

LIMUN Conference 2024, UNSC Committee: Research Report

By Chair: Loïc Mamer

What solutions for the continuing Israel Gaza conflict? What resolution can be taken to approach a temporary and on the long term permanent stability for the region?

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) held its first session on 17 January 1946, and has been assigned the following mandate:

“The United Nations Charter established six main organs of the United Nations, including the Security Council. It gives primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security to the Security Council, which may meet whenever peace is threatened.

According to the Charter, the United Nations has four purposes:

- to maintain international peace and security;
- to develop friendly relations among nations;
- to cooperate in solving international problems and in promoting respect for human rights;
- and to be a center for harmonizing the actions of nations.

All members of the United Nations agree to accept and carry out the decisions of the Security Council. While other organs of the United Nations make recommendations to member states, only the Security Council has the power to make decisions that member states are then obligated to implement under the Charter.”

With this mandate clarified, the objectives and spirit of the UNSC should be focused towards cooperation at the highest levels of international diplomacy to find concrete solutions for dangerous situations: Thus the topic of the UNSC for this conference, focused around Gaza and Israel in the midst of a deadly conflict. Delegates are expected to discuss and propose solutions together in serious and professional matters: the stakes are evolving, and unfortunately not in the direction of more stability. Represent your nation’s interests, have your goals clear in your head, and attempt to bring to the UN a resolution worthy of the problem at stake.

Voting is undertaken normally, with each amendment and the whole resolution passed on the basis of a simple majority. However, due to the exceptional characteristics of the UNSC, the 5 permanent member states (United States of America, Russia, China, France, United Kingdom) have the right to a veto which they can enact for any resolution: In this context, and in the case of a veto, the chair will bring the permanent members together for a last-attempt resolution of the subject with the members urged to find compromise: If this attempt fails, the veto goes through and the resolution automatically fails.

On the seventh of October 2023, the islamist organization known as ‘HAMAS’, classified by nations such as the United States and the EU as a terrorist organization, undertook an armed attack on the regions surrounding the Gaza Strip: This began a still ongoing conflict in which the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) and the multiple armed branches of HAMAS have been fighting in urban combat inside the Gaza

strip. After a bombing campaign in the strip, which before the conflict was reported to have over 2 million inhabitants in a relatively small area, the IDF launched its ground forces in an operation intended to wipe out the military capability of HAMAS. As of the conference, it has yet to achieve that goal, and fighting is still happening across multiple fronts.

This conflict is occurring in a much wider context of tension, violence, failed peace protocols and accusations of terrorism, ethnic cleansing and genocide: despite the state of Israel's creation in 1948, the muslim and jewish population have had increasingly difficult relations dating back to the middle ages and beyond. To say the history of the region is complex is an understatement: the massive amount of geopolitical, historical, religious and cultural factors involved would be impossible to write down in such a short statement. The delegates are expected to understand the perspective of each nation's views on the topic, whether it be the recognition of the state of Israel, their approach to diplomacy and their interests in the region. The committee, however, is not aiming to debate the past: its eyes are set on the future, and thus delegates should not dwell on historical points unless it's relevant in a specific clause.

The UN has a notable presence in the area, notably across the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), as well as proximity of peacekeepers in neighboring regions (Lebanon especially), make them key assets for the organization: yet their role can be disputed by certain delegates, depending on their perspective on the organization's undertaking in the strip.

Member States and associated organizations present at the UNSC for this committee:

UNSC	Palestine	Mathilde
UNSC	Israel	Louis
UNSC	United States	Jack
UNSC	France	Léandre
UNSC	New Zealand	Margot
UNSC	Canada	Myriam
UNSC	Qatar	Lumei-Serena
UNSC	Iran	Oscar
UNSC	South Africa	May
UNSC	Lebanon	Lyne
UNSC	Tunisia	Eya
UNSC	Turkey	milo
UNSC	China	Stefano
UNSC	Syria	Zoé

Map of the Gaza Strip, provided by the United Nations:

