peacekeeping Operations in South Sudan. Unlike those providing financial contributions, these countries send members of their own national services to assist with the ongoing violence in South Sudan. Notable top military and police contributors include Rwanda, Nepal, and Bangladesh. A lot of countries decide to contribute help based on interests.¹⁴⁷ For example, many African countries provide troops; for example, Ethiopia is the top fifth military personnel contributor to the UNMISS.¹⁴⁸ In summary, contributing countries either contribute personnel or budget and are crucial to peace for the UN missions.

Countries with Low Participation in Peacekeeping Operations in South Sudan

Countries that do not actively give money or people to aid the UNMISS fall into this bloc. These countries might be interested in regional stability, but their participation in peacekeeping operations is minimal. Examples include Poland, Argentina, Estonia, and Greece.¹⁴⁹ Many countries are listed as assessed aides to the United Nations Mission in South Sudan, but their contribution is insignificant (Level A-C). However, many countries are interested in and support the United Nations Peacekeeping Operations and see it as an excellent tool for keeping global peace.¹⁵⁰

Also, some countries benefit from peacekeeping operations instead of big mission contributors. These countries receive or have received the help of UN operations. However, many countries that face instability and have hosted similar missions still try to help regional stability by aiding bordering countries. Their help may be monetary or with personnel aid. Many sent personnel abroad to add to global efforts to maintain peace and security. Yet, their efforts may be smaller compared to other countries like the United States or China. However, this must not be ignored as any aid is vital for the full impact of the United Nations Peacekeeping Operations.¹⁵¹

Countries with No Participation in Peacekeeping Operations in South Sudan

The countries with zero participation in peacekeeping operations in South Sudan will fall in this bloc. Although these countries might be interested in stability and peacebuilding in South Sudan and are members of the United Nations, they have yet to contribute to the peacekeeping operations

144 "Committee on Contributions," United Nations General Assembly, accessed August 11, 2024, <https://www.un.org/en/ga/contributions/peacekeeping.shtml>.

145 Preyash Shah, "Charted: Contributions to UN Peacekeeping Forces by Country," Visual Capitalist, last modified June 15, 2024, <https://www.visualcapitalist.com/cp/contributions-to-un-peacekeeping-forces-by-country/>.

146 Alex J. Bellamy and Paul D. Williams, *Why States Contribute United Nations Peacekeepers* (New York: International Peace Institute, 2012), <https://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/resrep09650.6.pdf>.

147 Thomas Weiss and Giovanna Kuele, "Why Developing Nations Send So Many Troops to UN Peace Operations," PassBlue, last modified February 12, 2019, <https://www.passblue.com/2019/02/12/why-developing-nations-send-so-many-troops-to-un-peace-ops/>.

148 "UNMISS Fact Sheet," United Nations Mission in South Sudan, accessed August 4, 2024, <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/unmiss>.

149 United Nations General Assembly, Resolution 77/292 B, Peacekeeping Assessments, ST/ADM/SER.B/1063, (June 30, 2023), https://www.un.org/en/ga/contributions/UNMISS_UMOJA_JUL_23%20new.pdf.

150 Alex J. Bellamy and Paul D. Williams, *Why States Contribute United Nations Peacekeepers* (New York: International Peace Institute, 2012), <https://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/resrep09650.6.pdf>.

151 Lisa Sharland and Genevieve Feely, *Mapping Pacific contributions to UN peacekeeping* (Canberra: Australian Strategic Policy Institute, 2020), <https://www.aspi.org.au/report/mapping-pacific-peacekeeping>.

in general. There are multiple reasons countries may not be open to participating in the operations, like predispositions and policy decisions.¹⁵²

Early in the 2000s, certain countries needed more participation in the UN Peacekeeping Operations. In a fourth Committee Session, many countries expressed concerns over peacekeeping operations in general. For example, a representative of Jordan stated its distress over reimbursement issues over troops and equipment costs. Also, another representative from Egypt stressed concerns over the need to include troops in the field and the work. Another representative from Peru questioned the recommendations the UN Peacekeeping Operations had.¹⁵³ Countries may decide if they contribute to the missions depending on their views on the matter, their policy, concerns, and overall opinions. A country decides to contribute to a United Nations mission if its political values align with the mission; if that is not the case, it could be a reason to step back from providing help. Therefore, deciding to contribute and support international peace with other alternatives like other international organizations, non-governmental organizations, alliances, etc.¹⁵⁴

Committee Mission

The Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (C34) is part of the United Nations General Assembly. It includes various countries that support the missions with personnel and financial aid. The main members of the Security Council and the host countries are also included. The mandate of C34 is to review the current operations and all issues related to the operations. The review is used to carry out annual recommendation reports that are later adopted once approved.¹⁵⁵

The Committee started with 34 members and now has over 100 members. Even though C-34 has no mandatory authority, C-34 is reliable. The President of the General Assembly mentions that the Committee is vital in keeping global peace. There has been progress in the reduction of personnel deaths and natural crises. While still getting the initial objective of protecting civilians done.¹⁵⁶ Many Member Nations believe that the Committee's annual report is a reliable guideline for making policies and priorities and achieving goals. For more than 70 years of service, UN Peacekeeping Operations, with the help of the Security Council and aiding countries, have made more than 55 missions. The Security Council has provided clear mandates to protect civilians, build secure institutions, protect the rule of law, promote human rights, and empower women.¹⁵⁷

The UNMISS mandate is designed to help prevent another civil war. Also, to avoid more eruptions of violence, national and local peace issues should be addressed. Additionally, protecting human rights and the Revitalized Agreement are fundamental goals of the UNMISS. Therefore, the Member States of C-34 must develop robust, engaging, and inclusive recommendations. These must address the violence, the humanitarian emergency, and the delayed status of the Peace Agreement.¹⁵⁸

152 Alex J. Bellamy and Paul D. Williams, *Why States Contribute United Nations Peacekeepers* (New York: International Peace Institute, 2012), <https://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/resrep09650.6.pdf>.

153 United Nations, "Lack of Participation by Developed Countries in UN Peacekeeping Mission raised in Fourth Committee," press release, November 8, 2000, <https://press.un.org/en/2000/20001108.gaspd199.doc.html>.

154 Alex J. Bellamy and Paul D. Williams, *Why States Contribute United Nations Peacekeepers* (New York: International Peace Institute, 2012), <https://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/resrep09650.6.pdf>.

155 "Recommendations of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (C34)," United Nations Peacekeeping, accessed August 6, 2024, <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/recommendations-of-special-committee-peacekeeping-operations-c34>.

156 United Nations, "United Nations Peacekeeping One of Global Community's Most Effective Tools in Maintaining Stability, General Assembly President Tells Committee," press release, February 14, 2022, <https://press.un.org/en/2022/gapk243.doc.htm>.

157 "What We Do," United Nations Peacekeeping, accessed August 8, 2024, <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/what-we-do>.

158 "Mandate," United Nations Mission in South Sudan, accessed August 8, 2024, <https://unmiss.unmissions.org/mandate>.



C34

NHSMUN 2025



TOPIC B: IMPLEMENTING PROTECTIVE MEASURES IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR

Photo Credit: Vijay Kumar - India Ministry of Defense

Introduction

The conflict in Jammu and Kashmir is a major issue for global peace and security. The region has been the center of a long-standing territorial dispute between India and Pakistan. It began in 1947 when the two countries gained their independence. Currently, the region faces serious human rights issues such as summary executions, rape and torture from both sides.¹ Help is needed, especially from the UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP). The UNMOGIP was created in 1949 to monitor the ceasefire line between India and Pakistan after their first war over Jammu and Kashmir.

On October 31, 2019, the region became a union territory of India after losing its autonomy earlier that year.² This change has caused unrest, affecting the region's social, political, and economic situation. India's removal of Article 370, which gave Kashmir autonomy, has led to a stronger military presence and more political problems in Jammu and Kashmir³. This has raised serious human rights concerns. Civilians have faced abuses like random arrests and detentions. The displacement of communities, such as the Kashmiri Pandits in the past, and a rise in mental health issues also show the urgent need for protection.⁴ Security is at risk due to insurgency and terrorism, with militant groups like Jaish-e-Mohammed and The Resistance Front active in the area.⁵ These groups are believed to have external support and pose severe threats. It is important to address these security problems to protect civilians and find a peaceful solution to the crisis.

The conflict has made the situation tough for both India

and Pakistan. Political decisions are often based on each government's stance on Kashmir, which is a big issue in elections. As discussed, India took away Kashmir's special status in 2019, confirming its claim to the region.⁶ Pakistan, however, believes Kashmir should be theirs in part because of its Muslim-majority population.⁷ The conflict over the region affects trade, investment, and access to important services in both countries. This unrest affects not only regional security but also has global consequences.⁸ Jammu and Kashmir have faced a drop in the economy, with less investment and disrupted jobs.⁹ Efforts to boost tourism are overshadowed by fears of the locals. Problems in healthcare and education add to high stress levels, showing a need for protection and outside help.¹⁰

The international community, including the UN Human Rights Council and various Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs), are worried about Kashmir.¹¹ Some countries favor

1 Gossman, Patricia. 1999. "Behind the Kashmir Conflict Abuses by Indian Security Forces and Militant Groups Continue." Human Rights Watch. <https://www.hrw.org/report/1999/07/01/behind-kashmir-conflict/abuses-indian-security-forces-and-militant-groups-continue>.

2 The Editors of Encyclopaedia Britannica, "Jammu and Kashmir Summary," Encyclopædia Britannica, Accessed August 10, 2024, <https://www.britannica.com/summary/Jammu-and-Kashmir>; "Article 370: What Happened with Kashmir and Why It Matters," BBC News, August 5, 2019, <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-49234708>

3 "India summary of Human Rights Concerns in Jammu ..." Amnesty International, 1995, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/asa200021995en.pdf>

4 Thelwell, Kim, "The Internal Displacement of the Kashmiri Pandits," The Borgen Project, November 1, 2020, <https://borgenproject.org/internal-displacement-kashmiri-pandits/>.

5 Zutshi, Chitralkha, "Why the Kashmir Conflict Is Not Just an India-Pakistan Border Dispute," PBS, March 5, 2019, <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/world/why-the-kashmir-conflict-is-not-just-an-india-pakistan-border-dispute>.

6 Hussain, Aijaz, "India's Supreme Court Upholds Government's Decision to Remove Disputed Kashmir's Special Status," AP News, December 11, 2023, <https://apnews.com/article/kashmir-india-autonomy-supreme-court-status-d7e9b2c0cb0222e18de08d75c6b0ebc5>.

7 Kashmir: Why India and Pakistan Fight over It," BBC News, August 8, 2019, <https://www.bbc.com/news/10537286>.

8 Jong, Kaz de, Saskia van de Kam, Nathan Ford, Kamalini Lokuge, Silke Fromm, Renate van Galen, Brigg Reilley, and Rolf Kleber, "Conflict in the Indian Kashmir Valley II: Psychosocial Impact," Conflict and health, October 14, 2008, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2577626/#:~:text=Conclusion,suffering%20from%20mental%20health%20problems>.

9 Wani, Maknoon, "Kashmir Is Bleeding. So Is Its Economy," Al Jazeera, February 4, 2023, <https://www.aljazeera.com/opinions/2023/2/4/kashmir-is-bleeding-its-economy>.

10 Parvaiz, Semran, "Healthcare Disparities in Jammu and Kashmir: Challenges and Systemic Inefficiencies - JK Policy Institute," JK Policy Institute | Research, Policy, Development, Governance, August 20, 2023, <https://www.jkpi.org/healthcare-disparities-in-jammu-and-kashmir-challenges-and-systemic-inefficiencies/>.

11 Tayyaba Khan, "Kashmir Crisis: How the World Is Reacting," UAB Institute for Human Rights Blog, October 28, 2019, <https://sites.uab.edu/humanrights/2019/10/28/kashmir-crisis-how-the-world-is-reacting/>.

more global help to fix the crisis. Others support India or Pakistan based on their own beliefs. The UN Peacekeeping Committee says action is needed to protect people, reduce violence, and make conflict areas safer.¹² The UNMOGIP and global talks are key to watching the situation and finding ways to help.

History and Description of the Issue

History of the UNMOGIP and Kashmir

In 1947, British India was split into two countries, India and Pakistan. This led to a conflict over the princely state of Jammu and Kashmir.¹³ At first, the ruler of Jammu and Kashmir, Maharaja Hari Singh, wanted the region to stay independent. Eventually, he agreed to join India on the condition that the state would control everything except defense, currency, and foreign affairs. The Maharaja's choice was influenced by an invasion by Pakistani raiders and an uprising in the western part of the state. This decision led to the Indo-Pakistan War of 1947.

In 1949, after the war, the Karachi Agreement created a ceasefire line to be monitored by military observers. The United Nations then created the UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) to oversee the truce and report any violations.¹⁴ This ceasefire line was supposed to be temporary in order to prevent further conflict. However, it changed over time and was renamed the Line of Control (LoC) after the 1972 Simla agreement, which ended another

war between India and Pakistan. As a result, the UN's role was reduced, and both countries took more control over the LoC. This boundary is heavily disputed, not just by India and Pakistan, but also by Kashmiri nationalist groups and local communities affected by the division.¹⁵

The division of Kashmir split the region in two, blocking the Jhelum Valley route, which was the only connection between the Kashmir Valley and Pakistani Punjab. This separation broke up many villages and separated families. In some areas, relatives could see each other across the LoC but were unable to reunite.¹⁶ Civilians endured violence, property destruction, and significant mental health challenges. Many were forced to leave their homes and were unable to get medical care because of restrictions on their movement. At present, the constant threat of gunfire can lead to sleepless nights, while sudden ceasefire breaches add to stress levels. A 2015 Médecins Sans Frontières study found high rates of depression in the border districts of Baramulla, where 51 percent of the population is affected, and Kupwara, with the affected population reaching 58 percent.¹⁷ The creation of the LoC has also led to the building of bunkers, border posts and checkpoints, and mining border areas. Military zones have also been created, restricting civilian movement. About 100,000 people now live in confined conditions similar to imprisonment, with limited legal status and basic rights.¹⁸

In 1965, the conflict between India and Pakistan grew beyond the Kashmir ceasefire line. In August of that year, tensions rose when the Pakistani Army tried to take control of Kashmir through military action.¹⁹ This led to the Indo-Pakistan

12 Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, "Peacekeeping Vital to Protect Civilians, Prevent Violence in World Marred by Conflict, Speakers Stress as Special Committee Opens 2024 Session, news release, February 20, 2024, <https://press.un.org/en/2024/gapk248.doc.htm>.

13 Anna Schumann, "History of Conflict in India and Pakistan," Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation, November 21, 2023, <https://armscontrolcenter.org/history-of-conflict-in-india-and-pakistan/#:~:text=Hostilities%20broke%20out%20in%20August,affirming%20their%20commitment%20to%20peace>.

14 "United Nations India-Pakistan Observation Mission (UNIPOM) - Background," United Nations, Accessed July 11, 2024, <https://peacekeeping.un.org/mission/past/unipombackgr.html>.

15 Mato Bouzas, "The Line of Control in Kashmir," Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Asian History, January 30, 2024, <https://oxfordre.com/asianhistory/display/10.1093/acrefore/9780190277727.001.0001/acrefore-9780190277727-e-746?d=%2F10.1093%2F9780190277727.001.0001%2F9780190277727-e-746&p=emailAWuheR0ZxjB3Y#:~:text=South%20Asia,Definition,administered%20by%20India%20and%20Pakistan>.

16 "Line of Control," Wikipedia, June 24, 2024, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Line_of_Control#:~:text=The%20Line%20of%20Control%20divided,villages%20and%20separated%20family%20members.

17 Arshad Hussain et al., "An Epidemiological Study of Psychiatric Disorders in Kashmir," *Journal of Family Medicine and Primary Care* 13, no. 3 (March 2024): 845-850, 10.4103/jfmpc.jfmpc_593_21.

18 Surya Valliappan Krishna and Saheb Singh Chadha, "Mental Health on the Line (of Control)," Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, February 20, 2023, <https://carnegieendowment.org/posts/2023/02/mental-health-on-the-line-of-control?lang=en>.

19 "United Nations India-Pakistan Observation Mission (UNIPOM) - Background," United Nations, Accessed August 13, 2024, <https://peacekeeping.un.org/mission/past/unipombackgr.html>.



Indian Army Armored Car on Patrol
 Credit: Unknown Author

War of 1965 and the creation of the United Nations India-Pakistan Observation Mission (UNIPOM). UNIPOM's role was similar to the UNMOGIP, but it observed and reported violations along the entire India-Pakistan border, not just in Jammu and Kashmir. With 90 observers, it worked closely with the UNMOGIP.²⁰ The UN Security Council at that time called for strict adherence to the ceasefire and cooperation with UN efforts. After the UNIPOM's mission was completed, both countries pulled back their troops to their original positions. This was made possible by The Tashkent Agreement in 1966, which ended the Indo-Pakistan war of 1965. The Security Council secured a ceasefire on September 22, 1965, and the agreement confirmed this.²¹ The agreement was signed by India's Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri and Pakistan's president Mohammad Ayub Khan, and it was intended as a first step towards peace. The agreement stated that both the Indian and Pakistani sides would return to the positions each had before the conflict. It was criticized by both sides, as both

countries expected to gain more than what was agreed.²²

In 1972, India and Pakistan agreed to make the ceasefire line the Line of Control to settle their differences through direct talks. This was part of the Simla Agreement, which aimed to improve relations between the two countries.²³ The agreement promoted travel for citizens between the two countries, restart economic activities, and share scientific, and cultural ideas. However, in the 1980s and 1990s, many Kashmiris were unhappy with Indian rule, leading to armed resistance. In 1989, Pakistan supported a military rebellion that led to widespread violence and human rights abuses.²⁴ Relations between India and Pakistan got worse, leading to a proxy war, nuclear tests, and failed peace efforts.²⁵ This prompted the Kargil War of 1999, which was fought along the LoC in the Kargil district of Ladakh from May to July. The war began when Indian military intelligence found that Pakistani soldiers, pretending to be Kashmiri militants, had taken over

20 United Nations. "United Nations India-Pakistan Observation Mission (UNIPOM) - Background."

21 Sanat Pai Raikar, "Tashkent Declaration," Encyclopædia Britannica, Accessed July 20, 2024, <https://www.britannica.com/event/Tashkent-Agreement>.

22 Maps of India. "June 30, 1965 – A Ceasefire Is Agreed under UN Auspices between India and Pakistan to Stop the War at the Rann of Kutch." Accessed August 24, 2024. <https://www.mapsofindia.com/on-this-day/june-30-1965-a-ceasefire-is-agreed-under-un-auspices-between-india-and-pakistan-to-stop-the-war-at-the-rann-of-kutch>.

23 "Kashmir Profile," BBC News, December 19, 2023, <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-south-asia-11693674#:~:text=1965%20%2D%20Second%20Indo%2DPakistan%20war,in%20Pakistan%2Dbacked%20militant%20groups>.

24 "Conflict between India and Pakistan | Global Conflict Tracker," Council on Foreign Relations, April 9, 2024, <https://www.cfr.org/global-conflict-tracker/conflict/conflict-between-india-and-pakistan#:~:text=In%201971%2C%20India%20and%20Pakistan,the%20stakes%20of%20any%20confrontation>.

25 Ganguly, Rajat, "India, Pakistan and the Kashmir Insurgency: Causes, Dynamics and Prospects for Resolution," *Asian Studies Review* 25, no. 3 (September 2001): 309–34, <https://doi.org/10.1111/1467-8403.00106>.

positions on the Indian side of the LoC. India responded by sending its army and air force to push them back, leading to intense fighting. The war ended on July 26, with the intruders being forced out from Indian territory, worsening relations between India and Pakistan.²⁶

After the war, relations between India and Pakistan were severely impacted, and Kashmir saw a rise in violence and militancy in the early 2000s. There was an attack on an army camp in the Poonch district, and a police station was destroyed in the same area. 35 Sikhs were killed a few months later in what was said to be an attempt at ethnic cleansing.²⁷ A survey by Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders) found that civilians were caught in this violence as well, with 86 percent facing crossfire and 83 percent suffering from raids. Some reported being mistreated, forced into labor, kidnapped, tortured, or sexually abused.²⁸ In 2013, the Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan met and agreed to try and cut down on the violence at the LoC. Yet, the following year, during his visit to Jammu and Kashmir, Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India accused Pakistan of starting a proxy war. Border violence soon resumed.²⁹ Between then and 2019, the region saw many killings by security forces, terrorist activity, and human rights abuses. Civilians were caught in the middle of this violence, and a total of 25 schools were burned by 2016.³⁰ As violence escalated, many were forced to evacuate their homes, affecting jobs, education, and access to vital services.

In 2019, India officially stripped Jammu and Kashmir of its special autonomous status by removing Article 370. This change made the region Indian territory. The decision caused debate, with some questioning if it was legally right, and others supporting the decision. Critics worried that

this would increase tensions between India and Pakistan and make the situation in the region worse. Internationally, Pakistan strongly opposed the move, while other countries responded more quietly. With India in control, security was tightened with more soldiers sent in, curfews imposed, and communication cut off.³¹ The local government was dissolved and the federal government started to rule the area. Journalists in the region face strict rules, making it hard to report the truth. High unemployment rates make locals feel like they're losing control over their land, jobs, and even their identity.³²

From the Indian government's perspective, the removal of Article 370 brought positive changes to Jammu and Kashmir. Prime Minister Modi said it started a new era of progress, giving people more opportunities and security. He also noted that the Indian Constitution is now fully in place in the region. The government believes that the decision reduced corruption and set the stage for a better future in Jammu and Kashmir.³³ With these two opposing stances, as well as the global community's concerns, the effects of this change remain a topic of ongoing debate.

Ceasefire Control and Border Security

In recent years, new technology and more military presence have changed the Line of Control from a thin ceasefire line into a strong boundary. India built a fence on its side of the LoC to stop terrorism. These changes, along with the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act of 2019, increased India's control over Kashmir. The Act removed the region's special status under Article 370 of the Indian Constitution and split it into two Union Territories: Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. It also changed how the region is run by giving more power

26 "Kargil War," Wikipedia, August 9, 2024, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kargil_War#:~:text=1%2C600%20\(per%20Musharraf\),the%20disputed%20region%20of%20Kashmir](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kargil_War#:~:text=1%2C600%20(per%20Musharraf),the%20disputed%20region%20of%20Kashmir).

27 "Jammu and Kashmir Assessment - Year 2000," South Asia Terrorism Portal, Accessed August 13, 2024. <https://www.satp.org/satporgtp/countries/india/states/jandk/assessment2000.htm#:~:text=The%20declaration%20of%20intent%2C%20in,of%20Srinagar%2C%20on%20March%2021>.

28 Kaz de Jong et al., "Conflict in the Indian Kashmir Valley II: Psychosocial Impact," *Conflict and Health* 2, no. 11 (October 14, 2008), <https://doi.org/10.1186/1752-1505-2-11>.

29 "Kashmir Profile - Timeline," BBC News, August 6, 2019, <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-south-asia-16069078>.

30 BBC News, "Kashmir Profile - Timeline."

31 Jon Lunn, "Kashmir: The Effects of Revoking Article 370," UK Parliament, August 8, 2019, <https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/kashmir-the-effects-of-revoking-article-370/>.

32 "India's Kashmir Clampdown Continues Four Years after Article 370 Abrogated," Al Jazeera, August 5, 2023. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/8/5/indias-kashmir-clampdown-continues-four-years-after-article-370-abrogated>.

33 "Article 370 Abrogation 5th Anniversary: It Was Start of 'new Era of Progress' in J&K, Says PM Modi: Today News," Mint, August 5, 2024. <https://www.livemint.com/news/india/article-370-abrogation-5th-anniversary-it-was-start-of-new-era-of-progress-in-j-k-says-pm-modi-11722856957670.html>.

to the central government and making Kashmir more tied to India.³⁴ This caused big problems, such as arbitrary arrests, a total communication blackout, and strict limits on movement. Even though some detainees were released, the authorities have tightened control over the media and the public, often using public safety laws to stop criticism.³⁵ The instability continues because of the proxy war between India and Pakistan and unresolved issues in Kashmir. All sides should now focus on improving the region, finding political solutions, and helping youth feel more connected and giving them a voice.³⁶

The UNMOGIP has six field stations in Pakistan-controlled Kashmir and four in Indian-controlled Kashmir to monitor ceasefire violations. India believes the UNMOGIP isn't needed because the Simla Agreement settled matters in 1972 without UN involvement. In 2014, India asked the group to leave Kashmir, arguing that it had no mandate there. On the other hand, Pakistan wants UNMOGIP to continue its

work and complains about Indian ceasefire violations.³⁷ A recent UN report says India has limited the group's movement by delaying visas and making it difficult for them to work. These restrictions have caused problems and higher costs for the peacekeeping group, such as shutting down crossings and cutting support. The report recommends strengthening the operation and asks involved countries to suggest measures that will help improve accountability.

In 2021, an agreement to uphold the ceasefire of February 21, 2003, was made.³⁸ After this, data from the Indian Ministry of Home Affairs showed a big drop in violations. The number went from 5,133 in 2020 to 664 incidents by June 30, 2021. Only six violations happened after the ceasefire agreement.³⁹ This helped people living near the border by reducing civilian deaths and improving their lives. It has boosted agriculture, infrastructure projects, and vaccination efforts. Some violations still occur, but the ceasefire has made living conditions better.

34 "The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2023," PRS Legislative Research, July 11, 2024, <https://prsindia.org/billtrack/the-jammu-and-kashmir-reorganisation-amendment-bill-2023>.

35 "India: Repression Persists in Jammu and Kashmir," Human Rights Watch, August 3, 2022, <https://www.hrw.org/news/2022/08/02/india-repression-persists-jammu-and-kashmir>.

36 Changed security situation in Jammu and Kashmir : The Road Ahead | Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence studies and Analyses, Accessed July 11, 2024, https://www.idsa.in/monograph/changed-security-situation-in-jammu-and-kashmir-the-road-ahead_ahkhan.

37 Drishti IAS, "UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan," Drishti IAS, August 12, 2022, <https://www.drishtiias.com/daily-updates/daily-news-analysis/un-military-observer-group-in-india-and-pakistan>.

38 Ali Iftikhar, "India's Curbs Undermining UNMOGIP's Peacekeeping Operations in Kashmir: UN Report," Associated Press of Pakistan, January 5, 2023, <https://www.app.com.pk/global/indias-curbs-undermining-unmogips-peacekeeping-operations-in-kashmir-un-report/#:~:text=India%2C%20the%20report%20said%20has,2013%20and%2031%20December%202021>.

39 Surya Valliappan Krishna, "Bordering on Peace: Evaluating the Impact of the India-Pakistan Ceasefire," Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, February 24, 2022, <https://carnegieendowment.org/research/2023/07/bordering-on-peace-evaluating-the-impact-of-the-india-pakistan-ceasefire?lang=en>.

Boundary Map of India, Pakistan, and Jammu and Kashmir

Credit: Central Intelligence Agency



Yet, the future of this peace is not guaranteed and will depend on ongoing efforts to stop terrorism and violence.⁴⁰

On September 6, 2022, an incident in the Arnia sector ended a 19-month ceasefire along the LoC. This broke the relative peace that had been achieved by the February 2021 agreement. There has been less violence, but people near the border still face problems from years of conflict. Infrastructure is damaged, and everyday life is disrupted. Current policies mainly focus on security, not on improving development, so public services are poor. Residents often need to evacuate, which impacts their education, healthcare, and jobs. Farming, a common livelihood, is affected by landmines and security installations. People also suffer from stress and lack of access to basic services.⁴¹ Government efforts to improve the area are not fully solving these problems, emphasizing the need for better policies and long-term solutions. The UNMOGIP plays an important role in helping with these issues.

In July 2023, an incident in Jammu's Arnia sector caught attention when security forces killed a Pakistani intruder. The Border Security Force (BSF) troops said the intruder crossed the border fence near the Jabbawal outpost. He was shot after ignoring several warnings and trying to run away.⁴² The BSF is a paramilitary branch responsible for securing the nation's borders. This includes the international border with Pakistan in Jammu and Kashmir and the Line of Control in the Kashmir Valley.⁴³ They also handle other security tasks like counterterrorism and peacekeeping. Although the BSF has done much to keep the country safe, it has faced criticism

for its methods and issues like human rights problems and corruption.⁴⁴ There have been reports of such problems along the India-Bangladesh border, where people have suffered from torture and wrongful killings.⁴⁵

The Kashmir Valley, which was the site of the 1989 rebellion against Indian rule, now has many Indian security forces. The United Nations says there have been many human rights violations here, like shooting at protestors and not treating detainees fairly. The UN said that Pakistan is helping Kashmiri militants and some extremist groups who are fighting for the region's independence from India. They are also said to be indirectly supporting the activities of non-Kashmiri extremist groups, such as Jaish-e-Muhammad.⁴⁶ To fight more terrorism, the Indian government is sending over 2,000 additional Border Security Force troops to Jammu and Kashmir in stages. There have been recent fights between security forces and terrorists, with injuries and deaths on both sides. This includes attacks by Border Action Teams that are targeting soldiers.⁴⁷ India has also increased security in Himachal Pradesh's Chamba district, which borders Jammu and Kashmir, in response to recent terror attacks. Authorities have increased patrols and kept personnel on high alert to prevent crossings.⁴⁸

Impacts on Civilians and Human Rights

The ongoing fighting and military presence have had various implications for civilians and their rights. The UNMOGIP helps by watching and reporting on ceasefire violations. Amnesty International's investigated the intensifying human

⁴⁰ Krishna, "Bordering on Peace: Evaluating the Impact of the India-Pakistan Ceasefire."

⁴¹ Deep Pal, "Jammu and Kashmir: Living with Violence along the Border." 9DASHLINE, December 15, 2022. <https://www.9dashline.com/article/jammu-and-kashmir-living-with-violence-along-the-border>.

⁴² "Infiltrator Killed in Arnia Sector in Jammu: BSF," The Hindu, July 31, 2023. <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/infiltrator-killed-in-arnia-sector-in-jammu-bsf/article67142825.ece>.

⁴³ Vijaita Singh, "BSF to Recalibrate Deployment along Pakistan Border in Jammu in the Wake of Terror Strikes," The Hindu, June 22, 2024. <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/bsf-to-recalibrate-deployment-along-the-jammu-pakistan-border-in-the-wake-of-recent-terror-strikes/article68320551.ece#:~:text=The%20192%20km%20international%20border,compared%20to%20the%20Kashmir%20valley>.

⁴⁴ "Everything You Should Know about Border Security Force (BSF)," Unacademy, July 19, 2022, <https://unacademy.com/content/bank-exam/study-material/general-awareness/everything-you-should-know-about-border-security-force-bsf/#:~:text=and%20conducts%20immigration%20%E2%80%A6-,The%20tasks%20of%20the%20BSF%20are%20%E2%80%94%20to%20promote%20a%20sense,and%20any%20other%20illegal%20activities>.

⁴⁵ "Extrajudicial Killing at the India-Bangladesh Border: Urgent Call For..." OMCT, January 1, 1970, <https://www.omct.org/en/resources/reports/extrajudicial-killing-at-the-india-bangladesh-border-urgent-call-for-justice-in-the-case-of-liton-miya#:~:text=For%20years%2C%20the%20BSF%2C%20operating,largely%20shielded%20from%20international%20scrutiny>.

⁴⁶ Chitralekha Zutshi, "Why the Kashmir Conflict Is Not Just an India-Pakistan Border Dispute," PBS, March 5, 2019, <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/world/why-the-kashmir-conflict-is-not-just-an-india-pakistan-border-dispute>.

⁴⁷ Jitendra Bahadur Singh, "Over 2,000 Additional Security Forces Personnel to Be Deployed in Jammu: Sources," India Today, July 27, 2024, <https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/centre-orders-deployment-additional-security-force-personnel-jammu-2572714-2024-07-27>.

⁴⁸ "Security Tightened in Chamba along Jammu and Kashmir Border," Hindustan Times, June 13, 2024, <https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/chandigarh-news/security-tightened-in-chamba-along-jammu-and-kashmir-border-101718298926026.html>.



Sikh Protests in Jammu and Kashmir

Credit: Singhlife

rights problems in Jammu and Kashmir since Article 370 was removed. The Indian government has increased its control with arbitrary detentions and travel bans on journalists, lawyers, and human rights defenders. Since August 2019, there have been at least 60 recorded crackdowns on these groups. Media freedom has decreased with strict policies and frequent internet shutdowns. The Kashmir Press Club was closed in 2022, and at least six people, including journalists and activists, were banned from traveling abroad. Since August 5, 2019, at least 27 journalists have been arrested, with some facing repeated detentions. There has been a 20 percent rise in unlawful killings by armed groups over the past three years. The Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) had given security forces too much power to commit these abuses without consequence. This act, passed in 1958, was meant to give the armed forces free will to control “disturbed” areas, but is seen as a tool for state abuse.⁴⁹ Amnesty International is urging the Indian government to release those who have been wrongly detained and end the ongoing repression in Jammu and Kashmir.⁵⁰

Indian authorities have used the Jammu and Kashmir Public

49 Inam, Syed Tazkir. “Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958: A Draconian Law.” SSRN Electronic Journal, January 1, 2009. <https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.1681499>.

50 Amnesty International, “India: ‘We Are Being Punished By The Law’ - Three Years of Abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu & Kashmir.”

51 “India: Repression Persists in Jammu and Kashmir,” Human Rights Watch, August 3, 2022. <https://www.hrw.org/news/2022/08/02/india-repression-persists-jammu-and-kashmir>.

52 Jammu and Kashmir Public Safety Act, 1978,” Wikipedia, April 18, 2024, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jammu_and_Kashmir_Public_Safety_Act,_1978#:~:text=The%20Jammu%20and%20Kashmir%20Public,\(now%20a%20union%20territory\).](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jammu_and_Kashmir_Public_Safety_Act,_1978#:~:text=The%20Jammu%20and%20Kashmir%20Public,(now%20a%20union%20territory).)

Safety Act and terrorism claims to raid and detain journalists, activists, and political leaders without good evidence or fair trials. They have also stopped some Kashmiris from traveling abroad without saying why. Since August 2019, militants have killed at least 118 civilians, including Hindus and Sikhs. Journalists have faced problems, including wrongful arrests on terrorism charges. There are also frequent internet shutdowns to stop protests and limit access to information. At least 35 journalists have been questioned, raided, threatened, or attacked.⁵¹ The 2020 media policy has made it easier to control news and leads to more arrests of journalists under the Public Safety Act—a law that lets authorities detain people in order to prevent threats.⁵²

Security forces in Kashmir have harassed people, made arbitrary arrests, and carried out illegal killings. The AFSPA is responsible for giving them protection from being prosecuted in civilian courts. The government has also not ensured the return of displaced Kashmiris, including Hindu Pandits who fled after militant attacks in 1989-90. Those working in government jobs have been on strike since a colleague was shot in May 2022. Despite these problems, Indian officials

say there has been progress in democracy and governance. However, ongoing raids and militant attacks show ongoing violence and repression. Human Rights Watch urges the Indian government to address these abuses and protect the rights of the Kashmiri people.⁵³

When Article 370 was removed, it led to a lockdown and Indian soldiers being sent to the territory. Many world leaders criticized this as a violation of Kashmir's rights. In response, an NGO called Justice for All started the Free Kashmir campaign to promote human rights in Kashmir. Their first major action was protesting in front of Indian government buildings in the United States on August 7, 2019. Recently, the group collected over 100,000 signatures to oppose an award given to Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi by the Gates Foundation. The main goals of Free Kashmir are to support Kashmiri self-determination, end Indian military occupation, and raise awareness among Americans on the issue.⁵⁴

Another important issue to address is the displaced people and migrants in Jammu and Kashmir. After the Partition of 1947, Pakistan's "Operation Gulmarg" led to attacks by tribesmen from the North-West Frontier Province on Jammu and Kashmir, causing a lot of violence.⁵⁵ This operation was part of a British plan in Central Asia to influence the region amidst their rivalry with Russia.⁵⁶ As a result, over 47,000 people from Pakistani towns near J&K and areas now known as Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) had to flee. Official data shows that 31,779 families migrated in 1947, with 26,319 settling in J&K and over 5,400 moving to other parts of India. Subsequent Indo-Pak wars in 1965 and 1971 further increased the total number of displaced families to over 40,000.⁵⁷

The Kashmir Valley is home to many labor migrants from different parts of India, who are affected by the ongoing regional conflict. The 2011 Census showed that the Valley's population included around 11 million in-migrants. A majority of these were Muslim and came from poor regions like Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, as well as lower caste groups. Most of these migrants come from rural areas and many are women who find work directly.⁵⁸ Around 400,000 new workers arrive each year, mostly for construction jobs. They come for better job opportunities and fair wages. Despite the benefits, they face problems like political instability, attacks on non-locals, social isolation, and cultural differences. These issues make it hard for them to settle in, leading to fear and occasional mass departures. Many migrants return home before the harsh winter, but the economic advantages and supportive local communities encourage them to keep coming back.⁵⁹

The Kashmiri Pandits, a Hindu minority, became the largest internally displaced group in India after a militant revolt in 1989. Over 90 percent of them fled to urban areas like Jammu and New Delhi, living in makeshift camps which have become long-term settlements. Living conditions have improved, but many still face problems like poor sanitation, lack of independence, and stress from being displaced. Their chances for finding jobs and good education were greatly affected after the move, but the government has given some help with free education and temporary shops. Since help from NGOs decreased, the Pandits started their own support groups, like the All India Kashmiri Samaj (AIKS).⁶⁰

53 Human Rights Watch, "India: Repression Persists in Jammu and Kashmir."

54 "Free Kashmir," Justice For All, June 19, 2020, <https://www.justiceforall.org/free-kashmir/>.

55 Sumeda, "Explained: Provision for Reservation for Kashmiri Migrants, POJK Refugees in J&K Assembly," *The Hindu*, August 23, 2023, <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/jammu-kashmir-reservation-bill-kashmiri-migrant-pandit-displaced-pakistan-refugee-assembly-reorganisation/article67153722.ece>.

56 Daily Excelsior, "Operation Gulmarg and Accession of J&K!" *Daily Excelsior*, October 21, 2022, https://www.dailyexcelsior.com/operation-gulmarg-and-accession-of-jk/#google_vignette.

57 Pti, "31,619 Displaced Families From Pakistan-occupied J&K Registered After 1947: Kishan Reddy." *The Hindu*, February 11, 2020. <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/31619-displaced-families-from-pakistan-occupied-jk-registered-after-1947-kishan-reddy/article30792731.ece>.

58 Aijaz Ahmed Turrey, "Impact of Conflict on Labour Migrants in Kashmir," *Economic and Political Weekly*, August 16, 2023, <https://www.epw.in/journal/2023/32/commentary/impact-conflict-labour-migrants-kashmir.html>.

59 Aamir Ali Bhat, "Why Migrant Labourers Keep Flocking to Kashmir," *Village Square*, May 4, 2023, <https://www.villagesquare.in/why-kashmir-is-the-preferred-location-for-migrant-labourers/#:-:text=Like%20Raees%2C%20every%20year%2C%20according,such%20as%20selling%20street%20food>.

60 Kim Thelwell, "The Internal Displacement of the Kashmiri Pandits," *The Borgen Project*, November 1, 2020, <https://borgenproject.org/internal-displacement-kashmiri-pandits/>.

Monitoring and Mitigating Terrorism

There have been more terrorist attacks and killings in Jammu and Kashmir, especially after Article 370 was removed.⁶¹ From the early days of conflict in Jammu and Kashmir until 1992, terrorist groups attacked civilians, despite efforts by security forces to stop them. Civilian deaths are still a problem. Many people have been impacted and face displacement and economic problems. These problems have led to drug trafficking to fund terrorist activities, as well as a higher risk for journalists. Despite peace efforts, militant violence continues. Pakistani groups like the Muttahida Jihad Council have reportedly been involved in creating disturbance in the region. After India and Pakistan's nuclear tests in 1998 and the Kargil conflict in 1999, international attention has increased on Jammu and Kashmir.⁶²

Recent violent incidents in Jammu and Kashmir have raised concerns. For example, an attack on an army vehicle in Kathua led to the deaths of five soldiers.⁶³ In Kulgam, six terrorists and two soldiers were killed in separate clashes. Terrorist groups are changing their tactics as they attack towns and use guerilla warfare in the rough terrain. Recent attacks like the Dangri village massacre and assaults on pilgrimage buses in Reasi have increased tensions and threatened peace among different groups of people. The spread of terrorist activities into places like Reasi and Doda shows a new plan to create chaos. The Resistance Front (TRF), a Pakistan-backed group, for example, is using advanced methods such as tunnels and drones to carry out its schemes.⁶⁴ Another trend in recent years has been online terrorist groups, which are fronts for more prominent jihadist organizations like Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT). TRF, for example, relies on LeT's money and uses social media platforms like X, Telegram, and Facebook to spread messages. They mainly focus on claims about plans to change

the demographics of Kashmir Valley and warn locals against becoming Special Police Officers.⁶⁵

Another key terrorist group that has been active in the region is the Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM). This group wants to integrate Kashmir into Pakistan and weaken Indian control on the region. The group was founded in the year 2000 and is known for its high profile attacks, including the 2001 Indian Parliament attack and the attempts to kill a former Pakistani President. JeM's activities in Jammu and Kashmir are mostly attacks on Indian military and police forces, as well as civilians. In the past, they have engaged in suicide bombings, small arms attacks, and coordinated assaults, threatening regional stability.⁶⁶

Recently, Security Forces (SFs) have been stopping terrorists from crossing the LoC. In early 2023, they stopped an infiltration in Tangdhar village, killing one terrorist. They took down militants in the Kupwara and Poonch Districts. According to the South Asia Terrorism Portal (SATP), six terrorists were killed trying to infiltrate in 2023, with many more stopped the year before. Since 1988, SFs have killed over 23,918 terrorists in the region. Despite these efforts, there are still worries about terrorists attacking non-locals and minorities. In 2022, many non-local laborers were killed. In 2023, civilians, including children, died in the Rajouri District. SFs continue to fight terrorism despite these challenges, while the government works for peace and safety in the region.⁶⁷

The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is another group working against terrorism, focusing on stopping the money that funds terrorist activities. The FATF strongly condemns the 2019 terrorist attack in Pulwama, which killed at least 40 Indian security personnel. Their belief is that stopping these financial flows is important to prevent future attacks. Many countries still struggle to address terrorist financing. The

61 "Jammu and Kashmir Backgrounder," Jammu and Kashmir backgrounder, Accessed July 16, 2024, <https://www.satp.org/satporgtp/countries/india/states/jandk/backgrounder/index.html>.

62 Jammu and Kashmir Backgrounder, "Jammu and Kashmir Backgrounder."

63 Kanwal Singh, "Jammu Faces a New Wave of Terrorism with Divergent Tactics Unseen in the Last Two Decades," *The Wire*, July 14, 2024, <https://thewire.in/security/jammu-new-wave-terrorism-divergent-tactics-unseen>.

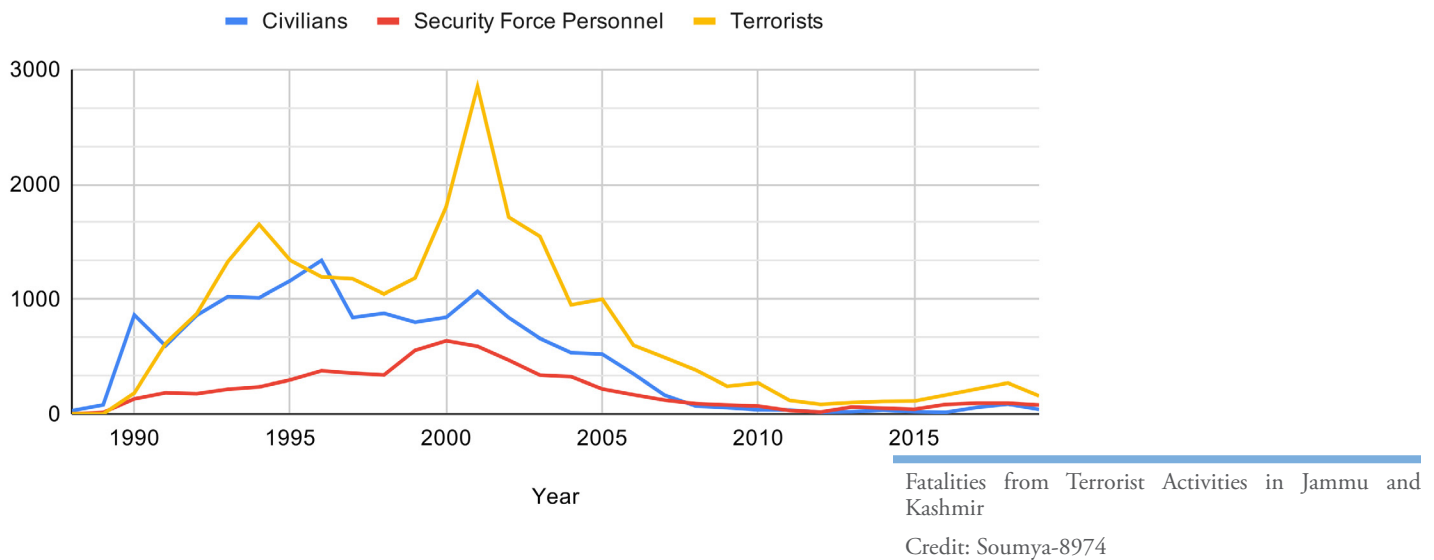
64 Singh, Kanwal, "Jammu Faces a New Wave of Terrorism with Divergent Tactics Unseen in the Last Two Decades," *The Wire*, July 14, 2024, <https://thewire.in/security/jammu-new-wave-terrorism-divergent-tactics-unseen>.

65 Ayjaz Wani, "Changing Dynamics of Counterterrorism in Kashmir," *orfonline.org*, October 17, 2023, <https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/changing-dynamics-of-counterterrorism-in-kashmir>.

66 "Jaish-e-Mohammad," e. Accessed July 18, 2024, https://web.stanford.edu/group/mappingmilitants/cgi-bin/groups/print_view/95.

67 "Jammu & Kashmir: Assessment- 2023," *Terrorism Assessment, Jammu & Kashmir*, Accessed July 16, 2024, <https://www.satp.org/terrorism-assessment/india-jammukashmir>.

Fatalities due to terrorist activities in Jammu and Kashmir (1988-2019)



FATF helps such countries set up strong defenses and studies how certain terrorist organizations fund their activities.⁶⁸

In parallel, the UN Secretary-General António Guterres has been very concerned about the situation in Jammu and Kashmir. He believes it is important to hold those responsible for problems accountable and bring them to justice quickly. He also urges India and Pakistan to show restraint to prevent the situation from getting worse. The Secretary-General believes that tough issues can be solved through peaceful discussions.⁶⁹ Still, India has been firm on its opposition to the UNMOGIP and peacekeeping efforts, arguing that the Simla Agreement now has taken over the operation's role. India has asked the UNMOGIP to leave a government bungalow and reduce their presence, which they claim is no longer needed. The External Affairs Ministry spokesperson, Syed Akbaruddin, also stated that the UNMOGIP's mandate is outdated. The housing bungalow had been free for 40 years. India wants

the peacekeeping group to pay for facilities it had been using for free. Akbaruddin said these changes are part of budgetary measures.⁷⁰

Even though security in Jammu and Kashmir appears to be better, the Central Government is still working hard to fight terrorism. They focus on reducing the impact on the public, improving regional development, and increasing productivity. The Indian Prime Minister has a plan to improve infrastructure and help the dislocated and families of victims.⁷¹ The Government wants to stop terrorism and break up the support networks of these groups. To keep peace, they have added more checkpoints, guards, and Cordon and Search Operations (CASO), where the military surrounds and searches areas.⁷² Security forces use real-time intelligence and patrol day and night to monitor certain areas. They find and investigate supporters of terrorism, protect vulnerable spots, and train personnel to handle threats.⁷³

68 Home, Accessed July 17, 2024, <https://www.fatf-gafi.org/en/publications/Methodsand Trends/Fatf-action-against-terrorist-financing-feb-2019.html>.

69 Office, Chief Mission Support, "Spokesperson for Secretary-General António Guterres," UNMOGIP, January 5, 2023, <https://unmogip.unmissions.org/spokesperson-secretary-general-ant%C3%B3nio-guterres>.

70 "Unmogip Asked to Vacate Govt Bungalow to 'rationalise' Presence: India," The Economic Times, July 8, 2014, <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/unmogip-asked-to-vacate-govt-bungalow-to-rationalise-presence-india/articleshow/38023604.cms>.

71 *Government of India Ministry of Home Affairs*, "Annual Report 2004-2005," New Delhi: Government of India, https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/AnnualReport_04_05.pdf.

72 "Cordon and Search," Wikipedia, January 19, 2024, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cordon_and_search#:~:text=Cordon%20and%20search%20is%20a,\(or%20cordon%20and%20enter\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cordon_and_search#:~:text=Cordon%20and%20search%20is%20a,(or%20cordon%20and%20enter)).

73 "Decline in Terror Incidents in Jammu and Kashmir," Press Information Bureau, December 19, 2023, <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1988275>.

The UNMOGIP helps make sure peace agreements are followed, but they don't directly fight terrorism. This shows the need for better cooperation between the UN, India, and Pakistan to monitor and reduce terrorist activity. Solving the issues in Jammu and Kashmir needs many different approaches.⁷⁴ Strengthening border security and holding diplomatic talks are just a few of the key steps. Improving the socio-economic conditions that lead to extremism can help address the root causes of the issue. Development and educational programs can also contribute to long-term stability in the region.

UNMOGIP's Contributions to Peacebuilding

In UN peacekeeping missions, everyone—military, police, and civilian staff—works to protect people. Peacekeepers can use force if needed to handle threats, but the host government is mostly in charge of safety. The 2023 Department of Peace Operations Policy says peacekeepers help by mediating, investigating human rights issues, and providing protection with patrols and warning systems. The Security Council sets up these missions, and peacekeepers team up with local groups and communities to improve security. They address concerns and use them to make better protection plans. The UNMOGIP is focused on following these rules to keep people safe in the area.⁷⁵

Peacebuilding programs work to stop violence and keep peace by helping people handle political disagreements calmly. They aim to prevent small issues from becoming big problems, spot potential conflicts early, and make long-term plans.⁷⁶ The United Nations defines it as an effort to help countries move from war to peace. The goal is to make it easier for nations to

handle conflicts and to create stable environments that prevent future conflict. This includes fixing the root causes of problems, helping people come together, and supporting rebuilding.⁷⁷ Within the Jammu and Kashmir conflict, the international community and the UN can help by bringing different groups together and encouraging peace talks. They might also work to ensure the protection of civilians and improvement of living conditions by sending peacekeepers through the UNMOGIP. Peacekeepers can also be sent through the UNMOGIP to protect people and help with rebuilding.⁷⁸ These steps aim to build trust, solve problems peacefully, and create lasting peace in the region.

The UNMOGIP started its work in January 1949 to keep an eye on the 1971 ceasefire. Unarmed observers worked with local officials to gather and share information. Even after the UN Commission for India and Pakistan (UNCIP) ended in 1951, the UNMOGIP continued its work because of a decision made by the Security Council.⁷⁹ During the 1971 conflict, the Security Council gave the group a stronger role in monitoring the ceasefire. India thought the UNMOGIP was no longer needed after the Simla Agreement, but Pakistan still believed it was important. The mission remains active, watching the ceasefire and reporting any issues.⁸⁰ They are needed in Jammu and Kashmir to protect civilians and uphold human rights.

The mission helps by providing aid to those in need. Reporting human rights abuses and LoC violations brings global attention and pushes for justice.⁸¹ As of March 2024, there are 308 people on the mission: 264 civilians and 44 experts. The top ten military contributors are Croatia, the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Thailand, Argentina, Mexico, Switzerland,

74 Shahid H. Raja, "The Kashmir Dispute: Stakes & Stance of Stake-Holders," Medium, January 19, 2024, <https://shahidhreja.medium.com/the-kashmir-dispute-stakes-stance-of-stake-holders-5fe81cc292a4>.

75 "Protection of Civilians Mandate Peacekeeping," United Nations, Accessed July 11, 2024, <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/protection-of-civilians-mandate>.

76 "What Is Strategic Peacebuilding?" Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, Accessed August 13, 2024, <https://kroc.nd.edu/about-us/what-is-peace-studies/what-is-strategic-peacebuilding/#:~:text=Peacebuilding%20is%20the%20development%20of,conditions%20that%20generate%20deadly%20conflict>.

77 "Peace and Security," United Nations, Accessed August 13, 2024, <https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/peace-and-security#:~:text=Within%20the%20United%20Nations%2C%20peacebuilding,foundations%20for%20sustainable%20peace%20and>.

78 "Maintain International Peace and Security," United Nations, Accessed August 13, 2024, <https://www.un.org/en/our-work/maintain-international-peace-and-security#:~:text=The%20UN%20accomplishes%20this%20by,other%20UN%20offices%20and%20bodies>.

79 "Background," UNMOGIP, July 5, 2017, <https://unmogip.unmissions.org/background#:~:text=The%20tasks%20of%20UNMOGIP%20have,UNMOGIP%20was%20published%20in%201972>.

80 UNMOGIP, "Background."

81 "Kashmir: UNMOGIP," Better World Campaign, March 22, 2023, <https://betterworldcampaign.org/mission/kashmir-unmogip#:~:text=By%20maintaining%20a%20peaceful%20%E2%80%9Cline,of%20trade%2C%20and%20poor%20infrastructure>.



UN Observers Overlooking Border Discussion Between Indian and Pakistani Officers

Credit: United Nations

Italy, Romania, and Sweden. There have been a total of 13 deaths of members of the mission so far.⁸² It's important to remember that India and Pakistan are not the only sides involved, despite the name of the mission. International organizations and allied nations also play a key role, whether it's through supporting peacekeeping efforts or through diplomatic pressure.

The UNMOGIP not only monitors the ceasefire but also tries to help India and Pakistan solve problems peacefully. This role is important because both countries have nuclear weapons and because regional conflict can have global impacts.⁸³ In 2014, they published a report called *The Observer* that gives updates on the peacekeeping mission and recognizes members of the task force.⁸⁴ According to this report, the situation in the UNMOGIP's area was tense all year, with many incidents causing deaths along the Line of Control. To help, the group has improved plans, procedures, and training to maintain peace by monitoring the ceasefire as effectively as possible. They are preparing for new UN systems to improve efficiency. The success of the UNMOGIP is due to the hard work of

field observers and staff, as well as from the support of other nations. The report includes many stories from mission observers, and says that the insecurity and problems, especially at the LoC, have been happening for over 63 years. Despite the task force's efforts to provide accurate information to the United Nations, there are many that question the efforts of the UNMOGIP. While the group may have few resources, the crisis would be forgotten among many others had it not been for this peacekeeping mission.⁸⁵

The UNMOGIP was most active between 1948 to 1985. Australia contributed with 218 military observers and air transport personnel to the mission. The country's peacekeeping teams, who were mostly from the Reserve of Officers and the Citizen Military Forces, served tours of 1 to 2 years. During the Vietnam War, army reservists staffed the contingent due to stretched resources. Early peacekeepers, many of whom served in World War II, faced tough weather and living conditions. A small group also participated in the United Nations India-Pakistan Observation Mission (UNIPOM) from 1965 to 1966 after the Indo-Pakistani War. In 1985, Australia withdrew its

82 "UNMOGIP Peacekeeping," United Nations, Accessed July 17, 2024, <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/unmogip>.

83 Office, Chief Mission Support, "Secretary-General Calls for Maximum Restraint by Parties in Jammu and Kashmir, Citing Simla Agreement on Region's Final Status," UNMOGIP, January 5, 2023, <https://unmogip.unmissions.org/secretary-general-calls-maximum-restraint-parties-jammu-and-kashmir-citing-simla-agreement-region%E2%80%99s>.

84 *The Observer Magazine*, "United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan," 2014, file:///Users/divyashenoy/Downloads/unmogip_2014_magazine_web%20(2).pdf.

85 *The Observer Magazine*, "United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan," 2014, file:///Users/divyashenoy/Downloads/unmogip_2014_magazine_web%20(2).pdf.

observers due to overcommitment to the UN, though other observers remained in Kashmir.⁸⁶

During its prime, the UNMOGIP helped maintain peace between India and Pakistan by talking to both sides and conducting regular inspections. These efforts were effective in preventing small fights from escalating into large-scale conflicts. In 1965, the fighting flared up again, so the UN asked both nations to uphold the ceasefire and cooperate with the UNMOGIP. As a result, the hostilities soon stopped, and Soviet-mediated negotiations led to a new ceasefire in January 1966. The group was strengthened by UNIPOM, which oversaw the withdrawal of troops from Kashmir.

Another war broke out in 1971 when India supported Bangladesh's fight for independence from Pakistan. After this, the UNMOGIP helped disengage the forces. Even though its role became smaller after 1972, the group continued to observe the ceasefire and report to the Secretary-General. While tensions briefly surged in 1999, a major war between India and Pakistan over Kashmir has been avoided for over 70 years, partly due to the UNMOGIP's efforts.⁸⁷

India's proximity to Afghanistan and its rise as a global economic power make it crucial for the U.S. to support peace between India and Pakistan. The UN's efforts to promote peace in Kashmir through the UNMOGIP help stabilize the region. Since both India and Pakistan have nuclear weapons, any potential conflict is a serious concern for the entire world. The UNMOGIP's role in monitoring and reporting activities along the India-Pakistan border is essential in preventing increased tensions. By maintaining peace at the LoC, the group not only fosters dialogue between the two countries, but also enhances their commercial relations. This has led to discussions on resolving trade barriers, addressing trade imbalances, and improving infrastructure.⁸⁸

Despite its contributions, the UNMOGIP faces many challenges because India and Pakistan do not agree on its

role. India questions the group's need after the 1972 Simla Agreement, which called for talks between the two countries, and Pakistan continues to support its work. This disagreement makes it difficult for the group to perform its job effectively. The UN says only the Security Council can change the mission's mandate, which is why they can continue to operate in the region.

International Mediation and External Assistance

Aside from the UNMOGIP, other international attempts include the UN's early work through the Commission for India and Pakistan, as well as a temporary reduction in tensions by the USSR in 1965 and the US in 1990. The UNMOGIP became less effective as the unrest grew around that time, nearly pushing India and Pakistan to war and to the potential use of nuclear weapons. The ongoing conflict continues to drive a wedge between the two countries, but a strong mediator can help them slowly move from seeing each other as threats to allies. Even though mediation hasn't been enough to stop India and Pakistan from going to war, it is a good fit for how the international system works. It respects each country's right to make its own decisions and is seen as helpful rather than forcing a solution.⁸⁹

After India removed Article 370, it faced strong criticism for restricting communication and civil rights in Kashmir. China, Pakistan, and others brought the issue to the UN, making it a global problem and increasing the risk of other countries getting involved. Pakistan did not support the move, calling it "unconstitutional" and warning that it could lead to conflict. They cut trade and diplomatic ties with India and expelled the Indian High Commissioner. Turkey also criticized India at the UN, and so India canceled a major naval contract with a Turkish company. The European Union asked the country to lift restrictions and restore rights in Kashmir. The U.S. first called for peace between India and Pakistan but later offered

86 "Australian Peacekeepers in Kashmir from 1950 to 1985," Anzac Portal, September 26, 2022, <https://anzacportal.dva.gov.au/wars-and-missions/peacekeeping/summaries/kashmir-1950-1985#2>.

87 "Containing the Armed Conflict in Kashmir," Better Evidence Project, Accessed July 17, 2024, <https://bep.carterschool.gmu.edu/containing-the-armed-conflict-in-kashmir/>.

88 "Kashmir: UNMOGIP," Better World Campaign, March 22, 2023, <https://betterworldcampaign.org/mission/kashmir-unmogip#:~:text=By%20maintaining%20a%20peaceful%20E2%80%9Cline,of%20trade%2C%20and%20poor%20infrastructure.>

89 Anthony Wanis St. John, "Third Party Mediation Over Kashmir: A Modest Proposal," *International Peacekeeping* 4, no. 4 (Winter 1997): 1-30, <https://www.american.edu/sis/faculty/upload/wanis-third-party-mediation-over-kashmir.pdf>.



Uday Foundation and Police Helping Jammu and Kashmir Flood Victims

Credit: Uday Foundation

to mediate, which India refused. The UK government was also concerned, and the Labour Party supported international action. This global attention has affected India's diplomacy, reputation, and relationships. Neighboring countries and rivals have used the situation to their advantage, making it harder for India to handle Kashmir as an internal issue.⁹⁰

Many countries have made efforts to provide relief and rehabilitation for Kashmiris, as well as political and socioeconomic support. In May 2024, the Prime Minister of Pakistan authorized a USD 86 million aid grant for Pakistan-administered Kashmir to help with unrest caused by inflation. This money was used to lower the costs of electricity, wheat, and flour.⁹¹ The nation has expressed support for the people of Kashmir and their rights, and has said that the dispute must be resolved in accordance with UNSC resolutions. Pakistan supports Kashmiri Muslims in their goal of ending Indian rule in the region.⁹²

China's stance on the conflict has evolved over the decades.

Initially, China strongly supported Pakistan, but since the 1980s, its position has become more balanced between India and Pakistan. It has reduced its efforts to push the Kashmir issue at the UN and has blocked actions against Pakistan-backed terror groups. China has focused on preventing war by working with the U.S., acting more like a crisis manager instead of actively seeking a resolution to the conflict. After the 1999 Kargil conflict, China pushed both India and Pakistan to honor the LoC and hold talks with each other. During the 2001 fight caused by a militant attack on the Indian Parliament, it collaborated with the U.S. and Russia to mediate. By engaging in this kind of diplomacy, China has aimed to ease tensions and prioritize conflict prevention while maintaining a close relationship with Pakistan.⁹³

NGOs also help with peacebuilding because military solutions alone will not solve the problem. NGOs are important for making peace by building trust, helping victims, and speaking up for civilian needs.⁹⁴ They work on projects like education

90 Khalid Shah and Kriti M. Shah, "Kashmir after Article 370: India's Diplomatic Challenge," orfonline.org, December 16, 2020, <https://www.orfonline.org/research/kashmir-after-article-370-india-s-diplomatic-challenge>.

91 Tariq Maqbool, "Pakistan Approves \$86 MLN Grant for Kashmir Region after Violent Protests | Reuters," Reuters, May 13, 2024, <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/pakistan-pm-approves-86-mln-grant-kashmir-region-after-protests-2024-05-13/>.

92 Muskan Moazzam, "Kashmir as a Humanitarian Issue", Modern Diplomacy, August 28, 2022, <https://moderndiplomacy.eu/2022/08/29/kashmir-as-a-humanitarian-issue/#:~:text=Pakistan%20is%20backing%20the%20Kashmiri%20Muslims%20with,for%20the%20ethnic%20conflict%20on%2011%20Pakistan>.

93 I-wei Jennifer Chang, "China's Kashmir Policies and Crisis Management in South Asia," United States Institute of Peace, February 9, 2017, <https://www.usip.org/publications/2017/02/chinas-kashmir-policies-and-crisis-management-south-asia>.

94 Pamela Aall, "Summary of 'Nongovernmental Organizations and Peacemaking,'" Beyond Intractability, January 12, 2024. <https://www.beyondintractability.org/artsum/aall-nongovernmental#:~:text=Aall%20suggests%20four%20roles%20that,in%20order%20to%20be%20>

and tourism to reduce violence and bring back local culture. NGOs also support the handmade crafts industry, highlight issues in conflict areas, and encourage India and Pakistan to find peace. They work to protect human rights and improve living conditions in Kashmir. To build peace successfully, the government and local communities must work with such organizations.⁹⁵

Many organizations help Kashmiris by providing aid and support, both inside and outside the region. Helping Hand for Relief Development (HHRD), works on both sides of the LoC to offer emergency help, set up safe routes, and assist people who have been displaced.⁹⁶ Crisis Aid gives out food, medicine, healthcare, and emergency shelter to families in need.⁹⁷ The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) had to stop its humanitarian work in the region after the removal of Article 370 in 2019. Before that, the ICRC helped with many things, like releasing prisoners, supporting families of detainees, and training local health and security workers. Still, with the region's new status, the group faced problems and legal issues. The Indian government did not want international organizations in Kashmir because they shared information about India's plans. The ICRC's departure has left civilians with less support.⁹⁸

The world's reaction to the crisis has been varied but vocal. International leaders, including those from China, Turkey, Malaysia, and Pakistan, have raised concerns at the UN, demanding action and criticizing India's policies. There have been many protests around the world, with demonstrations in Times Square and Birmingham calling for the restoration of human rights and freedom for Kashmiris. Amnesty

International has launched petitions urging India to lift the communication blackout and end the curfew. Grassroots groups are raising funds and awareness to support Kashmiri relief efforts. Many call for stronger international efforts.⁹⁹ Eyes are on the U.S. and the role they can play as a global superpower. They are encouraged to persuade India and Pakistan to resume peace talks, with the U.S. working its relationship with Pakistan to end cross-border infiltration into Kashmir. India needs to address the grievances of Kashmiris and involve them in the political process, while Pakistan needs to dismantle its jihadi networks. The U.S. has an opportunity to go beyond crisis management and help build a positive peace process for Kashmir, by engaging with various stakeholders, including the Hurriyat separatist group.¹⁰⁰ This political party in Jammu and Kashmir is an active advocate for the state's independence.¹⁰¹

Current Status

Current Status of Mission and Kashmir Conflict

As of April 2024, the UNMOGIP is still active. It watches the truce between India and Pakistan in the Jammu and Kashmir region. The group also keeps an eye on the area along the Working Boundary. This boundary divides Indian-administered Kashmir from Pakistan's Punjab province. A working boundary is where "one side is internationally recognized land, and the other side is disputed territory".¹⁰² The Radcliffe Line and the LoC are two such boundaries between India and Pakistan.¹⁰³ The UNMOGIP group patrols the land, sea, and air on both sides.¹⁰⁴ The mission doesn't need

effective.

⁹⁵ Wajahat Habibullah, *The Political Economy of the Kashmir Conflict* (Washington, DC: United States Institute of Peace Official, 2004), <https://www.usip.org/sites/default/files/resources/sr121.pdf>

⁹⁶ "Kashmir Relief," HHRD, Accessed July 20, 2024, <https://www1.hhrd.org/Campaigns/Kashmir-Relief>.

⁹⁷ "Kashmir," Crisis Aid, April 2, 2024, <https://www.crisisaid.org.uk/appeals/kashmir/>.

⁹⁸ Hilal Mir, "Kashmiris Suffer Further as ICRC Stops Humanitarian Work," TRT World - Breaking News, Live Coverage, Opinions and Videos, January 15, 2020, <https://www.trtworld.com/magazine/kashmiris-suffer-further-as-icrc-stops-humanitarian-work-32965>.

⁹⁹ Tayyaba Khan, "Kashmir Crisis: How the World Is Reacting," UAB Institute for Human Rights Blog, October 28, 2019, <https://sites.uab.edu/humanrights/2019/10/28/kashmir-crisis-how-the-world-is-reacting/>.

¹⁰⁰ Diana Fu, Ryan Hass, Ryan Hass Ali Wyne, and Angela Stent, "Kashmir: Redefining the U.S. Role," Brookings, July 28, 2016, <https://www.brookings.edu/articles/kashmir-redefining-the-u-s-role/>.

¹⁰¹ "All Parties Hurriyat Conference," Wikipedia, July 19, 2024m https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/All_Parties_Hurriyat_Conference#:~:text=All%20Parties%20Hurriyat%20Conference%20.

¹⁰² "India-Pakistan Border," Wikipedia, July 24, 2024, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India%E2%80%93Pakistan_Border#:~:text=The%20UN%2Dmediated%20ceasefire%20line,after%20the%201972%20Simla%20Agreement.

¹⁰³ "Mission," UNMOGIP, January 5, 2023m <https://unmogip.unmissions.org/mission>.

¹⁰⁴ "United Nations Military Observer." Wikipedia, May 8, 2024. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Nations_Military_Observer#:~:text=or%20ceasefire%20violations.,Mission%20in%20Kashmir,Similar%20mission%20in%20Timor%2DLeste.

to be renewed and runs indefinitely. Their headquarters are in Islamabad from November to April and in Srinagar from May to October.¹⁰⁵ Important posts are in Rawalpindi, Pakistan and Srinagar, India.¹⁰⁶ As of March 2024, the top ten countries contributing military personnel to the mission are Croatia, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Thailand, Argentina, Mexico, Switzerland, Italy, Romania, and Sweden.¹⁰⁷

The Jammu and Kashmir administration has raised legal concerns about the land used by the UNMOGIP office in Srinagar. They are thinking about reclaiming the land, accusing the mission of taking over the space. This could lead to the closing of the Srinagar office.¹⁰⁸ The Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Manoj Sinha, has said that the government will review if the UNMOGIP office is still needed. This was in light of the J&K's full integration on August 5, 2019, suggesting a reevaluation of the mission's presence.¹⁰⁹

India remains firm in its belief that the UNMOGIP's mandate is outdated and should no longer be valid.¹¹⁰ Since 1972, India has not filed complaints with the group because they wish to continue addressing disputes bilaterally without third-party involvement. In 2014, an Indian Foreign Ministry spokesperson stated that the UNMOGIP no longer holds significance for India.¹¹¹ They highlighted that the country has even started charging the organization for various services. India stopped providing logistical support and food rations to the mission. Instead, they have been billing them high amounts each month since 2013. The UNMOGIP paid over

USD 1 million between September 2013 and December 2021.¹¹² On the other hand, Pakistan continues to support the group's role in monitoring the ceasefire. They believe that the UNMOGIP should enhance its efforts to uphold peace and security along the LoC.¹¹³

Even with the peace efforts, some conflict and violence continues to affect Kashmir. The current political situation is marked by fear and oppression, with the local government not addressing the needs of its people properly. Human rights abuses have increased, with reports of unjust killings and torture by security forces and militant groups.¹¹⁴ Many Kashmiris feel their opinions on solving the conflict are ignored. Older generations think about lost chances for peaceful agreements and feel betrayed that their past hopes for an independent region were not valued. Younger generations have grown up surrounded by violence, which has normalized harsh conditions for them. The repeated conflict has caused deep emotional wounds, impacting both individual and community well-being. Many Kashmiris believe that becoming part of India has come with a high price, leading them to question the benefits of this union. The ongoing turmoil and military presence in the region create an atmosphere of fear and repression for civilians.¹¹⁵

In early 2024, just before the third anniversary of the 2021 ceasefire reinstatement, both India and Pakistan were facing political uncertainty. Pakistan held national elections on February 8, 2024, and India was set to vote in the summer. Relations between the two countries have gotten worse,

105 "UNMOGIP Peacekeeping," United Nations. Accessed August 3, 2024, <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/unmogip>;

106 "Kashmir: UNMOGIP," Better World Campaign, March 22, 2023, <https://betterworldcampaign.org/mission/kashmir-unmogip#:~:text=The%20UN%20mission%20expanded%20to,does%20not%20require%20continuous%20renewal>.

107 "Unmogip Facts and Figures," UNMOGIP, June 23, 2023, <https://unmogip.unmissions.org/unmogip-facts-and-figures>.

108 "J&K Admin to Bulldoze UN Office in Srinagar? Govt Claims UNMOGIP Encroached upon State Land," Hindustan Times, January 20, 2023, <https://www.hindustantimes.com/videos/news/jk-admin-to-bulldoze-un-office-in-srinagar-govt-claims-unmogip-encroached-upon-state-land-101674239376181.html>.

109 Shuchismita, "Will Look into Winding up of UNMOGIP Office in Kashmir: LG," Greater Kashmir, February 11, 2024, <https://www.greaterkashmir.com/front-page-2/will-look-into-winding-up-of-unmogip-office-in-kashmir-lg/>.

110 Sanjeev Miglani, "India Asks U.N. Team on Kashmir to Leave Delhi Premises | Reuters," Reuters, July 8, 2014, <https://www.reuters.com/article/uk-india-un-idINKBN0FD1CX20140708/>.

111 Sanjeev Miglani, "India Asks U.N. Team on Kashmir to Leave Delhi Premises | Reuters."

112 Ali Iftikhar, "India's Curbs Undermining UNMOGIP's Peacekeeping Operations in Kashmir: UN Report," Associated Press of Pakistan, January 5, 2023, <https://www.app.com.pk/global/indias-curbs-undermining-unmogips-peacekeeping-operations-in-kashmir-un-report/#:~:text=India%2C%20the%20report%20said%20has,2013%20and%2031%20December%202021>.

113 Drishti IAS, "UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan," Drishti IAS, August 12, 2022, <https://www.drishtiiias.com/daily-updates/daily-news-analysis/un-military-observer-group-in-india-and-pakistan#:~:text=Why%20does%20the%20UNMOGIP%20seem,UNMOGIP%20with%20complaints%20against%20Pakistan>.

114 Raksha Kushmar, "For Kashmiris, Resolution to Decades of Conflict Remains a Distant Dream." NPR, August 21, 2022, <https://www.npr.org/2022/05/13/1098730987/india-kashmir-conflict>,

115 Raksha Kushmar, "For Kashmiris, Resolution to Decades of Conflict Remains a Distant Dream."

making it harder to maintain the ceasefire. The current ceasefire has stopped major fighting and reduced risks to civilians but hasn't led to major improvements or real peace. A successful one needs strong leadership and effort, which is difficult during times of political uncertainty. External threats, like fears of conflict with China in 2021, can push leaders to make peace. Still, recent increases in violations suggest that the truce might be weakening as political situations change in both countries. With new leaders in power, it's unclear how committed each country will be to maintaining it.¹¹⁶

The violence in Kashmir leading up to the present has caused a huge loss of life and damaged the region's development. The economy, which relies significantly on tourism, has also been impacted. Investments have plummeted by 55 percent over the past four years. In 2021-2022, total investment reached only USD 46 million, a sharp drop from before the COVID-19 pandemic. Contrary to claims that the removal of Article 370 would boost growth and attract more investments, the region is currently struggling with economic slowdown.¹¹⁷ On the humanitarian side, civilians struggle with shortages of basic needs like healthcare and education. The region's healthcare system has struggled since the 1990s. Unchecked private hospitals, a shortage of medical staff, and a weak government response are major issues. Those living in remote areas travel long distances to access basic healthcare. Ethical concerns arise as many doctors in private hospitals order unnecessary tests for financial gain, impacting poor communities.¹¹⁸

The Freedom House report for 2024 shows that political rights and freedoms in Indian-administered Kashmir have gotten worse since it lost its independence in 2019. Under Indian control, people have fewer rights, elections are delayed, and there is violence from security forces and militants.¹¹⁹ Human rights abuses by Indian security forces are common and rarely

punished. Since 2019, freedoms have been limited to stop opposition, leading to arrests of activists and political leaders. Public gatherings and protests are banned, and curfews and internet restrictions make it even harder.¹²⁰ Political rights are also greatly reduced; there have been no elections since 2014 since there is no elected legislative assembly. The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act caused many of these changes, and people think the electoral system is unfair. There are also fewer economic opportunities, especially for marginalized groups, and there are reports of child labor and exploitation at work.¹²¹

Even though Jammu and Kashmir is now considered a relatively safe place for tourists, the situation for local Kashmiris is different. The government has heavily cracked down on protests against the Article 370 change with a strong military presence, curfews, from 2019-2020, and constant surveillance. While tourism is growing and is promoted, many locals live in fear. The heavy military presence makes people afraid to speak out or help others, and social media is watched closely. Criticizing the government can lead to serious trouble. Tourists are generally safe, but Kashmiris could face random raids or arrests at any time.¹²²

Urgency and International Response

The conflict in Jammu and Kashmir is still very important because of its history and effects on people and the countries involved. The region is important to Pakistan because of shared religion and culture. British rule made things more complicated between India and Pakistan. After the 9/11 attacks, Kashmir got less attention and became a big issue again when Narendra Modi became India's Prime Minister in 2014, and Imran Khan was the Prime Minister of Pakistan. The current situation is very urgent since it affects global

116 Christopher Clary, "As Fragile Kashmir Cease-Fire Turns Three, Here's How to Keep It Alive," United States Institute of Peace, February 21, 2024, <https://www.usip.org/publications/2024/02/fragile-kashmir-cease-fire-turns-three-heres-how-keep-it-alive>.

117 Maknoon Wani, "Kashmir Is Bleeding. So Is Its Economy," Al Jazeera, February 4, 2023, <https://www.aljazeera.com/opinions/2023/2/4/kashmir-is-bleeding-its-economy>.

118 Semran Parvaiz, "Healthcare Disparities in Jammu and Kashmir: Challenges and Systemic Inefficiencies - JK Policy Institute," JK Policy Institute | Research, Policy, Development, Governance, August 20, 2023, <https://www.jkpi.org/healthcare-disparities-in-jammu-and-kashmir-challenges-and-systemic-inefficiencies/>.

119 "Indian Kashmir: Freedom in the World 2024 Country Report," Freedom House, 2024, <https://freedomhouse.org/country/indian-kashmir/freedom-world/2024>.

120 Freedom House, 2024, "Indian Kashmir: Freedom in the World 2024 Country Report."

121 Freedom House, 2024, "Indian Kashmir: Freedom in the World 2024 Country Report."

122 O'Brien, Rachel. "Tourists Are Safe in Kashmir but Not Kashmiris." Amnesty International UK, February 13, 2024. <https://www.amnesty.org.uk/blogs/country-specialists/tourists-are-safe-kashmir-not-kashmiris>.

security, has socioeconomic costs, and involves human rights abuses. Continued violence is not only a threat to Kashmir, but also India and Pakistan since it slows down economic progress. Cultural and geographical ties should be respected and international commitments honored to protect the rights of Kashmiris. With the current state of affairs in the region, there is an urgent need for action to address the humanitarian crisis and overall conflict.¹²³

Both the Indian and Pakistani sides have been accused of human rights abuses. Insurgents are also blamed for ethnic cleansing by forcing Kashmiri Pandits to flee the Kashmir Valley.¹²⁴ Having lived in the Valley for over 5,000 years, this community of 700,000 was forced to leave. Tensions between communities had been rising since 1947, but things got much worse in 1986 when the Pandits were attacked, and their properties and temples were damaged. The situation continued to worsen, leading to their mass departure in 1990.¹²⁵ Human rights violations are still prevalent today, especially after the revocation of Kashmir's autonomy. Since August 2019, at least 35 journalists have been harassed for their reporting through police questioning, threats, physical attacks, and limitations on their freedom of movement.¹²⁶ The Indian military is also said to have targeted young Kashmiri boys to stop local resistance. Many of these youth have been kidnapped and tortured, and their families have been forced to agree that their children won't protest. Indian security forces are accused of torturing and killing thousands of Kashmiris. Human rights groups believe that over 8,000 people are missing and may be

buried in mass graves across Kashmir.¹²⁷

The mental health aspect of this issue is also important to address, with many experiencing significant stress. A survey found that 59 percent of civilians in four districts of Jammu and Kashmir have gone through traumatic events, like being in combat zones or seeing explosions and gunfire. These experiences often lead to mental health problems like anxiety and depression. Heavy military presence has harmed education. Around 10,000 schools lack important facilities like libraries, ramps, and playgrounds. This has affected both the quality of education and the student development.¹²⁸

On the other side of the issue, Pakistan has come under fire for its terror incursions. Jammu in Indian-administered Kashmir has seen a rise in rebel attacks recently. In July 2024, four Indian Army soldiers, including an officer, were killed in a fight with terrorists in the Doda district. This brings the total number of Army deaths in the area to 48 since November 2021.¹²⁹ A majority of attacks between 2021 and 2024 targeted soldiers and armed forces personnel. This increase in violence is attributed to changing militant tactics, greater rebel activity, and fewer security forces because of redeployment to the India-China border. The number of attacks has increased, prompting the revival of local militant groups. The strained relations between local communities and security forces, as well as the severity and strategy of these attacks, highlight the need for a political solution rather than just military efforts.¹³⁰

Many groups have reacted to the worsening human rights

123 Hussain Nadim, "5 Reasons Why Kashmir Matters," *The Diplomat*, February 11, 2022, <https://thediplomat.com/2022/02/5-reasons-why-kashmir-matters/>.

124 Behind the Kashmir Conflict - Summary (human rights watch report, July 1999), Accessed August 3, 2024, <https://www.hrw.org/reports/1999/kashmir/summary.htm#:~:text=The%20Kashmir%20conflict%20not%20only,civil%20servants%20and%20suspected%20informers.>

125 Ashok Bhan, "Kashmiri Pandit Exodus Anniversary: It's Time for Us to Return," *The Indian Express*, January 18, 2024, <https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/kashmiri-pandit-anniversary-return-9116074/#:~:text=Living%20in%20the%20Valley%20for,to%20the%20exodus%20in%201990.>

126 "India: Repression Persists in Jammu and Kashmir," *Human Rights Watch*, July 31, 2024, <https://www.hrw.org/news/2024/07/31/india-repression-persists-jammu-and-kashmir#:~:text=Since%20August%202019%2C%20at%20least,and%20threats%20to%20press%20freedom.>

127 Munir Akram, "India Must End Its Violations in Kashmir and the World Must Speak Up," *Arab News PK*, February 5, 2024, <https://www.arabnews.pk/node/2454121#:~:text=The%20Indian%20military%20is%20particularly,media%20has%20been%20effectively%20stifled.>

128 Kaz de Jong, Saskia van de Kam, Nathan Ford, Kamalini Lokuge, Silke Fromm, Renate van Galen, Brigg Reilley, and Rolf Kleber, "Conflict in the Indian Kashmir Valley II: Psychosocial Impact," *Conflict and Health*, October 14, 2008, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2577626/#:~:text=Conclusion,suffering%20from%20mental%20health%20problems.>

129 "Terror Attack in Jammu-Kashmir: Over 50 Killed in 32 Months, Here Is a Brief Timeline of Major Attacks," *The Economic Times*, July 16, 2024, <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/terror-attack-in-jammu-kashmir-over-50-killed-in-32-months-here-is-a-brief-timeline-of-major-attacks/articleshow/111777992.cms.>

130 Staff, *Al Jazeera*, "New Wave: Why Suspected Rebel Attacks Are Rising in Kashmir's Jammu Area," *Al Jazeera*, August 1, 2024, <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/8/1/new-wave-why-suspected-rebel-attacks-are-spiking-in-kashmirs-jammu-area.>

abuse situation in Kashmir. The UN Human Rights Council is concerned about the curfew, communication blackouts, and forceful arrests. They say these actions violate freedom of opinion and expression.¹³¹ Amnesty International's "Let Kashmir Speak" petition asks the Indian government to lift the blackouts and focus on humanitarian needs.¹³² In Birmingham, Alabama, locals of Kashmiri origin and those with family in the area are organizing support. The Muslim Student Association is holding fundraisers to support relief efforts for Kashmir.¹³³ After the removal of Article 370, leaders from countries like China, Turkey, and Malaysia have expressed worries at the UN, urging India to improve the situation. Yet, the Indian government has been hesitant to respond.

As previously mentioned, China's position on Kashmir has changed through the decades. China now supports Pakistan less in presenting the Kashmir issue to the UN and blocs UN actions against terrorist groups in Pakistan. When conflicts arise between India and Pakistan, China focuses on preventing war rather than just supporting the latter. The nation also works with the U.S. to reduce tensions. While the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has strengthened China's economic ties with Pakistan and increased its interest in regional stability, China avoids direct mediation in Kashmir. It is suggested that more U.S.-China cooperation could help prevent crises by using China's influence over Pakistan to address India's concerns about cross-border terrorism. Mediation efforts by the U.S. alone have had limited success in finding a potential resolution. A suggested approach is to use multiple strategies at once to address Kashmir's range of issues, including neutral mediation and changes to both India and Pakistan's governing systems.¹³⁴

Sustainable Development Goals

The conflict in Jammu and Kashmir relates to several UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), showing the broader implications of regional instability. These goals are a call to action and a "blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all".¹³⁵ This includes addressing issues like security, humanitarian needs, and political problems in the region. It is important to understand how these goals relate to the situation in order to find protective measures and long-term solutions.

The first and most important SDG in relation to this topic is Goal 3: Good Health and Well-Being, which is "ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages".¹³⁶ The civilians of Jammu and Kashmir are at the core of these hostilities, which is why it is crucial to address the region's humanitarian crisis. Protecting these civilians is one of the primary goals of the UN's peacekeeping body, especially those who are victims of unlawful killings, torture, rape, arbitrary arrests, and other human rights abuses. Kashmiri youth have grown up in harsh conditions, and many lack proper access to education and healthcare, stressing the importance of Goal 4: "Ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all".¹³⁷ Terrorists and separatists have burned down schools and imposed curfews, keeping students out of class for long periods of time.¹³⁸ In February 2024, the Kashmiri government closed schools, leaving over 10,000 teachers jobless. Even for those who can attend school, the conflict disrupts their education, leading to dropouts and greater difficulties. These can be due to forced movement, financial issues, or recruitment into military groups.¹³⁹

131 Tayyaba Khan, "Kashmir Crisis: How the World Is Reacting," UAB Institute for Human Rights Blog, October 28, 2019, <https://sites.uab.edu/humanrights/2019/10/28/kashmir-crisis-how-the-world-is-reacting/>.

132 Tayyaba Khan, "Kashmir Crisis: How the World Is Reacting."

133 Tayyaba Khan, "Kashmir Crisis: How the World Is Reacting."

134 Stephen P. Cohen, "Kashmir: The Roads Ahead," Brookings, March 1, 1995, <https://www.brookings.edu/articles/kashmir-the-roads-ahead/>.

135 "Take Action for the Sustainable Development Goals," United Nations, Accessed August 13, 2024, <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/#:~:text=The%20Sustainable%20Development%20Goals%20are,environmental%20degradation%2C%20peace%20and%20justice.>

136 "The 17 Goals|Sustainable Development," United Nations, Accessed August 13, 2024, <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>.

137 United Nations, "The 17 Goals|Sustainable Development."

138 Ayjaz Wani, "Flawed Education System in Kashmir," orfonline.org, December 4, 2023, <https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/flawed-education-system-in-kashmir#:~:text=For%20decades%2C%20Pakistan%2Dbacked%20armed,for%20months%20and%20years%20together.>

139 P.A. Ahmad and S. Balamurgan, "The Impact of Armed Conflict on Education in Kashmir," Vidyabharati International Interdisciplinary Research Journal 12, no. 2 (June 2021): 615-620, ISSN 2319-4979, <https://www.viirj.org/vol12issue2/97.pdf>.

Goal 16 is “Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions”. It focuses on creating peaceful societies, providing justice for everyone, and building fair institutions.¹⁴⁰ The main function of the UN peacekeeping mission is peacebuilding itself, which helps countries move from war to peace and prevent future conflicts.¹⁴¹ In Jammu and Kashmir, the C-34 Special Committee fulfills this by working to prevent conflict, protecting people, and improving security. The portion on strengthening institutions involves addressing security forces and government agencies, as well as ensuring that protective measures respect human rights. Strategies to prevent violence and manage conflict are also steps towards creating a more peaceful environment in the region.

Bloc Analysis

Points of Division

The discussion of this topic is influenced by three main points of division: countries in support of India, countries in support of Pakistan, and non-aligned countries. The primary drivers behind the divisions between these blocs will center around different perceptions on which country should be the one that maintains control of the Kashmir region. For countries within the bloc that supports India’s claim to the Kashmir region, their main goal would be to focus on solidifying India’s sovereignty over Kashmir and Jammu. Countries in this bloc would also most likely push for the committee to adopt an increased policing role in the region. These proposals would likely mean an increased emphasis on counter terrorism and looking for ways to have UNMOGIP play a larger role in helping Indian authorities with countering violence in the region.

On the other hand, countries within the bloc that supports Pakistan’s view of Kashmir and Jammu would likely look for ways for UNMOGIP to play a larger role in human rights enforcement in the Indian side of Kashmir. Multiple human rights reports have been released about the Indian

government’s treatment of predominantly Muslim civilians in Kashmir. Countries aligned with Pakistan would likely want to see a larger role of the peacekeepers to focus on human rights enforcement. Due to their allegation that the Indian government is actively abusing human rights, countries within this bloc would likely be looking for means to push Indian authorities to restore human rights and push the reinstatement of Article 370.

Countries within the neutral bloc would likely look for a way to either push both groups together towards a comprehensive agreement or look for a third path. Countries within this bloc may look at ways to find a solution that the other two blocs would be amenable to. Regardless of what delegates within the non-aligned bloc decide, they are in a unique position to play a mediating role in the committee. Each group has their own views on sovereignty, mediation, human rights, and diplomacy. These differences will help the committee come up with effective policy ideas and peacekeeping solutions.

Countries in Support of India

These countries are more likely to oppose international mediation, favoring bilateral dialogue between India and Pakistan. They support the stance that the Kashmir issue is an internal one. This bloc may include countries who are radically supportive of India specifically regarding Kashmir or those who are Indian allies but favor taking a more balanced approach. By holding a slightly neutral position, these countries, such as the U.S., may have differing views on the modification of the UNMOGIP. Depending on this, they may remain in this bloc or shift towards the “Non-Aligned Countries” bloc in order to suit their best interests, country policy, and foreign relations.

This bloc advocates for measures that respect India’s control over Jammu and Kashmir. They back India’s fight against terrorism and focus on security and development. They also suggest changing the UNMOGIP’s role since India believes it’s not needed anymore.¹⁴² Since the Simla Agreement, India has not complained to the UNMOGIP about Pakistan and

¹⁴⁰ United Nations, “The 17 Goals|Sustainable Development.”

¹⁴¹ “Peace and Security,” United Nations, Accessed August 10, 2024, <https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/peace-and-security#:~:text=Within%20the%20United%20Nations%2C%20peacebuilding,foundations%20for%20sustainable%20peace%20and>.

¹⁴² Drishti IAS, “UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan,” Drishti IAS, August 12, 2022, <https://www.drishtiias.com/daily-updates/daily-news-analysis/un-military-observer-group-in-india-and-pakistan>.

has limited the group's activities on India's side of the LoC.¹⁴³ The bloc's support is based on shared interests and strategic alliances, as well as alignment with India's policies on the issue.

Members of this bloc would typically not call for international help on the issue, which India strongly opposes. Instead, they would agree that it should be solved through direct talks between India and Pakistan. The U.S. supports this idea and believes the Kashmiri people's opinions should also be heard in these discussions.¹⁴⁴ Many countries, like the U.S., are not fully on India's side about Jammu and Kashmir but support India in other ways. Examples include the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Japan, Australia, Canada, South Korea, Brazil, and Indonesia. Germany, for instance, values its strategic and economic ties with India, promoting peaceful resolution without heavy intervention.¹⁴⁵ Japan and India have a long history rooted in strong cultural ties and enjoy good relations through "special strategic and global partnership."¹⁴⁶

There are also countries that have shown their support for India specifically on the Kashmir conflict. During a UN debate on the situation of human rights worldwide, the Kashmir report was rejected by six nations: Bhutan, Afghanistan, Mauritius, Belarus, Cuba, and Venezuela. The Mauritian representative, for instance, questioned the assessment and agreed with India's rejection of any third party involvement in the matter.¹⁴⁷

Countries in Support of Pakistan

These countries either disagree with India's claim to Jammu and Kashmir or are simply allies of Pakistan who want a fair

solution with a balanced approach. They are aligned with the idea that Pakistan believes that India has no right to Kashmir and opposes their attempts to get global recognition of this. This bloc is focused on humanitarian needs, supporting Kashmir's right to self-determination, and condemning human rights violations. They want the UNMOGIP's role to be expanded for better monitoring and mediation. They support Pakistan's belief that the group should be more involved in maintaining peace and security along the LoC and that ceasefire violations complaints should continue.¹⁴⁸ These countries believe that UN involvement and global cooperation are essential for peace and security.

Countries in this bloc focus on human rights problems in the region, drawing attention to violations and calling for outside help. They support efforts to improve freedoms through global aid or advocacy. China is a main actor in this issue since their policy on the Kashmir conflict plays an important role in regional stability and crisis management in South Asia. Yet, China's position has changed through the decades.¹⁴⁹ It is important to consider China's current position to conduct debate. Some countries in favor of Pakistan include Turkey, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Iran, and the member states of The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).¹⁵⁰ The OIC is an organization that has supported Pakistan's position on Kashmir, calling for peaceful resolutions and international attention. It has 57 member states, 48 of which are Muslim-majority, such as Azerbaijan, Oman, and Jordan.¹⁵¹

143 "Background," UNMOGIP, July 5, 2017, <https://unmogip.unmissions.org/background#:~:text=Since%20the%20Simla%20Agreement%20of,and%20other%20services%20to%20UNMOGIP>.

144 K. Alan Kronstadt, "Kashmir: Background, Recent Developments, and U.S. Policy" (Washington, DC: Congressional Research Service Official, 2020), <https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/R/R45877#:~:text=the%20Kashmir%20Valley,-,The%20long%20standing%20U.S.%20position%20on%20Kashmir%20is%20that%20the,wishes%20of%20the%20Kashmiri%20people>

145 "India-Germany Relations," Embassy of India Mexico City, August 16, 2023, https://www.indiainmexico.gov.in/eoimx_pages/NDMw#:~:text=Economic%20%26%20Commercial%20Relations&text=Germany%20is%20currently%20the%2012,total%20foreign%20trade%20in%202022.

146 "Ministry of External Affairs," India-Japan Bilateral Relations, Accessed August 3, 2024, https://www.mea.gov.in/Portal/ForeignRelation/Japan_-_Bilateral_Brief_MEA_Website_Oct_2023.pdf.

147 Geeta Mohan, "Countries across Continents Support India on Kashmir at UN, Pakistan Isolated," India Today, June 21, 2018, <https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/countries-across-continents-support-india-on-kashmir-at-un-pakistan-isolated-1265751-2018-06-21>.

148 Drishtii IAS, "UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan," Drishtii IAS, August 12, 2022, <https://www.drishtiiias.com/daily-updates/daily-news-analysis/un-military-observer-group-in-india-and-pakistan>.

149 I-wei Jennifer Chang, "China's Kashmir Policies and Crisis Management in South Asia," United States Institute of Peace, February 9, 2017, <https://www.usip.org/publications/2017/02/chinas-kashmir-policies-and-crisis-management-south-asia>.

150 "The Conduct of Pakistan's Foreign Policy Structure, Strengths and Issues" (Islamabad: Institute of Policy Studies Official, 2022), <https://www.ips.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/06-Foreign-policy-Brief-8-Pakistans-Relations-with-Iran-Saudi-Arabia-UAE-Turkey-Malaysia.pdf>

151 Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (OIC) / Republic of Türkiye Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Accessed August 3, 2024, <https://www.mfa.gov.tr/OIC.en.mfa#:~:text=Afghanistan%2C%20Albania%2C%20Azerbaijan%2C%20Bahrain,Kyrgyzstan%2C%20the%20>

Non-Aligned Countries

These countries do not fully support or oppose India or Pakistan. They want a balanced and safe approach focused on peacekeeping and international mediation. Putting the rights of the Kashmiri people first, these countries prioritize increased humanitarian assistance and global cooperation. This is where the UNMOGIP comes in to ensure transparency and accountability. This bloc may include most of the countries since it is neutral and aims to help civilians without taking an extreme position. They believe the UNMOGIP should have a bigger role in ensuring transparency and helping India and Pakistan hold peace talks. Non-aligned countries support following international law and respecting each country's rights. They also prefer solutions that involve multiple countries working together. For instance, they might suggest creating neutral zones for delivering aid without interference from either side. This balanced approach aims to keep the region stable and resolve issues through global cooperation.

Non-aligned countries also support actions to build trust and reduce tensions, helping India and Pakistan work together in Kashmir to encourage peace. They believe it's important to listen to the people of Kashmir which could be done by the inclusion of certain parties and voices through peace talks. Examples of non-aligned countries could be Switzerland, Austria, Singapore, South Africa, Egypt, Mexico, Nigeria, Ireland, and the Scandinavian countries.

Although there are countries who might be in support of either India or Pakistan generally, those who are not radically aligned with them on the Kashmir issue can also be considered members of this bloc. Brazil and Indonesia, for instance, are more aligned with India in a diplomatic sense, but they also have the freedom to take a more neutral stance on the issue. Malaysia is another nation that could dip into both the pro-

Pakistan and non-aligned blocs. The U.S., United Kingdom, Germany, and France are others who fall into a similar boat.

Committee Mission

The Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (C-34) is a part of the UN that reviews and makes recommendations on peacekeeping missions. They focus on protecting civilians, preventing violence, and suggesting policy changes.¹⁵² The topic of implementing protective measures in Jammu and Kashmir fits this role. The region faces serious human rights abuses, such as wrongful detentions and killings. These abuses have made life very difficult, especially for women and children.¹⁵³ If no action is taken, these problems could worsen and affect nearby areas and global peace. Increased global support and better protective measures could keep civilians safe, reduce abuses, and ensure aid reaches those who need it most. This would help create long-term peace and development in Jammu and Kashmir.

Another important issue to address is that some groups cannot freely express themselves or move around. Journalists, for example, are often watched and can be arrested without reason.¹⁵⁴ These limits create a lot of fear, making it harder to build trust and dialogue between parties. Easing these rules could help improve discussions and let journalists and activists work safely. Other problems that can be addressed through protective measures include economic instability, security issues, and lack of access to basic services. To meet these goals, the C-34 committee can suggest better protection plans, improve peacekeeper training, and encourage countries to work together.¹⁵⁵ For instance, peacekeepers could be trained to address specific issues facing different groups to ensure well-rounded work. The C-34 can use its reports and policy reviews to shape such strategies and solutions.¹⁵⁶

Comoros%2C%20Kuwait%2C.

152 "Recommendations of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (C34)" (New York: United Nations Peacekeeping Official, Accessed August 10, 2024), <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/recommendations-of-special-committee-peacekeeping-operations-c34#:~:text=The%20C34%20is%20mandated%20to,measures%20taken%20by%20the%20Secretariat.>

153 Kaz de Jong et al., "Kashmir: Violence and Health," *Medecins Sans Frontieres*, November 2006, <https://www.msf.org/sites/default/files/2018-08/kashmir-violence-and-mental-health.pdf>.

154 "India: 'We Are Being Punished by the Law' - Three Years of Abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu & Kashmir," *Amnesty International*, September 2, 2022, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/asa20/5959/2022/en/>.

155 "Recommendations of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (C34) Peacekeeping," *United Nations*, Accessed August 13, 2024, <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/recommendations-of-special-committee-peacekeeping-operations-c34#:~:text=The%20C34%20is%20mandated%20to,measures%20taken%20by%20the%20Secretariat.>

156 United Nations, "Recommendations of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (C34) Peacekeeping."

Research and Preparation Questions

Your dais has prepared the following research and preparation questions as a means of providing guidance for your research process. These questions should be carefully considered, as they embody some of the main critical thought and learning objectives surrounding your topic.

Topic A

1. How has the ongoing conflict in South Sudan impacted neighboring countries? In what ways might these regional effects influence your efforts to create effective conflict resolution strategies?
2. What are the key obstacles to achieving lasting peace in South Sudan, and how can these challenges be effectively addressed through conflict resolution strategies? Given the human rights violations in South Sudan, what steps can your country take to help mitigate the violence and ensure the delivery of humanitarian aid?
3. How have the UN Peacekeeping operations contributed to supporting South Sudan's pursuit of peace? Has your country participated in these operations in general, and if so, what role did your country play?
4. Does your country have any special interests in South Sudan or any neighboring state that may impact your goals for resolving the conflict in South Sudan? If so, are these political, economic, cultural, or military?
5. Has your country previously dealt with internal conflict, specifically ethnic-related violence? If so, how did your country overcome this conflict? What measures were created to stop the fighting? Did the United Nations intervene?
6. How do the ongoing conflicts and foreign influence in neighboring states affect the chances of resolving the ongoing conflict in South Sudan and building a sustainable peace? How should the committee address foreign influence concerning this topic?

Topic B

1. How has the conflict in Jammu and Kashmir impacted your broader strategic interests in South Asia? How do you intend to address humanitarian concerns in the region while respecting sovereignty and country alliances?
2. How does the conflict in Jammu and Kashmir intersect with environmental stressors in the region, such as access to natural resources, and what influence does it have on your approach to the issue? How can such connections be addressed through peace negotiations or resource-sharing agreements?
3. What lessons from other peacekeeping missions around the world can be applied to the conflict in Jammu and Kashmir, and how can your country leverage these strategies to address peace, security, human rights violations, and other issues affecting the region?
4. Has there ever been a violation of a ceasefire agreement between your country and other member states? Was that violation similar to the ceasefire agreement in Jammu and Kashmir? What, if any, were the consequences of such a violation? Were there any actions or efforts made to repair a ceasefire agreement?
5. Has your country ever dealt with violence from terrorist groups? What were solutions imposed to mitigate violence? Was there any involvement from peacekeeping organizations or UN bodies?
6. How did the response of your country differ from India or Pakistan's response surrounding violence from terrorist groups?

Important Documents

Topic A

- Day, Adam. *The UN Security Council and Transitional Justice: South Sudan*. New York: United Nations University Centre for Policy and Research, 2020. https://i.unu.edu/media/cpr.unu.edu/attachment/4845/UNU_TJ_SSudan.pdf.
- UNDP. *Beyond Conflict Building a strong future for South Sudan. Juba: United Nations Development Programme*. Juba: United Nations Development Programme, 2016. <https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/migration/ss/UNDP-South-Sudan-Beyond-Conflict.pdf>.
- United Nations Security Council. Report 2023/976. Situation in South Sudan. S/2023/976. December 12, 2023. https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/4032006/files/S_2023_976-EN.pdf?ln=en.
- United Nations South Sudan. *United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF)*. Juba: United Nations South Sudan Office of the United Nations Resident Coordinator in South Sudan, 2022. https://minio.uninfo.org/uninfo-production-main/c40f8d99-e283-412e-8af2-c8fb27068ba5_UN_Sustainable_Development_SOUTH_SUDAN-_FINAL.pdf.
- UNMISS, *Conflict in South Sudan A Human Rights Report* (New York: United Nations Mission in South Sudan, 2014), https://unmiss.unmissions.org/sites/default/files/unmiss_conflict_in_south_sudan_-_a_human_rights_report.pdf.

Topic B

- BBC News. “Kashmir Profile - Timeline,” August 6, 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-south-asia-16069078>.
- UNMOGIP. “Background,” July 5, 2017. <https://unmogip.unmissions.org/background#:~:text=Since%20the%20Simla%20Agreement%20of,and%20other%20services%20to%20UNMOGIP>.
- Cohen, Stephen P. “Kashmir: The Roads Ahead.” Brookings, March 1, 1995. <https://www.brookings.edu/articles/kashmir-the-roads-ahead/>.
- De Jong, Kaz, Saskia Van De Kam, Nathan Ford, Kamalini Lokuge, Silke Fromm, Renate Van Galen, Brigg Reilley, and Rolf Kleber. “Conflict in the Indian Kashmir Valley II: Psychosocial Impact.” *Conflict and Health* 2, no. 1 (October 14, 2008). <https://doi.org/10.1186/1752-1505-2-11>.
- “UNITED NATIONS INDIA-PAKISTAN OBSERVATION MISSION (UNIPOM) - Background,” n.d. <https://peacekeeping.un.org/mission/past/unipombackgr.html>.
- UNMOGIP. “Publications,” n.d. <https://unmogip.unmissions.org/publications>.
- Habibullah, Wajahat. “Political Economy of the Kashmir Conflict: Opportunities for Economic Peacebuilding and for U. S. Policy.” DIANE Publishing, 2009.

Works Cited

Topic A

UN Sources

- Day, Adam. *The UN Security Council and Transitional Justice: South Sudan*. New York: United Nations University Centre for Policy and Research, 2020. https://i.unu.edu/media/cpr.unu.edu/attachment/4845/UNU_TJ_SSudan.pdf.
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. "Growing concern for South Sudan's herders as conflict displaces millions of cattle." Last modified December 31, 2014. <https://www.fao.org/newsroom/detail/Growing-concern-for-South-Sudan-s-herders-as-conflict-displaces-millions-of-cattle/>.
- Giffen, Alison. "New Report by the UN Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (C-34) Advances and Limits the Protection of Civilians." Center for Civilians in Conflict, May 10, 2021. <https://civiliansinconflict.org/blog/2021-c34-report/>.
- HRD UNMISS. *Brief on Violence Affecting Civilians*. New York: Human Rights Division United Nations Mission in South Sudan, 2023. https://reliefweb.int/attachments/9fce5605-3268-41b7-a147-a80ec1004918/q4_brief_on_violence_affecting_civilians.pdf.
- Human Development Reports United Nations Development Program. "Human Development Index (HDI)" Accessed August 4 2024. <https://hdr.undp.org/data-center/human-development-index>
- Human Rights Council. Session 52. State of Impunity: the persistence of violence and human rights violations in South Sudan. A/HRC/52/CRP.3. April 3, 2023. https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/hrbodies/hrcouncil/sessions-regular/session52/A_HRC_52_CRP.3.pdf.
- Intercommunal violence*. New York: United Nations Mission in South Sudan, April 2024.
- OCHA. "Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan South Sudan. New York: United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs." Accessed August 4, 2024. <https://www.unocha.org/south-sudan>.
- OHCHR. "South Sudan: UN report highlights widespread sexual violence against women and girls in conflict, fueled by systemic impunity." Accessed August 4, 2024. <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2022/03/south-sudan-un-report-highlights-widespread-sexual-violence-against-women>.
- The United Nations Refugee Agency. "South Sudan situation." Accessed July 10 2023. <https://reporting.unhcr.org/operational/situations/south-sudan-situation>
- The United Nations Refugee Agency. "South Sudan situation." Accessed July 10 2023. <https://reporting.unhcr.org/operational/situations/south-sudan-situation>
- UNDP. *Beyond Conflict Building a strong future for South Sudan. Juba: United Nations Development Programme*. Juba: United Nations Development Programme, 2016. <https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/migration/ss/UNDP-South-Sudan-Beyond-Conflict.pdf>.
- UNDP. *Breaking the Vicious Cycle of Conflict in South Sudan: A Call to Action*. New York: United Nations Development Programme, 2016. <https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/migration/ss/Breaking-the-Vicious-Cycle-of-Conflict-in-South-Sudan-Dropbox.pdf>.
- UNHCR. *The Pockets of Hope Initiative: Realizing Solutions in South Sudan*. Geneva: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, 2022. <https://www.unhcr.org/sites/default/files/legacy-pdf/62b17f7a4.pdf>.
- UNISFA. "Ngok Dinka and Misseriya Commit to Peaceful Coexistence as Abyei Post Migration Ends." May 27, 2024. <https://unisfa.unmissions.org/ngok-dinka-and-misseriya-commit-peaceful-coexistence-abyei-post-migration-ends>.
- United Nations. *Framework of Analysis for Atrocity Crimes*. Geneva: United Nations, 2014. <https://www.un.org/en/>

- genocideprevention/documents/about-us/Doc.3_Framework%20of%20Analysis%20for%20Atrocity%20Crimes_EN.pdf.
- United Nations. “Lack of Participation by Developed Countries in UN Peacekeeping Mission raised in Fourth Committee.” Press release, November 8, 2000. <https://press.un.org/en/2000/20001108.gaspd199.doc.html>.
- United Nations. “Security Council Renews United Nations Mission in South Sudan for One Year, Adopting Resolution 2729 (2024) by Vote of 13 in Favour, 2 Abstentions.” Press Release, April 29, 2024. <https://press.un.org/en/2024/sc15687.doc.htm>.
- United Nations. “Sustainable Development Report 2024: South Sudan,” 2024. <https://dashboards.sdindex.org/static/profiles/pdfs/SDR-2024-south-sudan.pdf>.
- United Nations. “United Nations Peacekeeping One of Global Community’s Most Effective Tools in Maintaining Stability, General Assembly President Tells Committee.” Press release, February 14, 2022. <https://press.un.org/en/2022/gapk243.doc.htm>.
- United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. “End hunger, achieve food security and improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.” Accessed August 11, 2024.
- United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. “Goal 2 | Department of Economic and Social Affairs.” Accessed August 5, 2024. <https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal2>.
- United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. “The 17 Goals.” Accessed August 5, 2024. <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>.
- United Nations General Assembly, “Committee on Contributions,” Accessed August 11, 2024, <https://www.un.org/en/ga/contributions/peacekeeping.shtml>.
- United Nations General Assembly. Resolution 77/292 B. Peacekeeping Assessments. ST/ADM/SER.B/1063. June 30, 2023. https://www.un.org/en/ga/contributions/UNMISS_UMOJA_JUL_23%20new.pdf.
- United Nations General Assembly. *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. New York: United Nations General Assembly, 1948. https://www.un.org/en/udhrbook/pdf/udhr_booklet_en_web.pdf.
- United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner. “South Sudan: Rise in extrajudicial executions.” Accessed August 4, 2024. <https://www.ohchr.org/en/statements/2024/07/south-sudan-rise-extrajudicial-executions>.
- United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner. “Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions.” Accessed August 4, 2024. <https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-executions>.
- United Nations International Organization Migration. “South Sudan Crisis Response Plan 2023 - 2025.” Last modified March 28, 2024. <https://crisisresponse.iom.int/response/south-sudan-crisis-response-plan-2023-2025>.
- United Nations Mission in South Sudan. “About UNMISS.” Last accessed August 8, 2024. <https://unmiss.unmissions.org/about-unmiss>.
- United Nations Mission In South Sudan. “Background.” Accessed July 20, 2024. <https://unmiss.unmissions.org/background>.
- United Nations Mission in South Sudan. “Mandate.” Accessed August 8, 2024, <https://unmiss.unmissions.org/mandate>.
- United Nations Mission in South Sudan. “Military.” Last accessed August 8, 2024. <https://unmiss.unmissions.org/military>.
- United Nations Mission in South Sudan. “United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) - Mandate.” Accessed July 18, 2024. <https://unmiss.unmissions.org/mandate>.
- United Nations Mission in South Sudan. “UNMISS Fact Sheet.” Accessed August 4, 2024. <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/unmiss>.
- United Nations News. “Peacekeepers and civilians killed during clashes in disputed Abyei region.” Accessed August 4, 2024. <https://news.un.org/en/story/2024/01/1146007>.
- United Nations News. “South Sudan ‘revitalized’ peace deal must be inclusive, Security Council hears.” Last modified June 28, 2018. <https://news.un.org/en/story/2018/06/1013452>.

- United Nations Peacekeeping. "In South Sudan, Protection of Civilians sites are transitioning into Internally Displaced Persons Camps." Accessed August 4, 2024. <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/south-sudan-protection-of-civilians-sites-are-transitioning-internally-displaced-persons-camps>.
- United Nations Peacekeeping. "Our Successes." United Nations Peacekeeping, United Nations, 2017. <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/our-successes>.
- United Nations Peacekeeping. "Recommendations of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (C34)." Accessed August 6, 2024. <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/recommendations-of-special-committee-peacekeeping-operations-c34>.
- United Nations Peacekeeping. "What is Peacekeeping?." Accessed July 18, 2024. <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/what-is-peacekeeping>.
- United Nations Peacekeeping. "What We Do." Accessed August 8, 2024, <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/what-we-do>.
- United Nations Security Council. Report 2023/976. Situation in South Sudan. S/2023/976. December 12, 2023. https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/4032006/files/S_2023_976-EN.pdf?ln=en.
- United Nations Security Council. "United Nations," March 15, 2018. https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/a_72_19.pdf.
- United Nations South Sudan. *United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF)*. Juba: United Nations South Sudan Office of the United Nations Resident Coordinator in South Sudan, 2022. https://minio.uninfo.org/uninfo-production-main/c40f8d99-e283-412e-8af2-c8fb27068ba5_UN_Sustainable_Development_SOUTH_SUDAN_FINAL.pdf.
- United Nations South Sudan. "Our Work on the Sustainable Development Goals in South Sudan." Accessed August 5, 2024. <https://southsudan.un.org/en/sdgs>.
- United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination. "Peace and Conflict Prevention." Accessed August 5, 2024. <https://unsceb.org/topics/peace-and-conflict-prevention>
- UNMISS, *Conflict in South Sudan A Human Rights Report* (New York: United Nations Mission in South Sudan, 2014), https://unmiss.unmissions.org/sites/default/files/unmiss_conflict_in_south_sudan_-_a_human_rights_report.pdf.
- UNMISS. UNMISS responds rapidly to protect civilians and restore calm amidst fresh outbreaks of intercommunal violence. April 30, 2024. <https://reliefweb.int/attachments/b55a1c6c-9029-46c3-a816-525fba01b173/PR%20-%20UNMISS%20responds%20rapidly%20to%20protect%20civilians%20and%20restore%20calm%20amidst%20fresh%20outbreak%20of%20intercom.pdf>
- UN Peacebuilding. *The Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund*. New York: United Nations Peacebuilding, 2023. https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/country_brief_south_sudan_2023-09-20.pdf.
- UNSC. *Report of the Secretary-General on South Sudan*. New York: United Nations Security Council, 2016. https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s_2016_138.pdf.
- UNSC. "Report of the Secretary-General on South Sudan." New York: United Nations Security Council, 2016. https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s_2016_138.pdf.
- What's In Blue. *UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS): Vote on Draft Mandate Renewal Resolution*. New York: Security Council Report, April 2024. <https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/whatsinblue/2024/04/un-mission-in-south-sudan-unmiss-vote-on-draft-mandate-renewal-resolution.php>.

Non UN Sources

- Adula, Negera Gudeta. "IGAD's peace building effort in South Sudan." *Academicresearch Journals* 6, no. 3 (2018): 85-89. <https://www.academicresearchjournals.org/IJPSD/Index.html>.
- African Center for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes. "South Sudan – Uganda Relations." Last modified December 23,

2015. <https://www.accord.org.za/conflict-trends/south-sudan-uganda-relations/>.
- Amnesty International. "South Sudan: Survivors describe killings, mass displacement and terror amid fighting in Western Equatoria." Last modified December 9, 2021. <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2021/12/south-sudan-survivors-describe-killings-mass-displacement-and-terror-amid-fighting-in-western-equatoria/>.
- Ashley Quarcoo. "Unity Government Rekindles Hopes for Peace in South Sudan." Carnegie Endowment. Last modified February 27, 2020. <https://carnegieendowment.org/posts/2020/02/unity-government-rekindles-hopes-for-peace-in-south-sudan?lang=en>.
- ATJHUB. *Addis Ababa Agreement on the Problem of South Sudan*. South Africa: African Transitional Justice Hub, 1972. <https://atjhub.csvr.org.za/addis-ababa-agreement-on-the-problem-of-south-sudan/>.
- Baarsen, M.V. *The Sudanese Civil War: The Netherlands and Sudan: Dutch Policies and Interventions with Respect to the Sudanese Civil War*. 1st ed. Wassenaar: Clingendael Institute, 2000. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep05430.6>.
- Bakardzhieva, Ioana. "The conflict in South Sudan: Energy and Political Challenge." Groninhen: The University of Groningen. June 23, 2016. https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Ioana-Bakardzhieva/publication/304335044_South_Sudan_Energy_and_Political_Challenge_A_Policy_Report_for_the_African_Union_Commission/links/576c03c708aedb18f3eb0daa/South-Sudan-Energy-and-Political-Challenge-A-Policy-Report-for-the-African-Union-Commission.pdf.
- Barnett, James. "War and Peace in South Sudan." *New Lines Magazine*. February 5, 2024. <https://newlinesmag.com/reportage/war-and-peace-in-south-sudan/>.
- BBC. "Salva Kiir: South Sudan's President in a Cowboy Hat." June 21, 2018. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-12107760>.
- Bellamy, Alex J. and Paul D. Williams. *Why States Contribute United Nations Peacekeepers*. New York: International Peace Institute, 2012. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/resrep09650.6.pdf>.
- Berouk Mesfi. *East Africa Report: The regionalisation of the South Sudanese crisis*. South Africa: Institute for Security Studies, 2015. https://www.files.ethz.ch/isn/191757/E_Africa_Report_4.pdf.
- Boswell, Alan. *Special Report No. 493*. Washington D.C: United States Institute of Peace, 2021. https://www.usip.org/sites/default/files/2021-04/sr_493-conflict_and_crisis_in_south_sudans_equatoria.pdf.
- Britannica. "The growth of national consciousness." Last modified July 10, 2024. <https://www.britannica.com/place/Sudan/The-growth-of-national-consciousness>.
- Center for Strategic and International Studies. "Accessing South Sudan: Humanitarian Aid in a Time of Crisis." Last modified November 27, 2018. <https://www.csis.org/analysis/accessing-south-sudan-humanitarian-aid-time-crisis>.
- Center for Strategic and International Studies. "Accessing South Sudan: Humanitarian Aid in a Time of Crisis." Last modified November 27, 2018. <https://www.csis.org/analysis/accessing-south-sudan-humanitarian-aid-time-crisis>.
- Chak Wuol, Duop. "Opinion| Casting Shadows: The Dangers of Premature Elections in South Sudan." July 19, 2024. <https://www.radiotamazuj.org/en/news/article/opinion-casting-shadows-the-dangers-of-premature-elections-in-south-sudan>.
- Climate Diplomacy. "Conflict between Dinka and Nuer in South Sudan," Accessed August 30, 2024. <https://climate-diplomacy.org/case-studies/conflict-between-dinka-and-nuer-south-sudan>.
- Collins, R. O. "History of Sudan." Encyclopedia Britannica. Last modified August 14, 2023. <https://www.britannica.com/topic/history-of-Sudan>.
- European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations. *South Sudan crisis*. Brussels: European Commission, 2017. https://ec.europa.eu/echo/files/aid/countries/factsheets/fs_south_sudan_april2017_clean_final.pdf.
- European Commission. "Peace agreement in South Sudan: Ambitious but hard to deliver." Last modified February 2, 2016. [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document/EPRS_BRI\(2016\)573965](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document/EPRS_BRI(2016)573965).
- European Commission. "South Sudan." Accessed July 17, 2024. https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/where/africa/south-sudan_en.

- Garang, Aleu. "The Role of the IGAD Mission in the Republic of South Sudan." ACCORD, July 7, 2021. <https://www.accord.org.za/analysis/the-role-of-the-igad-mission-in-the-republic-of-south-sudan/>.
- Gemechu, Degefe. "Political and Social Conflicts in South Sudan: The Post-Independence Challenges." *Journal of Modern Science* 51, no. 2 (2023): 237-241. <https://doi.org/10.13166/jms/166650>.
- Gemechu, Degefe Kebede. "Political and Social Conflicts in South Sudan: The Post-Independence Challenges." *Journal of Modern Science* 51, no. 2 (2023): 237-241. <https://doi.org/10.13166/jms/166650>.
- Global Centre for Responsibility to Protect. "South Sudan." Last modified May 31, 2024. <https://www.globalr2p.org/countries/south-sudan/>
- Global Conflict Tracker. "Civil War in Sudan | Global Conflict Tracker." Accessed August 4, 2024. <https://www.cfr.org/global-conflict-tracker/conflict/power-struggle-sudan>.
- HORN. "The Revitalized Agreement for Resolution of Conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCSS): Addressing the Challenges to Power Sharing." Nairobi: International Institute for Strategic Studies, 2019. <https://horninstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/No.-17.-The-Revitalized-Agreement-for-Resolution-of-Conflict-in-South-Sudan-R-ARCSS-1.pdf>.
- Human Rights Watch. "Crises in Sudan and Northern Uganda." Accessed July 10, 2024. <https://www.hrw.org/legacy/campaigns/sudan98/testim/house-01.htm>
- Human Rights Watch. "South Sudan Events of 2023." Accessed July 19, 2024. <https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2024/country-chapters/south-sudan>.
- Hutton, Lauren. "Blurring the Lines: Ethnicity, Governance, and Stability in South Sudan, Africa Center for Strategic Studies." African Center for Strategic Studies. Last modified May 28, 2018. <https://africacenter.org/spotlight/blurring-the-lines-ethnicity-governance-and-stability-in-south-sudan/>.
- Idris, Iffat. "Livestock and conflict in South Sudan. Birmingham: GSDRC University of Birmingham." October 29, 2018. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5c6abdec40f0b61a22792fd5/484__Livestock_and_Conflict_in_South_Sudan.pdf
- Intergovernmental Authority on Development. "About IGAD." Accessed July 17, 2024. <https://igad.int/about/>.
- IPI. "Prioritizing and Sequencing Security Council Mandates in 2024: The Case of UNMISS." New York: International Peace Institute, February 2024.
- Johnson, Douglas H. "The Root Causes of Sudan's Civil Wars Old Wars and New Wars." 3rd ed. Martlesham: Boydell & Brewer, 2016. <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781782048343.006>.
- Jorgensen, Josh and Alison Giffen. "New Report by the UN Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (C-34) Advances and Limits the Protection of Civilians." Center for Civilians in Conflict. Last modified May 10, 2021. <https://civiliansinconflict.org/blog/2021-c34-report/>.
- Joshi, Madhav, Quinn Jason Michael, and Patrick Regan. "Annualized implementation data on comprehensive intrastate peace accords, 1989–2012." *Journal of Peace Research* 52, (2015): 551-562. <https://peaceaccords.nd.edu/accord/sudan-comprehensive-peace-agreement>.
- Kon, Madut. "Institutional development, governance, and ethnic politics in South Sudan." *Journal of global economics* 3, no. 2 (2015): 1-6. <https://www.hilarispublisher.com/open-access/institutional-development-governance-and-ethnic-politics-in-south-sudan-2375-4389-1000147.pdf>.
- Kuele, Thomas G. Weiss and Giovanna. "Why Developing Nations Send so Many Troops to UN Peace Ops." PassBlue. February 15, 2019. <https://www.passblue.com/2019/02/12/why-developing-nations-send-so-many-troops-to-un-peace-ops/>.
- Kumsa, A. "SOUTH SUDAN STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE, AND IT'S IMPLICATIONS FOR AFRICA." *RUDN Journal of Sociology* 17, no. 4 (January 1, 2017): 513–23. <https://doi.org/10.22363/2313-2272-2017-17-4-513-523>.
- Kuol, Luka. "Navigating the Competing Interests of Regional Actors in South Sudan: Envisioning a Stable South Sudan."

- Washington D.C: Africa Center for Strategic Studies, 2018. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep19226.11>.
- LandLinks. "South Sudan." Accessed August 30, 2024. <https://www.land-links.org/country-profile/south-sudan/>.
- Liaga, Emmaculate Asige and Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding Scholar. "Situating 'The Local' In Peacebuilding In South Sudan." Washington D.C: Wilson Center, 2017. https://www.wilsoncenter.org/sites/default/files/media/documents/publication/research_paper_-_situating_the_local_in_peacebuilding_in_south_sudan.pdf.
- Lin, David. "The Role of British Colonial Policy in the South Sudanese Civil War: A Postcolonial Conflict Analysis (2018)." BA diss., Seattle University, 2018. <https://scholarworks.seattleu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1025&context=intl-std-theses>.
- Machol, Deng. "37 people killed in disputed oil-rich African region of Abyei in fighting linked to spiritual leader." *AP News*. Last modified February 4, 2024. <https://apnews.com/article/south-sudan-abyei-land-dispute-cc6d77f2ecc8f3e0e8b8603aea5738b0>.
- Mathijs Doop, Volkert. "How to Handle Your Neighbors' Conflict: Ethiopia's Relationships with Sudan and South Sudan." *UNISCI Discussion Papers*, no. 33 (October 2013): 132-134. <https://www.redalyc.org/pdf/767/76728723009.pdf>.
- Nazario, Francis G. "Arbitrary arrest in South Sudan." *Sudan Tribune*, May 7, 2024. <https://sudantribune.com/article285298/>.
- Noel, Katherine. "Understanding the Roots of Conflict in South Sudan." Council on Foreign Relations. Last modified September 14, 2016. <https://www.cfr.org/interview/understanding-roots-conflict-south-sudan>.
- OECD. *Responding to Refugee Crises: Lessons from evaluations in South Sudan as a country of origin*. Paris: The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, 2017. https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/sites/default/files/migrated/2017-09/south_sudan_-_responding_to_refugees_in_crisis_-_lessons_from_evaluations_in_south_sudan_as_a_country_of_origin_.pdf.
- Okeke, Martin, Nnamani, Desmond, and Godwin, Chukwuedo Dibia. "Inter-communal Conflict and Internally Displaced Persons in Nigeria: Analysis of Enugu and Anambra State, 2000-2007." *Practicum Psychologia* 8, no. 1 (October 2018): 1-3. <https://journals.aphriapub.com/index.php/PP/article/view/580>.
- Ottaway, Marina and Amr Hamzawy, "The Comprehensive Peace Agreement," *Carnegie Endowment for International Peace*, January 4, 2011. <https://carnegieendowment.org/research/2011/01/the-comprehensive-peace-agreement?lang=en>.
- Pinaud, Clemence. "South Sudan: Civil war, predation and the making of a military aristocracy." *African Affairs* 113, no. 451 (April 2014): 192-211. <https://doi.org/10.1093/afraf/adu019>.
- Poggo, Scopas S. *The First Sudanese Civil War: Africans, Arabs, and Israelis in the Southern Sudan, 1955-1972*. 1st ed. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2009. https://www.sahistory.org.za/sites/default/files/archive-files/scopas_s._poggo_the_first_sudanese_civil_war_afbook4you.pdf.
- Pospisil, Jan. "Crisis in Abyei: South Sudan must act and stop violence between Dinka groups." *The Conversation*. Last modified March 5, 2024. <https://theconversation.com/crisis-in-abyei-south-sudan-must-act-and-stop-violence-between-dinka-groups-224409>.
- ReliefWeb. "RJMEC report on the status of implementation of the Revitalized agreement on the resolution of the conflict in the Republic of South Sudan for the Period 1st April to 30th June 2024." Last modified November, 2017. <https://reliefweb.int/report/south-sudan/rjmec-report-status-implementation-revitalised-agreement-resolution-conflict-republic-south-sudan-period-1st-april-30th-june-2024>.
- ReliefWeb. "South Sudan: African Union's abandoned commitment to justice in Africa: the case of the Hybrid Court for South Sudan." Last modified November 23, 2022. <https://reliefweb.int/report/south-sudan/south-sudan-african-unions-abandoned-commitment-justice-africa-case-hybrid-court-south-sudan>.
- Reuters. "Fresh fighting in South Sudan kills 26 people, officials say." *Reuters*. Last modified February 6, 2024. <https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/fresh-fighting-south-sudan-kills-26-people-officials-say-2024-02-06/>.

- Sandu, Ciprian. "The South Sudan coup: A political rivalry that turned ethnic." *Conflict Studies Quarterly*, no. 7 (2014): 49-65. <http://www.csq.ro/wp-content/uploads/CSQ-7.-Sandu.pdf>.
- Schmidt, Annie. "Prioritizing and Sequencing Security Council Mandates in 2024: The Case of UNMISS." International Peace Institute. March 7, 2024. <https://www.ipinst.org/2024/03/prioritizing-and-sequencing-security-council-mandates-in-2024-the-case-of-unmiss>.
- SDG Transformation Center. "Sustainable Development Report 2024," Accessed August 4, 2024. <https://dashboards.sdgindex.org/profiles/south-sudan>.
- SDG Transformation Center. "Sustainable Development Report South Sudan." Paris: Sustainable Development Goals Transformation Center, 2024. <https://dashboards.sdgindex.org/static/profiles/pdfs/SDR-2024-south-sudan.pdf>.
- Shah, Preyash. "Charted: Contributions to UN Peacekeeping Forces by Country." Visual Capitalist. Last modified June 15, 2024. <https://www.visualcapitalist.com/cp/contributions-to-un-peacekeeping-forces-by-country/>.
- Sharland, Lisa and Genevieve Feely. *Mapping Pacific contributions to UN peacekeeping*. Canberra: Australian Strategic Policy Institute, 2020. <https://www.aspi.org.au/report/mapping-pacific-peacekeeping>.
- Shinn, David H. "Addis Ababa Agreement: was it destined to fail and are there lessons for the Current Sudan Peace Process?." *Annales d'Ethiopie* 20, (2004): 244-245. <https://doi.org/10.3406/ethio.2004.1077>.
- Sovereign Limits. "South Sudan–Sudan Land Boundary." Sovereign Limits. Accessed October 6, 2024. <https://sovereignlimits.com/boundaries/south-sudan-sudan-land>.
- Spink, Lauren. "In South Sudan, Keep UN Peacekeepers Focused on Evolving Risks for Civilians." Just Security. Last modified December 17, 2021. <https://www.justsecurity.org/79585/in-south-sudan-keep-un-peacekeepers-focused-on-evolving-risks-for-civilians/>.
- Stammes, Eli. "The United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS): Protecting Civilians in a Volatile Environment." *Oslo: Norwegian Institute of International Affairs*. January 1, 2015. <https://brage.bibsys.no/xmlui/handle/11250/299118>.
- Sudan Tribune. "South Sudan, Sudan will continue to foster bilateral relations: Gatluak." Sudan Tribune. Accessed July 20, 2022. <https://sudantribune.com/article261481/>.
- Sudan Tribune. "South Sudan Economy Faces 5% Decline due to Sudan War." Sudan Tribune, August 2, 2024. <https://sudantribune.com/article289002/>.
- Summary of the Nine Agreements between Sudan and South Sudan," Embassy of the Republic of Sudan, last accessed August 11, 2024, <http://www.sudanoslo.no/the-nine-agreements-between-s-ii.html>.
- Swisspeace. "Strengthening Local Conflict Prevention and Resolution Mechanisms in South Sudan." Last modified February 28, 2022. <https://www.swisspeace.ch/articles/strengthening-local-conflict-prevention-and-resolution-mechanisms-in-south-sudan>.
- Tatar, Ramana and Adela Moisi. "The concept of sovereignty." *Journal of Public Administration, Finance and Law*, no. 24 (2022): 292-293. <https://doi.org/10.47743/jopaf-2022-24-27>.
- The Guardian. "The long history of civil war in Sudan." The Guardian. Last modified April 26, 2023. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/apr/26/the-long-history-of-civil-war-in-sudan>.
- United Kingdom Parliament. "Referendum." Accessed July 10 2024. <https://www.parliament.uk/site-information/glossary/referendum/>.
- United States Agency International Development. "Food Assistance Fact Sheet - South Sudan." Last modified March 30, 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/food-assistance/south-sudan>
- United States Agency International Development. "The United States Provides More Than \$57 Million in Humanitarian Assistance for South Sudan." News release, July 5, 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jul-05->

- 2024-united-states-provides-more-57-million-humanitarian-assistance-south-sudan
United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. “A Country Divided.” Accessed July 10, 2024. <https://www.ushmm.org/genocide-prevention/countries/sudan/a-country-divided>.
- University of Central Arkansas, “Republic of Sudan,” Accessed August 30, 2024. <https://uca.edu/politicalscience/home/research-projects/dadm-project/sub-saharan-africa-region/70-republic-of-sudan-1956-present/>.
- University of Notre Dame Kroc Institute. “What is Strategic Peacebuilding?.” Accessed July 19, 2024. <https://kroc.nd.edu/about-us/what-is-peace-studies/what-is-strategic-peacebuilding/>
- USA for the UN Refugee Agency. “South Sudan Refugee Crisis Explained.” Accessed July 24, 2024. <https://www.unrefugees.org/news/south-sudan-refugee-crisis-explained/>.
- Warburg, Gabriel R. “The Sharia in Sudan: Implementation and Repercussions, 1983-1989.” *Middle East Journal* 44, no. 4 (1990): 624–637. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/4328194>.
- Weiss, Thomas and Giovanna Kuele. “Why Developing Nations Send So Many Troops to UN Peace Operations.” PassBlue. Last modified February 12, 2019.
- Welt Hunger Life. Global Hunger Index The Power of Youth In Shaping Food Systems. Bonn: Welt Hunger Life, 2023. https://admin.concern.net/sites/default/files/documents/2023-10/2023%20Global%20Hunger%20Index_EN.pdf.
- Wudu, Waakhe Simon. “At least 12 killed, 15 children missing in South Sudan attack.” *Reuters*. Last modified April 2, 2024. <https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/least-12-killed-15-children-missing-south-sudan-attack-2024-04-02/>.
- Wuo, Duop Chak. “Opinion| Casting shadows: The dangers of premature elections in South Sudan.” *Radio Tamazuj*. July 19, 2024.

Topic B

UN Sources

- Office, Chief Mission Support, “Secretary-General Calls for Maximum Restraint by Parties in Jammu and Kashmir, Citing Simla Agreement on Region’s Final Status,” UNMOGIP, January 5, 2023, <https://unmogip.unmissions.org/secretary-general-calls-maximum-restraint-parties-jammu-and-kashmir-citing-simla-agreement-region%E2%80%99s>.
- Office, Chief Mission Support, “Spokesperson for Secretary-General António Guterres,” UNMOGIP, January 5, 2023, <https://unmogip.unmissions.org/spokesperson-secretary-general-ant%C3%B3nio-guterres>.
- Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, “Peacekeeping Vital to Protect Civilians, Prevent Violence in World Marred by Conflict, Speakers Stress as Special Committee Opens 2024 Session, news release, February 20, 2024, <https://press.un.org/en/2024/gapk248.doc.htm>.
- “Background,” UNMOGIP, July 5, 2017, <https://unmogip.unmissions.org/background#:~:text=The%20tasks%20of%20UNMOGIP%20have,UNMOGIP%20was%20published%20in%201972>.
- “Maintain International Peace and Security,” United Nations, Accessed August 13, 2024, <https://www.un.org/en/our-work/maintain-international-peace-and-security#:~:text=The%20UN%20accomplishes%20this%20by,other%20UN%20offices%20and%20bodies>.
- “Mission,” UNMOGIP, January 5, 2023, <https://unmogip.unmissions.org/mission>.
- “Peace and Security,” United Nations, Accessed August 13, 2024, <https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/peace-and-security#:~:text=Within%20the%20United%20Nations%2C%20peacebuilding,foundations%20for%20sustainable%20peace%20and>.
- “Protection of Civilians Mandate Peacekeeping,” United Nations, Accessed July 11, 2024, <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/protection-of-civilians-mandate>.
- “Recommendations of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (C34)” (New York: United Nations Peacekeeping

Official, Accessed August 10, 2024), <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/recommendations-of-special-committee-peacekeeping-operations-c34#:~:text=The%20C34%20is%20mandated%20to,measures%20taken%20by%20the%20Secretariat.>

“United Nations India-Pakistan Observation Mission (UNIPOM) - Background,” United Nations, Accessed July 11, 2024, <https://peacekeeping.un.org/mission/past/unipombackgr.html>.

“Unmogip Facts and Figures,” UNMOGIP, June 23, 2023, <https://unmogip.unmissions.org/unmogip-facts-and-figures>.

“UNMOGIP Peacekeeping,” United Nations, Accessed July 17, 2024, <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/unmogip>.

“Take Action for the Sustainable Development Goals,” United Nations, Accessed August 13, 2024, <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/#:~:text=The%20Sustainable%20Development%20Goals%20are,environmental%20degradation%2C%20peace%20and%20justice.>

“The 17 Goals|Sustainable Development,” United Nations, Accessed August 13, 2024, <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>.

Non-UN Sources

Aamir Ali Bhat, “Why Migrant Labourers Keep Flocking to Kashmir,” Village Square, May 4, 2023, <https://www.villagesquare.in/why-kashmir-is-the-preferred-location-for-migrant-labourers/#:~:text=Like%20Raees%2C%20every%20year%2C%20according,such%20as%20selling%20street%20food.>

Aijaz Ahmed Turrey, “Impact of Conflict on Labour Migrants in Kashmir,” Economic and Political Weekly, August 16, 2023, <https://www.epw.in/journal/2023/32/commentary/impact-conflict-labour-migrants-kashmir.html>.

Ali Iftikhar, “India’s Curbs Undermining UNMOGIP’s Peacekeeping Operations in Kashmir: UN Report,” Associated Press of Pakistan, January 5, 2023, <https://www.app.com.pk/global/indias-curbs-undermining-unmogips-peacekeeping-operations-in-kashmir-un-report/#:~:text=India%2C%20the%20report%20said%20has,2013%20and%2031%20December%202021.>

Amnesty International, “India: ‘We Are Being Punished By The Law’ - Three Years of Abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu & Kashmir.”

Anna Schumann, “History of Conflict in India and Pakistan,” Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation, November 21, 2023, <https://armscontrolcenter.org/history-of-conflict-in-india-and-pakistan/#:~:text=Hostilities%20broke%20out%20in%20August,affirming%20their%20commitment%20to%20peace.>

Anthony Wanis St. John, “Third Party Mediation Over Kashmir: A Modest Proposal,” *International Peacekeeping* 4, no. 4 (Winter 1997): 1-30, <https://www.american.edu/sis/faculty/upload/wanis-third-party-mediation-over-kashmir.pdf>.

Arshad Hussain et al., “An Epidemiological Study of Psychiatric Disorders in Kashmir,” *Journal of Family Medicine and Primary Care* 13, no. 3 (March 2024): 845-850, 10.4103/jfmpc.jfmpc_593_21.

Ashok Bhan, “Kashmiri Pandit Exodus Anniversary: It’s Time for Us to Return,” *The Indian Express*, January 18, 2024, <https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/kashmiri-pandit-anniversary-return-9116074/#:~:text=Living%20in%20the%20Valley%20for,to%20the%20exodus%20in%201990.>

Ayjaz Wani, “Changing Dynamics of Counterterrorism in Kashmir,” *orfonline.org*, October 17, 2023, <https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/changing-dynamics-of-counterterrorism-in-kashmir>.

Ayjaz Wani, “Flawed Education System in Kashmir,” *orfonline.org*, December 4, 2023, <https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/flawed-education-system-in-kashmir#:~:text=For%20decades%2C%20Pakistan%2Dbacked%20armed,for%20months%20and%20years%20together.>

Behind the Kashmir Conflict - Summary (human rights watch report, July 1999), Accessed August 3, 2024, <https://www.hrw.org/reports/1999/kashmir/summary.htm#:~:text=The%20Kashmir%20conflict%20not%20only,civil%20servants%20and%20suspected%20informers.>

- Bilal Kuchay, "What Prompted India-Pakistan Ceasefire Pact along Kashmir Border?" Al Jazeera, March 9, 2021, <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/3/9/will-the-india-pakistan-ceasefire-pact-along-kashmir-border-hold>.
- Changed security situation in Jammu and Kashmir : The Road Ahead | Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence studies and Analyses, Accessed July 11, 2024, https://www.idsa.in/monograph/changed-security-situation-in-jammu-and-kashmir-the-road-ahead_ahkhan.
- Chitralakha Zutshi, "Why the Kashmir Conflict Is Not Just an India-Pakistan Border Dispute," PBS, March 5, 2019, <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/world/why-the-kashmir-conflict-is-not-just-an-india-pakistan-border-dispute>.
- Christopher Clary, "As Fragile Kashmir Cease-Fire Turns Three, Here's How to Keep It Alive," United States Institute of Peace, February 21, 2024, <https://www.usip.org/publications/2024/02/fragile-kashmir-cease-fire-turns-three-heres-how-keep-it-alive>.
- Daily Excelsior, "Operation Gulmarg and Accession of J&K!" Daily Excelsior, October 21, 2022, https://www.dailyexcelsior.com/operation-gulmarg-and-accession-of-jk/#google_vignette.
- Diana Fu, Ryan Hass, Ryan Hass Ali Wyne, and Angela Stent, "Kashmir: Redefining the U.S. Role," Brookings, July 28, 2016, <https://www.brookings.edu/articles/kashmir-redefining-the-u-s-role/>.
- Deep Pal, "Jammu and Kashmir: Living with Violence along the Border." 9DASHLINE, December 15, 2022. <https://www.9dashline.com/article/jammu-and-kashmir-living-with-violence-along-the-border>.
- Drishti IAS, "UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan," Drishti IAS, August 12, 2022, <https://www.drishtias.com/daily-updates/daily-news-analysis/un-military-observer-group-in-india-and-pakistan>.
- Ganguly, Rajat, "India, Pakistan and the Kashmir Insurgency: Causes, Dynamics and Prospects for Resolution," *Asian Studies Review* 25, no. 3 (September 2001): 309–34, <https://doi.org/10.1111/1467-8403.00106>.
- Geeta Mohan, "Countries across Continents Support India on Kashmir at UN, Pakistan Isolated," *India Today*, June 21, 2018, <https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/countries-across-continents-support-india-on-kashmir-at-un-pakistan-isolated-1265751-2018-06-21>.
- Gossman, Patricia. 1999. "Behind the Kashmir Conflict Abuses by Indian Security Forces and Militant Groups Continue." *Human Rights Watch*. <https://www.hrw.org/report/1999/07/01/behind-kashmir-conflict/abuses-indian-security-forces-and-militant-groups-continue>.
- Government of India Ministry of Home Affairs, "Annual Report 2004-2005," New Delhi: Government of India, https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/AnnualReport_04_05.pdf.
- Hilal Mir, "Kashmiris Suffer Further as ICRC Stops Humanitarian Work," TRT World - Breaking News, Live Coverage, Opinions and Videos, January 15, 2020, <https://www.trtworld.com/magazine/kashmiris-suffer-further-as-icrc-stops-humanitarian-work-32965>.
- Home, Accessed July 17, 2024, <https://www.fatf-gafi.org/en/publications/Methodsandtrends/Fatf-action-against-terrorist-financing-feb-2019.html>.
- Hussain, Aijaz, "India's Supreme Court Upholds Government's Decision to Remove Disputed Kashmir's Special Status," AP News, December 11, 2023, <https://apnews.com/article/kashmir-india-autonomy-supreme-court-status-d7e9b2c0cb0222e18de08d75c6b0ebc5>.
- Hussain Nadim, "5 Reasons Why Kashmir Matters," *The Diplomat*, February 11, 2022, <https://thediplomat.com/2022/02/5-reasons-why-kashmir-matters/>.
- Inam, Syed Tazkir. "Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958: A Draconian Law." *SSRN Electronic Journal*, January 1, 2009. <https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.1681499>.
- I-wei Jennifer Chang, "China's Kashmir Policies and Crisis Management in South Asia," United States Institute of Peace, February 9, 2017, <https://www.usip.org/publications/2017/02/chinas-kashmir-policies-and-crisis-management-south-asia>.

- Islammudin Saji, and Riyaz ul Khaliq, "Pakistan, India Trade Fire across Kashmir Border," Anadolu Ajansi, October 27, 2023, <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/asia-pacific/pakistan-india-trade-fire-across-kashmir-border/3034231>.
- Jammu and Kashmir Public Safety Act, 1978," Wikipedia, April 18, 2024, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jammu_and_Kashmir_Public_Safety_Act,_1978#:~:text=The%20Jammu%20and%20Kashmir%20Public,\(now%20a%20union%20territory\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jammu_and_Kashmir_Public_Safety_Act,_1978#:~:text=The%20Jammu%20and%20Kashmir%20Public,(now%20a%20union%20territory)).
- Jon Lunn, "Kashmir: The Effects of Revoking Article 370," UK Parliament, August 8, 2019, <https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/kashmir-the-effects-of-revoking-article-370/>.
- Jong, Kaz de, Saskia van de Kam, Nathan Ford, Kamalini Lokuge, Silke Fromm, Renate van Galen, Brigg Reilley, and Rolf Kleber, "Conflict in the Indian Kashmir Valley II: Psychosocial Impact," Conflict and health, October 14, 2008, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2577626/#:~:text=Conclusion,suffering%20from%20mental%20health%20problems>.
- K. Alan Kronstadt, "Kashmir: Background, Recent Developments, and U.S. Policy" (Washington, DC: Congressional Research Service Official, 2020), <https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/R/R45877#:~:text=the%20Kashmir%20Valley,-,The%20long%20standing%20U.S.%20position%20on%20Kashmir%20is%20that%20the,wishes%20of%20the%20Kashmiri%20people>
- Kanwal Singh, "Jammu Faces a New Wave of Terrorism with Divergent Tactics Unseen in the Last Two Decades," The Wire, July 14, 2024, <https://thewire.in/security/jammu-new-wave-terrorism-divergent-tactics-unseen>.
- Kashmir: Why India and Pakistan Fight over It," BBC News, August 8, 2019, <https://www.bbc.com/news/10537286>.
- Kaz de Jong et al., "Conflict in the Indian Kashmir Valley II: Psychosocial Impact," Conflict and Health 2, no. 11 (October 14, 2008), <https://doi.org/10.1186/1752-1505-2-11>.
- Kaz de Jong et al., "Kashmir: Violence and Health," Medecins Sans Frontieres, November 2006, <https://www.msf.org/sites/default/files/2018-08/kashmir-violence-and-mental-health.pdf>.
- Khalid Shah and Kriti M. Shah, "Kashmir after Article 370: India's Diplomatic Challenge," orfonline.org, December 16, 2020, <https://www.orfonline.org/research/kashmir-after-article-370-india-s-diplomatic-challenge>.
- Kim Thelwell, "The Internal Displacement of the Kashmiri Pandits," The Borgen Project, November 1, 2020, <https://borgenproject.org/internal-displacement-kashmiri-pandits/>.
- Maknoon Wani, "Kashmir Is Bleeding. So Is Its Economy," Al Jazeera, February 4, 2023, <https://www.aljazeera.com/opinions/2023/2/4/kashmir-is-bleeding-its-economy>.
- Maps of India. "June 30, 1965 – A Ceasefire Is Agreed under UN Auspices between India and Pakistan to Stop the War at the Rann of Kutch." Accessed August 24, 2024. <https://www.mapsofindia.com/on-this-day/june-30-1965-a-ceasefire-is-agreed-under-un-auspices-between-india-and-pakistan-to-stop-the-war-at-the-rann-of-kutch>.
- Mato Bouzas, "The Line of Control in Kashmir," Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Asian History, January 30, 2024, <https://oxfordre.com/asianhistory/display/10.1093/acrefore/9780190277727.001.0001/acrefore-9780190277727-e-746?d=2F10.1093%2Facrefore%2F9780190277727.001.0001%2Facrefore-9780190277727-e-746&p=emailAWuheR0ZxjB3Y#:~:text=South%20Asia-,Definition,administered%20by%20India%20and%20Pakistan>.
- Munir Akram, "India Must End Its Violations in Kashmir and the World Must Speak Up," Arab News PK, February 5, 2024, <https://www.arabnews.pk/node/2454121#:~:text=The%20Indian%20military%20is%20particularly,media%20has%20been%20effectively%20stifled>.
- Muskan Moazzam, "Kashmir as a Humanitarian Issue", Modern Diplomacy, August 28, 2022, <https://moderndiplomacy.eu/2022/08/29/kashmir-as-a-humanitarian-issue/#:~:text=Pakistan%20is%20backing%20the%20Kashmiri%20Muslims%20with,for%20the%20ethnic%20conflict%20on%2011%20Pakistan>.
- O'Brien, Rachel. "Tourists Are Safe in Kashmir but Not Kashmiris." Amnesty International UK, February 13, 2024. <https://>

- www.amnesty.org.uk/blogs/country-specialists/tourists-are-safe-kashmir-not-kashmiris.
- Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (OIC) / Republic of Türkiye Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Accessed August 3, 2024, <https://www.mfa.gov.tr/OIC.en.mfa#:~:text=Afghanistan%2C%20Albania%2C%20Azerbaijan%2C%20Bahrain,Kyrgyzstan%2C%20the%20Comoros%2C%20Kuwait%2C>.
- P.A. Ahmad and S. Balamurgan, "The Impact of Armed Conflict on Education in Kashmir," *Vidyabharati International Interdisciplinary Research Journal* 12, no. 2 (June 2021): 615-620, ISSN 2319-4979, <https://www.viirj.org/vol12issue2/97.pdf>.
- Pamela Aall, "Summary of 'Nongovernmental Organizations and Peacemaking,'" *Beyond Intractability*, January 12, 2024, <https://www.beyondintractability.org/artsum/aall-nongovernmental#:~:text=Aall%20suggests%20four%20roles%20that,in%20order%20to%20be%20effective>.
- Parvaiz, Semran, "Healthcare Disparities in Jammu and Kashmir: Challenges and Systemic Inefficiencies - JK Policy Institute," JK Policy Institute | Research, Policy, Development, Governance, August 20, 2023, <https://www.jkpi.org/healthcare-disparities-in-jammu-and-kashmir-challenges-and-systemic-inefficiencies/>
- Pti. "31,619 Displaced Families From Pakistan-occupied J&K Registered After 1947: Kishan Reddy." *The Hindu*, February 11, 2020. <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/31619-displaced-families-from-pakistan-occupied-jk-registered-after-1947-kishan-reddy/article30792731.ece>.
- Raksha Kushmar, "For Kashmiris, Resolution to Decades of Conflict Remains a Distant Dream." NPR, August 21, 2022, <https://www.npr.org/2022/05/13/1098730987/india-kashmir-conflict>,
- Sanat Pai Raikar, "Tashkent Declaration," *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Accessed July 20, 2024, <https://www.britannica.com/event/Tashkent-Agreement>.
- Sanjeev Miglani, "India Asks U.N. Team on Kashmir to Leave Delhi Premises | Reuters," *Reuters*, July 8, 2014, <https://www.reuters.com/article/uk-india-un-idINKBN0FD1CX20140708/>.
- Semran Parvaiz, "Healthcare Disparities in Jammu and Kashmir: Challenges and Systemic Inefficiencies - JK Policy Institute," JK Policy Institute | Research, Policy, Development, Governance, August 20, 2023, <https://www.jkpi.org/healthcare-disparities-in-jammu-and-kashmir-challenges-and-systemic-inefficiencies/>.
- Shahid H. Raja, "The Kashmir Dispute: Stakes & Stance of Stake-Holders," *Medium*, January 19, 2024, <https://shahidhreja.medium.com/the-kashmir-dispute-stakes-stance-of-stake-holders-5fe81cc292a4>.
- Shuchismita, "Will Look into Winding up of UNMOGIP Office in Kashmir: LG," *Greater Kashmir*, February 11, 2024, <https://www.greaterkashmir.com/front-page-2/will-look-into-winding-up-of-unmogip-office-in-kashmir-lg/>.
- Singh, Jitendra Bahadur. "Over 2,000 Additional Security Forces Personnel to Be Deployed in Jammu: Sources." *India Today*, July 27, 2024. <https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/centre-orders-deployment-additional-security-force-personnel-jammu-2572714-2024-07-27>.
- Singh, Kanwal, "Jammu Faces a New Wave of Terrorism with Divergent Tactics Unseen in the Last Two Decades," *The Wire*, July 14, 2024, <https://thewire.in/security/jammu-new-wave-terrorism-divergent-tactics-unseen>.
- Sumeda, "Explained: Provision for Reservation for Kashmiri Migrants, POJK Refugees in J&K Assembly," *The Hindu*, August 23, 2023, <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/jammu-kashmir-reservation-bill-kashmiri-migrant-pandit-displaced-pakistan-refugee-assembly-reorganisation/article67153722.ece>.
- Surya Valliappan Krishna, "Bordering on Peace: Evaluating the Impact of the India-Pakistan Ceasefire," *Carnegie Endowment for International Peace*, February 24, 2022, <https://carnegieendowment.org/research/2023/07/bordering-on-peace-evaluating-the-impact-of-the-india-pakistan-ceasefire?lang=en>.
- Surya Valliappan Krishna and Saheb Singh Chadha, "Mental Health on the Line (of Control)," *Carnegie Endowment for International Peace*, February 20, 2023, <https://carnegieendowment.org/posts/2023/02/mental-health-on-the-line-of>

control?lang=en.

- Staff, Al Jazeera, “‘New Wave’: Why Suspected Rebel Attacks Are Rising in Kashmir’s Jammu Area,” Al Jazeera, August 1, 2024, <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/8/1/new-wave-why-suspected-rebel-attacks-are-spiking-in-kashmirs-jammu-area>.
- Stephen P. Cohen, “Kashmir: The Roads Ahead,” Brookings, March 1, 1995, <https://www.brookings.edu/articles/kashmir-the-roads-ahead/>.
- Tariq Maqbool, “Pakistan Approves \$86 MLN Grant for Kashmir Region after Violent Protests | Reuters,” Reuters, May 13, 2024, <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/pakistan-pm-approves-86-mln-grant-kashmir-region-after-protests-2024-05-13/>.
- Tayyaba Khan, “Kashmir Crisis: How the World Is Reacting,” UAB Institute for Human Rights Blog, October 28, 2019, <https://sites.uab.edu/humanrights/2019/10/28/kashmir-crisis-how-the-world-is-reacting/>.
- Thelwell, Kim, “The Internal Displacement of the Kashmiri Pandits,” The Borgen Project, November 1, 2020, <https://borgenproject.org/internal-displacement-kashmiri-pandits/>.
- The Editors of Encyclopaedia Britannica, “Jammu and Kashmir Summary,” Encyclopædia Britannica, Accessed August 10, 2024, <https://www.britannica.com/summary/Jammu-and-Kashmir>; “Article 370: What Happened with Kashmir and Why It Matters,” BBC News, August 5, 2019, <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-49234708>.
- The Observer Magazine, “United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan,” 2014, file:///Users/divyashenoy/Downloads/unmogip_2014_magazine_web%20(2).pdf.
- Vijaita Singh, “BSF to Recalibrate Deployment along Pakistan Border in Jammu in the Wake of Terror Strikes,” The Hindu, June 22, 2024. <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/bsf-to-recalibrate-deployment-along-the-jammu-pakistan-border-in-the-wake-of-recent-terror-strikes/article68320551.ece#:~:text=The%20192%20km%20international%20border,compared%20to%20the%20Kashmir%20valley>.
- Wajahat Habibullah, *The Political Economy of the Kashmir Conflict* (Washington, DC: United States Institute of Peace Official, 2004), <https://www.usip.org/sites/default/files/resources/sr121.pdf>
- Wani, Maknoon, “Kashmir Is Bleeding. So Is Its Economy,” Al Jazeera, February 4, 2023, <https://www.aljazeera.com/opinions/2023/2/4/kashmir-is-bleeding-its-economy>.
- Zutshi, Chitralekha, “Why the Kashmir Conflict Is Not Just an India-Pakistan Border Dispute,” PBS, March 5, 2019, <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/world/why-the-kashmir-conflict-is-not-just-an-india-pakistan-border-dispute>.
- “All Parties Hurriyat Conference,” Wikipedia, July 19, 2024m https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/All_Parties_Hurriyat_Conference#:~:text=All%20Parties%20Hurriyat%20Conference%20.
- “Annual Report - 2004-05,” Ministry of Home Affairs, Accessed August 13, 2024, https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/AnnualReport_04_05.pdf.
- “Article 370 Abrogation 5th Anniversary: It Was Start of ‘new Era of Progress’ in J&K, Says PM Modi: Today News,” Mint, August 5, 2024. <https://www.livemint.com/news/india/article-370-abrogation-5th-anniversary-it-was-start-of-new-era-of-progress-in-j-k-says-pm-modi-11722856957670.html>.
- “Australian Peacekeepers in Kashmir from 1950 to 1985,” Anzac Portal, September 26, 2022, <https://anzacportal.dva.gov.au/wars-and-missions/peacekeeping/summaries/kashmir-1950-1985#2>.
- “Conflict between India and Pakistan | Global Conflict Tracker,” Council on Foreign Relations, April 9, 2024, <https://www.cfr.org/global-conflict-tracker/conflict/conflict-between-india-and-pakistan#:~:text=In%201971%2C%20India%20and%20Pakistan,the%20stakes%20of%20any%20confrontation>.
- “Containing the Armed Conflict in Kashmir,” Better Evidence Project, Accessed July 17, 2024, <https://bep.carterschool.gmu.edu/containing-the-armed-conflict-in-kashmir/>.

- “Cordon and Search,” Wikipedia, January 19, 2024, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cordon_and_search#:~:text=Cordon%20and%20search%20is%20a,\(or%20cordon%20and%20enter\).](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cordon_and_search#:~:text=Cordon%20and%20search%20is%20a,(or%20cordon%20and%20enter).)
- “Decline in Terror Incidents in Jammu and Kashmir,” Press Information Bureau, December 19, 2023, <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1988275>.
- “Everything You Should Know about Border Security Force (BSF),” Unacademy, July 19, 2022, <https://unacademy.com/content/bank-exam/study-material/general-awareness/everything-you-should-know-about-border-security-force-bsf#:~:text=and%20conducts%20immigration%20%E2%80%A6-,The%20tasks%20of%20the%20BSF%20are%20%E2%80%94%20to%20promote%20a%20sense,and%20any%20other%20illegal%20activities.>
- “Extrajudicial Killing at the India-Bangladesh Border: Urgent Call For.” OMCT, January 1, 1970, <https://www.omct.org/en/resources/reports/extrajudicial-killing-at-the-india-bangladesh-border-urgent-call-for-justice-in-the-case-of-liton-miya#:~:text=For%20years%2C%20the%20BSF%2C%20operating,largely%20shielded%20from%20international%20scrutiny>
- “Free Kashmir,” Justice For All, June 19, 2020, <https://www.justiceforall.org/free-kashmir/>.
- “Infiltrator Killed in Arnia Sector in Jammu: BSF,” The Hindu, July 31, 2023. <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/infiltrator-killed-in-arnia-sector-in-jammu-bsf/article67142825.ece>.
- “Indian Kashmir: Freedom in the World 2024 Country Report,” Freedom House, 2024, <https://freedomhouse.org/country/indian-kashmir/freedom-world/2024>.
- “India’s Kashmir Clampdown Continues Four Years after Article 370 Abrogated,” Al Jazeera, August 5, 2023. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/8/5/indias-kashmir-clampdown-continues-four-years-after-article-370-abrogated>.
- “India: Repression Persists in Jammu and Kashmir,” Human Rights Watch, August 3, 2022, <https://www.hrw.org/news/2022/08/02/india-repression-persists-jammu-and-kashmir>.
- “India: ‘We Are Being Punished By The Law’ - Three Years of Abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu & Kashmir,” Amnesty International, September 2, 2022, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/asa20/5959/2022/en/>.
- “India-Germany Relations,” Embassy of India Mexico City, August 16, 2023, https://www.indiainmexico.gov.in/eoimx_pages/NDMw#:~:text=Economic%20%26%20Commercial%20Relations&text=Germany%20is%20currently%20the%2012,total%20foreign%20trade%20in%202022.
- “India-Pakistan Border,” Wikipedia, July 24, 2024. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India%E2%80%93Pakistan_border#:~:text=The%20UN%2Dmediated%20ceasefire%20line,after%20the%201972%20Simla%20Agreement.
- “Jaish-e-Mohammad,” e. Accessed July 18, 2024, https://web.stanford.edu/group/mappingmilitants/cgi-bin/groups/print_view/95.
- “Jammu and Kashmir Backgrounder,” Jammu and Kashmir backgrounder, Accessed July 16, 2024, <https://www.satp.org/satporgtp/countries/india/states/jandk/backgrounder/index.html>.
- “Jammu & Kashmir: Assessment- 2023,” Terrorism Assessment, Jammu & Kashmir, Accessed July 16, 2024, <https://www.satp.org/terrorism-assessment/india-jammukashmir>.
- “Jammu and Kashmir Assessment - Year 2000,” South Asia Terrorism Portal, Accessed August 13, 2024. <https://www.satp.org/satporgtp/countries/india/states/jandk/assessment2000.htm#:~:text=The%20declaration%20of%20intent%2C%20in,of%20Srinagar%2C%20on%20March%202021.>
- “J&K Admin to Bulldoze UN Office in Srinagar? Govt Claims UNMOGIP Encroached upon State Land,” Hindustan Times, January 20, 2023, <https://www.hindustantimes.com/videos/news/jk-admin-to-bulldoze-un-office-in-srinagar-govt-claims-unmogip-encroached-upon-state-land-101674239376181.html>.
- “Kargil War,” Wikipedia, August 9, 2024, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kargil_War#:~:text=1%2C600%20\(per%20Musharraf\),the%20disputed%20region%20of%20Kashmir.](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kargil_War#:~:text=1%2C600%20(per%20Musharraf),the%20disputed%20region%20of%20Kashmir.)

- “Kashmir,” Crisis Aid, April 2, 2024, <https://www.crisisaid.org.uk/appeals/kashmir/>.
- “Kashmir Profile,” BBC News, December 19, 2023, <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-south-asia-11693674#:~:text=1965%20%2D%20Second%20Indo%2DPakistan%20war,in%20Pakistan%2Dbacked%20militant%20groups.>
- “Kashmir Profile - Timeline,” BBC News, August 6, 2019, <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-south-asia-16069078>.
- “Kashmir Relief,” HHRD, Accessed July 20, 2024, <https://www1.hhrd.org/Campaigns/Kashmir-Relief>.
- “Kashmir: UNMOGIP,” Better World Campaign, March 22, 2023, <https://betterworldcampaign.org/mission/kashmir-unmogip#:~:text=By%20maintaining%20a%20peaceful%20%E2%80%9CLine,of%20trade%2C%20and%20poor%20infrastructure.>
- “Line of Control,” Wikipedia, June 24, 2024, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Line_of_Control#:~:text=The%20Line%20of%20Control%20divided,villages%20and%20separated%20family%20members
- “Ministry of External Affairs,” India-Japan Bilateral Relations, Accessed August 3, 2024, https://www.mea.gov.in/Portal/ForeignRelation/Japan_-_Bilateral_Brief_MEA_Website_Oct_2023.pdf.
- “Security Tightened in Chamba along Jammu and Kashmir Border,” Hindustan Times, June 13, 2024, <https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/chandigarh-news/security-tightened-in-chamba-along-jammu-and-kashmir-border-101718298926026.html>.
- “Terror Attack in Jammu-Kashmir: Over 50 Killed in 32 Months, Here Is a Brief Timeline of Major Attacks,” The Economic Times, July 16, 2024, <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/terror-attack-in-jammu-kashmir-over-50-killed-in-32-months-here-is-a-brief-timeline-of-major-attacks/articleshow/111777992.cms>.
- “The Conduct of Pakistan’s Foreign Policy Structure, Strengths and Issues” (Islamabad: Institute of Policy Studies Official, 2022), <https://www.ips.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/06-Foreign-policy-Brief-8-Pakistans-Relations-with-Iran-Saudi-Arabia-UAE-Turkey-Malaysia.pdf>
- “The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2023,” PRS Legislative Research, July 11, 2024, <https://prsindia.org/billtrack/the-jammu-and-kashmir-reorganisation-amendment-bill-2023>.
- “United Nations Military Observer.” Wikipedia, May 8, 2024. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Nations_Military_Observer#:~:text=or%20ceasefire%20violations.,Mission%20in%20Kashmir,Similar%20mission%20in%20Timor%2DLeste.
- “Unmogip Asked to Vacate Govt Bungalow to ‘rationalise’ Presence: India,” The Economic Times, July 8, 2014, <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/unmogip-asked-to-vacate-govt-bungalow-to-rationalise-presence-india/articleshow/38023604.cms>.
- “What Is Strategic Peacebuilding?” Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, Accessed August 13, 2024, <https://kroc.nd.edu/about-us/what-is-peace-studies/what-is-strategic-peacebuilding/#:~:text=Peacebuilding%20is%20the%20development%20of,conditions%20that%20generate%20deadly%20conflict.>
- “What’s Article 370? What to Know about India’s Top Court Verdict on Kashmir,” Al Jazeera, December 11, 2023. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/12/11/whats-article-370-what-to-know-about-india-top-court-verdict-on-kashmir>.
- “India summary of Human Rights Concerns in Jammu.” Amnesty International, 1995, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/asa200021995en.pdf>.

The National High School Model United Nations Conference (NHSMUN) is a project of IMUNA, a non-profit organization formally associated with the United Nations Department of Global Communications (UNDGC). IMUNA is dedicated to promoting global issues education through simulation.

Written by Haruko Orozco and Divya Shenoy

Edited by Jordan Baker, Naina Dhawan, Ana Margarita Gil, Christian Hernandez, Adiva Ara Khan, Therese Salomone, and Terry Wang.

© 2024 IMUNA. All Rights Reserved.

