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***UNITED NATIONS FIRST COMMITTEE***

***Topic: INTERNATIONAL INTERVENTION IN CIVIL WARS***

***Letter from the Chair***

Honourable delegates,

Before the conference starts, there is still some work to be done. While the organisation team is doing its best to organize spaces; workshops, catering and so on, one important thing has to be done by you.

You are the ones that fill the conference with life, the ones that lead interesting discussions and fruitful debates and make innovative resolutions reality. This requires some preparation on your side.

In advance of the conference, I expect all delegates to research their state’s and become experts for the given agenda topics, to familiarize themselves with the rules of procedure and to practice their debating and writing skills. Here are some useful hints on how to get prepared for the ZAMUN conference.

1. **Do some research**

The first step will be to do some research in order to prepare for the conference. You should look into these areas:

• Structure and history of the United Nations

• Your assigned member state

• Committee

• Your role in the committee

• Your agenda topics

*These questions should guide your research:*

• What are the key issues of my agenda topics?

• Why are these issues important?

• What are possible solutions?

• What is hindering these solutions?

• Which states share your view of the given issue?

• Which states are opposed to your position?

• What has the UN or other international agencies done so far, in order to solve these issues?

1. **Write a position paper**

An important task for you before the conference starts is to write a position paper (policy statement).

A proper Policy statement should be about 90 seconds in length and should give you the opportunity to tell those in the committee what you and your country plan to do at the conference and the outcomes you would like to see. Writing a policy statement is very important, since it helps you during the entire conference as a starting point of discussion.

A Policy Statement should be very similar (in terms of content) to a Resolution's Preambulatory Clauses. Each topic should be addressed briefly in a succinct policy statement representing the relevant views of your assigned country.

Please send your position papers to your committee email address (tmichakovadisec@gmail.com).

1. **Familiarize yourself with the rules of procedure**

In order to participate effectively in your committee you need to familiarize with the rules of procedure before the conference. You should carefully read the rules of procedure as well as with the explanations about the flow of the debate

If any of the rules remains unclear to you, please, contact me on my email address (tmichalkovadisec@gmail.com).

**4. Practice your speaking and debating skills**

Being a delegate at a MUN conference requires speaking and debating skills. Even the best research goes wasted if you cannot convince other delegates of your standpoint and ideas. In advance of the conference you should prepare opening speeches for each topic and practice them at home, in order to get to a good start at the conference

**5. Writing a resolution**

The main goal of the committee sessions will be to find common solutions to the gives topics. These will be captured in a resolution; therefore, it is important that you are familiar with the formal standards of a resolution.

Please read the section on how to write a resolution very attentively.

I also suggest reading some original UN resolutions to get confident with the formal language, style and structure of a proper and good resolution.

*Tereza Michalková, Chair of DISEC committee*

**Introduction**

Civil wars have unfortunately become routine rather than exceptional events in the last few decades, with various epochal changes like the growing consensus towards democracy as the political regime of choice, and the opening up of economies worldwide under the reigning capitalist system being recent suspects, besides time-worn concerns like ethnicity and religion still playing their part.

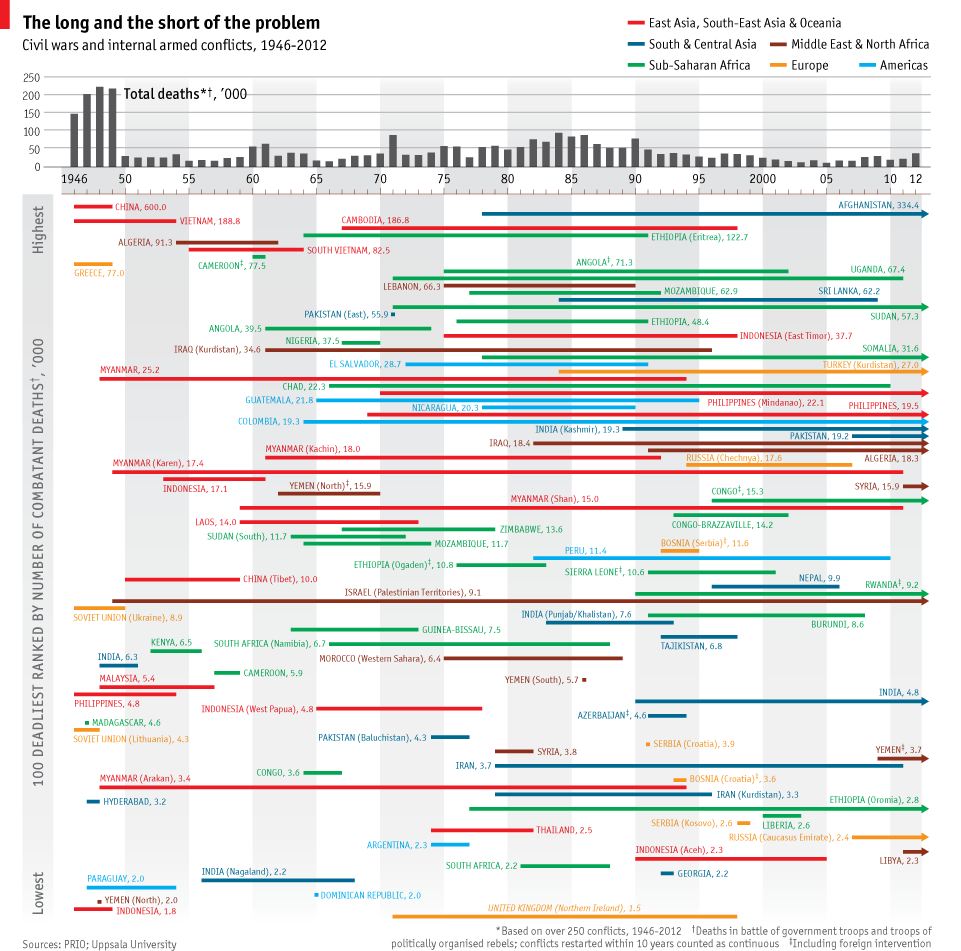
**What is a civil war?**

A civil war is a war between organized groups within the same state or republic, or, less commonly, between two countries created from a formerly united state. It is a high-intensity conflict, often involving regular armed forces, that is sustained, organized and large-scale.

**Causes of civil wars**

Civil wars are distinguished from civil conflicts on various grounds, most importantly the significantly larger casualty count, and are characterized by armed struggle between participants, one of whom must be a recognized administration. The instigators, more often than not, are armed groups with extensive organizational structures and grievances against the state on grounds pertaining to ethnicity, religion, inequality of standards, absence of voice and representation, rampant unemployment etc.

**The 100 deadliest civil wars and armed conflicts since the Second World War**

*(http://media.economist.com/sites/default/files/media/2013InfoG/databank/CivilWars.png)*

**Consequences and settlement possibilities**

Intervention in civil conflicts is one of the most vexing decisions facing modern great powers -- Bosnia, Kosovo, Somalia, and Haiti being merely the most recent examples.

The most obvious and sickening by product of a civil war is the often excessive violence and destruction. The violence has been partially explained by its psychological impact on citizens, and destruction by its impact on opportunities for citizens, both of which either directly or indirectly motivate recruitment and force complicity.

**Closing remarks**

Dear delegates,

I hope this study guide provides you with a sufficient base for your research of the subject. However, I strongly advise you to do your own research, since study guides only provide a small introduction into the mater. If convenient, contacting embassies of your countries can also be somewhat beneficial. Please remember that study guides aim to be unbiased, and your countries might have somewhat different views on some points.

Nevertheless, on the behalf of the whole ZAMUN DISEC organizing team, I would like to express the joy of the vision of meeting you all. Hope you have a lovely experience and fruitful debates.

***Sample Position Paper***

Delegation: Brazil

Committee: Disarmament Committee

Issue: Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction

Brazil fervently supports measures to support the Weapons of Mass Destruction Branch of the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs in its attempts to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction (WMD), as it firmly believes such efforts are necessary to combat the global threat of terrorism.

Brazil endorses the Outcome Document of the 2005 World Summit, adopted 13 September 2005, which condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and strives to set up an international system that strictly monitors the transfer of materials that may be used to produce WMD. Brazil, one of the driving forces behind the 1967 Treaty of Tlatelolco, which turned Latin America into the world’s first nuclear-free zone, applauds the recent efforts made by the Members of the United Nations to free the world of any type of WMD.

We feel especially responsible as our nation commands huge uranium resources. We view with satisfaction the recent efforts of Member States to prevent the use of WMD by terrorists. However, Brazil expresses its deepest regret that, in spite of recent efforts to combat the acquisition of WMD by terrorist groups, some countries have refused to abide by the will of the international community. It is our deepest interest to ensure a world untroubled by the transfer of WMD and materials that can be used in the production of any such weapons.

**Preambulatory Phrases**

Affirming

Alarmed by

Approving

Aware of

Bearing in mind

Believing

Cognizant of

Confident

Contemplating

Convinced

Declaring

Deeply concerned

Deeply conscious

Deeply convinced

Deeply disturbed

Deeply regretting

Desiring

Emphasizing

Expecting

Expressing its appreciation

Expressing its satisfaction

Fulfilling

Fully alarmed

Fully aware

Fully believing

Guided by

Having adopted

Having considered

Having considered further

Having devoted attention

Having examined

Having heard

Having received

Having studied

Keeping in mind

Noting further

Noting with approval

Noting with deep concern

Noting with regret

Noting with satisfaction

Observing

Reaffirming

Realizing

Recalling

Recognizing

Referring

Seeking

Taking into account

Taking note

Viewing with appreciation

Welcoming

**Operative Clauses**

Accepts

Affirms

Approves

Authorizes

Calls for

Calls upon

Condemns (SC only)

Confirms

Congratulates

Considers

Declares accordingly

Demands (SC only)

Deplores

Designates

Draws attention

Emphasizes

Encourages

Endorses

Expresses its appreciation

Expresses its hope

Further invites

Further proclaims

Further recommends

Further reminds

Further requests

Further resolves

Has resolved

Notes

Proclaims

Reaffirms

Recommends

Regrets

Reminds

Requests

Resolves

Solemnly affirms

Strongly condemns

Supports

Takes note of

Trusts

Urges

Welcomes

**Further reading:**

*(Please note that these sources also include all sources used to write the study guide)*

http://www.dnaindia.com/analysis/standpoint-civil-conflicts-and-wars-the-pity-of-it-all-1963675

http://www.economist.com/content/inner-turmoil

http://prijipati.library.usyd.edu.au/bitstream/2123/4987/1/Foreign%20Intervention%20and%20Warfare%20in%20Civil%20Wars.pdf

<http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/56121/g-john-ikenberry/civil-wars-and-foreign-powers-outside-intervention-in-intrastate>

http://ir.uiowa.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=3484&context=etd

<http://ussc.edu.au/ussc/assets/media/docs/publications/Foreign-Intervention-and-Warfare-in-Civil-Wars.pdf>

http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/40236/llyod-n-cutler/the-right-to-intervene

http://politics.as.nyu.edu/docs/IO/5628/kelly\_siegel.pdf

*Recently in media:*

<http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/foreign/22-Mar-2014/syria-asylum-claims-in-rich-nations-more-than-double-in-2013-un>

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/mar/16/colombia-brink-ending-civil-war-farc>

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/03/15/syria-war-children_n_4967063.html>

<http://gulfnews.com/opinions/columnists/civil-war-as-in-syria-can-ignite-cold-war-1.1301521>

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/middle-east/syrias-road-to-hell-a-hairraising-journey-between-damascus-and-tartous-9172003.html>

<http://www.nation.com.pk/international/04-Mar-2014/fighting-in-damascus-halts-aid-to-palestinians-un>

<http://www.nydailynews.com/news/world/calls-syria-humanitarian-aid-article-1.1702816>

<http://edition.cnn.com/2014/02/15/world/meast/syria-civil-war/>

<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/02/06/opinion/courts-cant-end-civil-wars.html?_r=0>

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/worldviews/wp/2014/02/12/this-map-of-syria-shows-why-the-war-will-be-so-difficult-to-end/>