



# FSC

## Resource Wars

# ALTMUN 2021

## **Index**

Letter from the Secretary-General	2
Letter from the Director	3
The Committee	4
History of the Conflict	6
Current Situation	11
Significant Actions taken by the UN or the International Community	18
Blocs Position	21
Questions A Resolution Must Answer (QARMAs)	23
Position Paper Requirements	24
References	25
Bibliography	26

## ***Letter from the Secretary-General***

Dear Delegates and Faculty Advisors,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to this year's edition of Altair Model United Nations!

Model UN is an activity that I am very passionate about and I know that many of you are too. Serving as the Secretary-General this year has been a great honor and responsibility. While we are facing the challenge of hosting the conference virtually, it is amazing to see that despite these unconventional circumstances so many of you are willing to continue working and taking part in events such as this one. It shows true commitment.

I discovered the world of MUN in 2019. While I had participated in Parliamentary Style Debate for many years before, MUN offered a very different experience which centered greatly around dialoguing with new people and creativity. I quickly became fascinated with the community of so many like minded individuals who are so hardworking and dedicated to debating about global issues. MUN is more than representing a country or winning an award, but it is the community of people who all share these interests. It is about self growth and pushing yourself to go out of your comfort zone.

AltMUN 2021 will be the third edition of this annual event. Over the years our delegation has grown and organization skills have also improved greatly. Our goal is to provide you with a unique experience as we have planned for all the committees to cover relevant topics in the most engaging way. This year we have been faced with the challenge of hosting an international event. We look forward to hosting delegates from across Latin America and the rest of the world. While I for sure miss debating in person, it is amazing the way that virtuality allows us to connect with more people at a global level.

Last, but certainly not least, I would like to give special recognition to the entire AltMUN secretariat. Everything we have accomplished so far has been thanks to your long hours of work and meticulous planning. Thanks to all of you, planning this conference, which may seem like an overwhelming task, has become a challenge that we have tackled together.

We thank you for taking part in AltMUN 2021 and hope you have an amazing time! See you soon!

Kind Regards,

Valerie Aronhalt

Secretary-General, Altair Model United Nations 2021

## ***Letter from the Director***

Dear delegates,

Welcome to this Futuristic Security Council. My name is Federico Gómez, and I will be your director for this year's AltMUN, so I'll tell you a bit about myself. I have been living in The Netherlands for almost two years, and am studying International and European Law at the University of Groningen. Here I love biking (well, it is our main method of transport anywhere after all), and also rock climbing, though that is hard in a flat country. Aside from sports I also enjoy painting with watercolors, and I recently got into abstract art with acrylics. Finally, I am a music addict and I believe any activity during the day is ten times better with music on.

My debating experience started long before I joined the MUN team, when I was part of my school's parliamentary debate club. Even though I had a couple of competitions abroad, that wasn't quite the debate method I enjoyed, so I decided to join the MUN team at school, and I couldn't be happier to have chosen that. I must admit I have participated in all sorts of committees, ranging from large DISECs to very content-oriented Security Councils. So far, the committee that I find the most interesting, dynamic, and all-round fun is this one. I concluded my debating career when my best friend and I debated as partners for four days in WorldMUN 2019 and won the Diplomacy Award in Madrid. I have had an incredible experience as a school and university delegate, and now it is time to retribute back to those who helped me get to where I am, the delegates.

That being said, I just want to say that I look forward to this committee and see what kind of ideas you come up with to address a situation that isn't restricted to a 'distant' future, but rather is a conflict that currently takes place on a daily basis. Resource-based wars occur currently, and at our rate of negatively impacting the environment they will simply get progressively worse.

I am a very content-oriented Chair, meaning that I will be paying extra attention to the rationale and substantive components of your proposals. Nonetheless, soft skills in my opinion are a key factor in differentiating a good delegate from a best delegate. All in all, my recommendation for you is to use your research, content, and knowledge to support the decisions you make throughout this committee.

As a special thanks, this study guide and committee will not have been achieved without the aid of Sebastian Alvino from the University of Amsterdam.

If there are any doubts, be sure to solve them with either me or other members of the secretariat, we will ensure that they are solved as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Federico Gómez

## ***The Committee***

### ***The United Nations Security Council***

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) is one out of six main organs inside of the United Nations (UN). The UNSC has been endorsed by the General Assembly for members of it to keep world peace. This is done through the implementation of international sanctions, peacekeeping operations, and military actions. The international sanctions can take place in different forms; from economic and trade sanctions to military embargoes and restrictions, travel bans, and economic restrictions. At the time of talking about peacekeeping operations, this would be the involvement of the Blue Helmets - the UN's military corps - to supervise high conflict situations all around the world with the purpose of preventing the escalation of a major conflict and the death of more lives (both military corps and civilians). In the case of military actions, this would involve the UNSC to command military cops in the form of the Blue Helmets to interfere in either inter- or intra-nations conflicts as much as possible with possible terrorist situations. This as well includes situations where



nuclear warfare might take place (“Sanctions Security Council”: “Actions with Respect”).

*Figure 1. Nepalese Blue Helmets stationed in South Sudan*

*(<https://odihpn.org/magazine/the-mixed-record-of-un-peacekeeping-in-south-sudan/>)*

The UNSC implements these changes through the use of their own resolutions that are then passed to the other respective UN organs. Nevertheless, the UNSC works with the dynamics of having five permanent members with the veto power. The Veto Power refers to having the ability to reject any action done by the council if this member is against it. The current five permanent members are the Russian Federation, the United States of America, the French Republic, the United Kingdom and the People's Republic of China. From here, the UNSC holds ten non-permanent with the purpose of holding geological pertenance with no veto power.

### **History of the Committee**

Before the formation of the Security Council, the League of Nations held the Paris Peace Conference. In that situation, it was with the purpose of stop through diplomacy military conflict such as the Japanese invasion to Manchuria of 1931, the Japanese Occupation of China, the Second Italo-Ethiopian Conflict of 1935 and the Nazi Expansion of 1937. As you have noticed, none of these conflicts were solved through diplomacy and the signing of treaties. As a matter of fact, in the case of Japan and Germany, they decided to retire from the League of Nations as they did not want to confront the terms that were decided in the Paris Peace Conference, defeating the whole purpose of the committee. At the end, the Japanese invaded Manchuria and occupied China until they were pushed outside by the Chinese forces and their defeat against the Allied forces. Ethiopia lost against the Italian forces, causing 700,000 deaths, 380,000 of them were Ethiopians civilians. The Nazi Expansion caused the Second World War (WWII), causing the death of millions and the destruction of cultures, families, countries, communities, and changed the warfare and political scenario forever.

After WWII, the United Nations was formed with the purpose of stopping this form of large-scale global conflict, even more with the existence of nuclear and atomic warfare. The UNSC came to exist in the UN Conference of International Organization in San Francisco in 1945. However, there was immediate backlash from several delegations regarding the power of the veto for the members.

During the Cold War, the UNSC was held from a stop of acting in major conflicts such as the Korean War due to the conflict of interest between the US and the USSR. Nevertheless, they were able to act upon other forms of crisis such as the Suez Crisis of 1956 with the invasion of Israel to Egypt.

After the fall of the USSR, the Security Council expanded its duties and got more involved with international peacekeeping affairs by speaking out against the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. However, this was followed by the international fiasco of the Bosnian War, followed by the poor management in Rwanda, concluding with the Rwanda Genocide.

A recurrent topic that must be seen in the UNSC is the interaction and decision between the permanent and the non-permanent members to resolve a problem. This can be seen in examples such as the Syrian Civil War and the rise of the Islamic State in Syria, Lebanon and Iraq. While there were many resolutions that involved the destruction of chemical weapons (“Resolution 2118”), cease of fire (“Resolution 2254”), and access to humanitarian aid (“Resolution 2139”), there is a complete disregard towards either interact or any attempt to stop the Syrian Civil War due to the conflict on interest between the US and Russia.

### **The Aim of the Committee**

The main aim of this committee is to be able to keep world peace and to have an international coexistent community. The actions of the UNSC are mostly immediate, as the topics that are discussed require that sort of response. This means that members inside the council should talk either with joined actions or individuals to be able to keep the peace. In the following topic, all the members will be required to either try to find a way to keep the peace amongst their nations and in the international community. Nevertheless, the key is to balance what is the best for your own nation and if it is worth sacrificing your own resources to be able to keep it that way or to succumb and start a conflict.

### ***History of the Conflict***

#### **Definition of the Conflict**

The basic economic problem of scarcity oversees the distribution of limited resources to an unlimited demand of the latter resources (Young 5). In an ideal world, we would be able to properly distribute all forms of resources (fossil fuels, precious metals, food supply, clean water, etc.) to everyone in the world. A world where the proper management of resources is properly done to have even distribution and solve world hunger and resources crisis. We don't live in this world. By definition, scarcity is a situation in which something is not easy to find or get ("Scarcity"). The United Nations (UN) reported in 2019 that there was enough food for everyone on this planet while reporting at least 821 million people chronically malnourished.

The distribution of resources around the world is key for the solution of scarcity. While this goes more in hand with the socialist agenda, this cannot be easily achievable. As Starmans et al. argued, people prefer to be in unequal societies as it seems that individuals do not seem to be bothered by economic inequality as far as that is a fair inequality. At the same time, the reason is more simple than it looks: the resources just are not there. In cases of food, there is more abundance in other countries where the agronomic sector is more modern and industrialized, allowing the mass production and exportation of different products, even against the natural weather circumstances. However, in other cases, there is food scarcity that is restricted to the entire population. Other more underdeveloped countries that do not have this amount of production do not have the resources. Not just this but the people do not have the resources to access the food. While there can still be food that goes to waste in the supermarkets, the people in the rural areas that depend on their crops to survive do not have the luxury to go to the supermarket.

Now, you might not believe it but a main source of scarcity is the crippling problem of global warming. From this point, we will discuss further the problems of both scarcity and global warming due to the scarcity problems that this committee will try to solve.

### **Global Warming**

Global warming is the increase of global temperature due to human activity. This is mainly due to the accumulation of greenhouse gases in our atmosphere. These gases, primarily, are caused due to the burning of fossil fuels. As it is shown in Figure 2., there has been a rapid increase in our global temperature ever since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution. However, we can speculate through this small demonstration the same trend that it can be seen in Figure 3. with the increase of carbon emission due to fossil fuel. While carbon emissions are the most prevalent and possibly the most dangerous for our atmosphere, other greenhouses are methane, water vapor, nitrous oxide and f-gases.

You might be asking right now: “How do the emissions of these gases increase the global temperature?” The reason why is because the gases by themselves remain in the Earth in our ozone layer. The reason why this is dangerous it's due to sunlight and solar radiation. Naturally, this solar radiation would reflect from the Earth and refract to space. However, because of these greenhouse gases, solar radiation and sunlight are not able to fully return to space and remain in our atmosphere, increasing our temperature. Now, you might have heard about the hole in our ozone layer. The ozone layer is part of the Earth’s structure that stops dangerous forms of solar radiation such as UV lights to harm us. Sadly, due to the rapid increase and decrease of temperature due to global warming, the ozone layer disappears, causing the already known ozone hole. When this UV light reaches the Earth, it can increase the chances for people to develop skin cancer as well as eye damage (“Ultraviolet (UV) Radiation”). Not just that but it contributes to the problem of the rapid increase in temperatures.



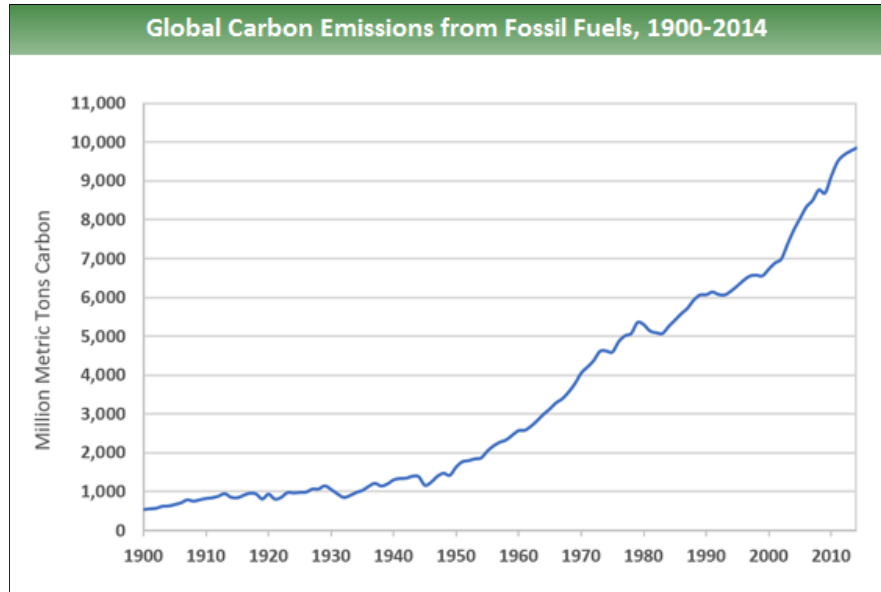


Figure 2. Graph showing the increase of global average temperature between 1850 - 2019  
(<http://berkeleyearth.org/2019-temperatures/>)

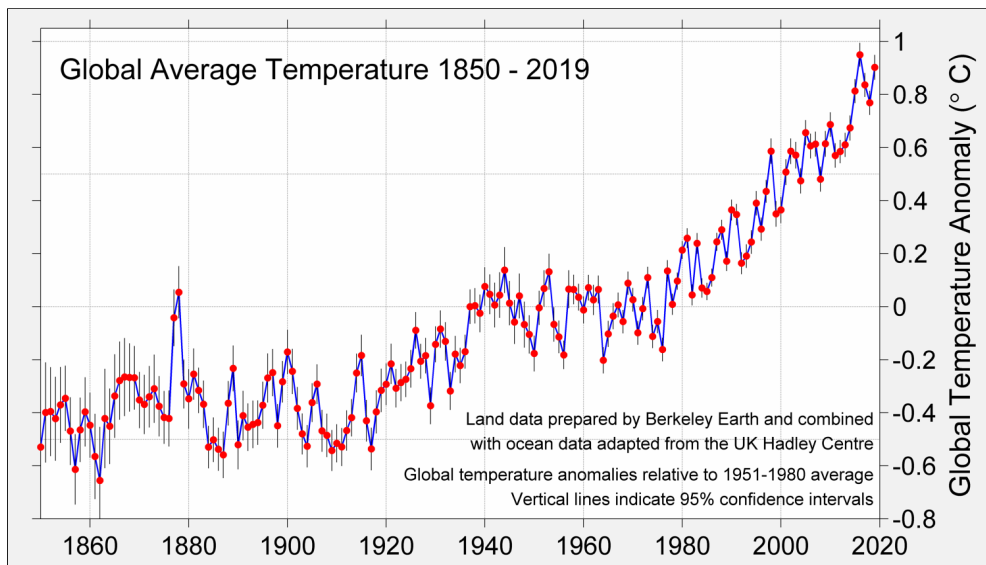


Figure 3. Graph showing the increase of carbon emission from fossil fuels from 1900 to 2014.  
(<https://www.epa.gov/ghgemissions/global-greenhouse-gas-emissions-data>)

Now, we have discussed what is global warming and what causes it. However, why would this be pertinent to us as humans? The level of UV rays might be dangerous but it is not an immediate problem. It might not be but the increasing temperature is. While the global temperature increases, our poles decrease. This can be easily seen in Figure 4. as there is a drastic decrease in the North Pole. With this decrease in the volume of ice in the North Pole, the sea level increases on a global level, causing flooding in different regions of the world. Countries such as the Netherlands are expected to disappear around 2300 (O’Leary). Not predicted but expected.

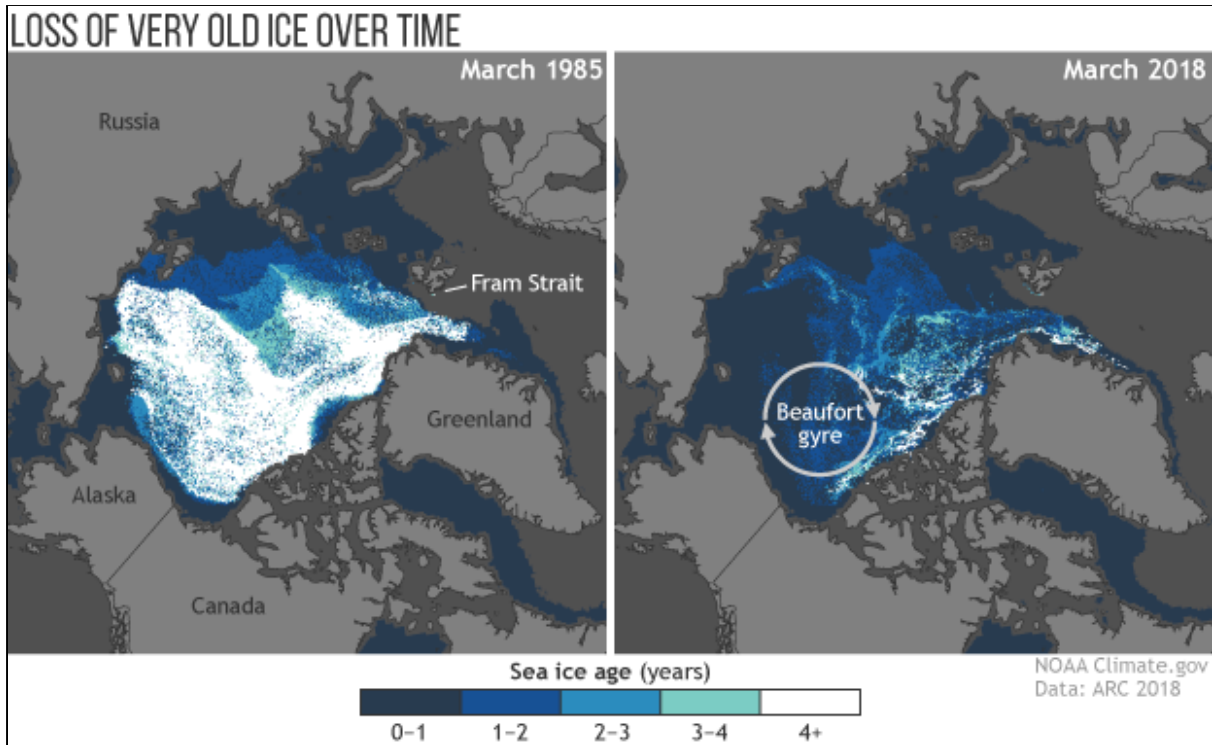


Figure 4. Loss of North Pole ice between 1985 - 2018.

(<https://www.climate.gov/news-features/understanding-climate/climate-change-minimum-arctic-sea-ice-extent>)

The high increase of temperatures, increases the chances for dry seasons all around the world, causing massive crop failure, extending the problem of scarcity. Not limited to this but it increases the chances of naturally caused fire in areas all around the world (“Wildfires”).

### **Air Pollution**

Oxygen, at the end of the day, is a limited resource. Naturally, we consume oxygen to properly live. Us and as well as most of the life on Earth. While we consume oxygen, we convert it to carbon dioxide and waste of cellular respiration. Through photosynthesis, plants are able to convert this carbon dioxide into oxygen again.

The problem is when we produce too much of this carbon dioxide. As it is seen in Figure 3., we have exponentially increased the level of carbon emission exponentially in the last 100 years. With this, we are continuously cutting trees down at a faster rate than we can plant and be able to recycle the air.

When we are talking about air pollution, we are not just limited to greenhouse gases. Aerosols - any solids or liquids that are released into the air - end up reducing the air quality significantly

(Mackenzie). This should concern us because those small particles end up in our lungs, reducing our life expectancy significantly. In 2020, the Air Quality Life Index (AQLI) estimated that the world's life expectancy was reduced by 2 years due to this type of pollution (Galey). In places in China, this number increases to 3-4 years (Hao).

*Figure 5. Photo of Lima, a city with a high level of smog and air pollution.*

<https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2016/jan/16/winter-smog-hits-worlds-cities-air-pollution-soars>



If we are talking about air pollution, we must talk about smog. Smog is the end result of the combination of the ozone and aerosols. While this can be naturally seen through volcano eruption and through plants and trees, we are facing a bigger and more artificial form of smog produced. An example of this is Lima which has a 127 AQI, leveling it as unhealthy for vulnerable groups (“Lima Air Quality Index”).

### **Water Pollution**

At the time of talking about water pollution, it is easier to understand the main causes of it. While we keep throwing toxic substances into the oceans, rivers, lakes and other sources of water. However, this explanation does not do justice to all the ecosystems that are destroyed, damage to the quality of life of many people, and the prevention of droughts. Naturally, nature has a way to purify the water to be able to be properly consumed through the hydrologic or water cycle. However, we have contaminated the Earth so much that this cannot be done properly as before. Without this proper water cycle, the

rivers are not able to flow as much water as they used to, affecting both the agricultural industry that is surrounding the river as well as the complete shutdown of water sources for natural life.

As an added bonus, both the combination of the carbon emissions into the clouds accumulates and forms an acidic rain. While the pH is not significantly high, this type of rain will end up across different structures and acidifying other sources of water that get into contact such as oceans, lakes, rivers. Not limited to that but the Earth, making several species of plants unable to grow. This is another contribution to massive crop failure.

## ***Current Situation***

As it was mentioned before, in an ideal world, the basic economic problem would be easily solved a long time ago. Nevertheless, this was not our case. Combined with poor governance, climate change represents the largest and most global environmental variable to peace and security and its impacts are set to fall disproportionately on the world's most vulnerable populations.

The year is 2035. While there was a hope of any improvement at the beginning of the century, due to economic greed and the insatiable demand of the people, we have reached a new level of resource scarcity. The 17 Goals for Sustainable Development of the UN have completely failed, failing to accomplish any of the 17 goals ('The 17 Goals'). In this part of the study guide, we will go through which type of resource scarcity the international community is confronting and later on the geopolitical consequences of it.

## **Scarcity of Resources**

### **Oxygen Crisis**

As it was mentioned before, air pollution would reduce life expectancy significantly. We would not realize how limited air (in terms of oxygen) would be until it was too late. Many of the cities that did not respect the Paris Agreement proposed by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) had such levels of pollution that the life expectancy was reduced from 10 to 15 years. This has caused an increase in reports for lung cancer, pneumonia, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), asthma, and spontaneous pneumothorax (or spontaneous lung collapse). In Figure 6., you will be able to appreciate the countries with the highest levels of air pollution.

<i>City, Country</i>	<i>Average Air Quality Index (AQI)</i>	<i>Health Status</i>
Hotan, China	431.1	Hazardous
Mumbai, India	410.2	Hazardous
Delhi, India	408.6	Hazardous
Krasnoyarsk, Russia	408.5	Hazardous
Detroit, USA	387.9	Hazardous
Lima, Peru	385.7	Hazardous
Dubai, UAE	382.6	Hazardous
Beijing, China	380.2	Hazardous
Kyiv, Ukraine	378.1	Hazardous
São Paulo, Brazil	375.4	Hazardous

Figure 6. Table showing the cities with the highest levels of air pollution based on AQI<sup>1</sup>

For most people now, it is necessary to go to the streets with at least construction masks, and depending on the income, with portable oxygen tanks. While it would have been expected for the prices of masks and oxygen tanks to have reduced significantly due to the overproduction after the Covid-19 pandemic, the reality is that in some countries the prices for a single mask have reached \$20 for a basic 3M mask and \$50 for a 15L oxygen tank. We will discuss this further in the situation of each continent.

<i>Country</i>	<i>Average Air Quality Index (AQI)</i>	<i>Health Status</i>
China	402.3	Hazardous
India	389.4	Hazardous
Russia	372.5	Hazardous
United States	356.5	Hazardous

<sup>1</sup> The data shown in table is an exaggeration of the data shown by the World Air Quality Report of 2020

Indonesia	345.2	Hazardous
United Kingdom	335.5	Hazardous
United Arab Emirates	320.2	Hazardous
Ukraine	312.5	Hazardous
Peru	300.1	Hazardous
France	287.6	Unhealthy

Figure 7. Table with the top countries with the highest AQI in the world paired with their status.

Due to the shortage of oxygen, there has been a massive outcry for the government for a proper response. Countries such as the Netherlands have designed a healthcare plan for an even distribution for people that both have health insurance and are registered with their own municipalities. While the implementation of the Dutch government has demonstrated to be effective to have reached at least the most vulnerable populations, this has not been the case with other countries such as South Sudan or the Democratic Republic of the Congo where the oxygen tanks bought by the government are mostly reserved for politicians, hospitals, and for high officers in the military. For people to find oxygen, they need to reach private companies and pharmacies that would send them at a high price, making a division between the people that are able to afford oxygen to properly brief. In other countries such as the United States, there has been total privatization of oxygen and masks due to new laws passed through congress in 2027. This has caused outrage throughout the whole country where constant protests occur in Washington D.C. This has led to the birth of the underground and black market sell of oxygen all around the world. The origin of this oxygen can be traced in illegal labs where these oxygen tanks have a composition of 12% of oxygen, 80% of nitrogen, and 8% of a variety of components such as carbon dioxide, argon, and in some occasions, hydrogen or helium. While the oxygen tanks can be used, it is not a pure mix and it might cause harm in the long term as well due to its lack of impurity.

### **Wildfires**

Since the beginning of the 2010s, there has been an increase in wildfires significantly more than usual. Nevertheless, due to the increase in the temperature and the reduction of the ozone layer (allowing solar radiation and sunlight to be stronger than ever), there has been a drastic increase in forestal wildfires. These are the following main ones until 2035:

- Wildfire of the Amazon rainforest in 2027. The wildfire caused the destruction of a total 7% of the total Amazon rainforest, which is mainly in the Brazilian rainforest.
- Wildfire in Australia in 2030, destroying 22% of the total savannah of Northern Australia, forcing many of the aboriginal tribes to leave their land and find a place close to civilization. The koala bear went extinct due to this.
- Wildfire in South Sudan, burning 15% of the total of the Southern killing 200 people in the people.
- Current Wildfire that is burning since March of 2035. The wildfire is spreading from the core of the park. There has not been enough attention from the international community. The fire is suspected to be from illegal mining and illegal farming.

**Droughts**

With the low precipitation and the droughts in many areas of the world, the immediate effect of it is massive crop failure. Due to the high amounts of droughts around the world, the cases of chronic malnourishment have reached a record high number not ever recorded.

<i>Countries</i>	<i>Risk Score total</i>
Botswana	1.48
Zimbabwe	1.42
Oman	1.37
Morocco	1.36
South Sudan	1.35
Yemen	1.21
Syria	1.20
Madagascar	1.19
Australia	1.19
UAE	1.18

Figure 8. Table showing the level of risk of each country to have a drought throughout the entirety of the year.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> The data in this table is a slight exaggeration and modification of the data from Meza et al. (15)

One of the few countries in the world that have not been affected by this drought crisis has been the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Congo. Due to its high levels of precipitation and its several sources of water, the country has not seen a high impact on its water reserves.

### **Oil and Fuels Reserves**

#### **The Rise of the Communal Oil Trade Union (COTU)**

Observing the state of the world and how many of the resources such as oxygen are becoming capitalized, what would happen to already extremely limited resources? While the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) was already established ever since 1960, the lack of administration of the reserves has led to this crisis. Due to this, both the nations of Venezuela, Russia and Iran decided to create a new body where there would be a limit to the use and sale of petroleum. This body would be followed as The Communal Oil Trade Union in 2025. These countries would decide to add the countries with the biggest reserves of oil in the world: Brazil, Canada, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, UAE, Libya, South Sudan and Oman. Based on the Resolution 2 of the COTU, countries outside of the Union would have to pay a high tax for the purchase of oil. Based on the resolution, the purpose of this decision was to encourage the investment of alternative sources of energy to keep a better balance of fossil fuel use. Nevertheless, many countries did not see this as a step for improvement but rather a monopolization of oil due to greed and an act against the free market. The COTU would continue their activities, as usual, having both the head of state, Nicolas Maduro, as Secretary-General of the Union.

#### **Political Stability in Venezuela**

After the pronouncement of Nicolas Maduro as the new Secretary-General of the COTU, there were sudden revolts on the streets of Caracas. This sudden movement was not due to the selection of Maduro as the Secretary-General but rather as a paramilitary coup d'état movement. This time, this aggressive military was led by no other less by Juan Guaido. After many years of intending to change the country through diplomacy, hundreds of thousands have already died to the negligence of the government and now it needs a change. With the aid of anonymous armed forces, suspected to be from the United States, on the 17th of September of 2026 the government in Venezuela was successfully taken over. However, throughout this conflict, Nicolas Maduro as well as with his entire family disappears without any trace. While the world celebrated the freedom of the Venezuelan people, as the first immediate action, Juan Guaido suggested introducing the United State as a member of the COTU. Nevertheless, while countries such as Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Kuwait



spoke in favor of the motion, the rest of the council decided that it would be in anyone's interest as the United States had a history of high consumption of energy, especially in petroleum terms. Until this date, it is still debated heavily about this addition inside of the council.

### **Melting of the Poles and the Sea Level Increase**

In 2017, the North Pole was estimated to be around 2 million square kilometers. Scientists said that this is a turning point to try to increase the volume of it to prevent the world from changing drastically. However, this was not the case. The North Pole has been reduced to only 500,000 square kilometers.

Our negligence has not just affected nature and our life expectancy but it has led to the disappearance of many nations. The first nation to disappear was the nation of Tuvalu. After repeated calls in front of the General Assembly across different administrations inside of Tuvalu, the island was officially evacuated in 2028 after reaching a sudden 25-centimeter sea-level rise, forcing the entirety of the population to migrate to the nations of New Zealand and Australia. This event has been coined as the Fall of Tuvalu. This was followed by other islands such as Palau, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, the islands of Kauai, Honolulu, Moloka'i, Kahului leaving alone the island of Hawaii among others. This has been named the Great Polynesian Crisis, leaving hundreds of thousands without homes. In other parts of the world, the Danish island of Faroe has become inevitable.

However, this sea-level increase has not just affected islands. Since the beginning of these flooding problems, many cities are in constant fear of being underwater such as Edinburg, Dublin, Brighton, Amsterdam, New York, Tokyo, Lima, and many others world capitals.

### **The Disappearance of the Madagascar and Netherlands**

One of the main victims of this sea rise was the Netherlands. Due to this sudden increase in the sea level, the Netherlands lost all of its seacoast territories until the city of Rotterdam, Amsterdam. Other parts of the Netherlands that have been devastated were the town of Groningen and the Hague. The loss of the Hague was a huge hit for the international community as it was the home of the international court and many other UN headquarters. All of these headquarters have been moved to the city of Maastricht in the south of the country.

On the other side of the globe, the island of Madagascar has faced the same problem as 3000 square kilometers due to the sudden sea-level increase. This has caused a massive food crisis as most of the crops' land is submerged under the ocean. While it has not called for the abandonment of the island,

the government has seen a high level of immigration out of it as well with a new dilemma: how would the country be able to feed the entire nation now that most of the growing land is not usable anymore?

### **Resources-Based Conflict**

#### **Rise of Dmiek State**

While many of the nations around the world disregarded their citizens allowing the privatization of oxygen, limiting the access to resources like petrol and being neglectful to the massive crop failures and still using the resources like fossil fuels without any proper administration, a radical group has surged. The group name is Dmiek. The origin of the group has been traced back to South Sudan.

At the beginning of its activity, the group started to develop labs where they would start the production of oxygen tanks to be able to distribute them inside of the countries in areas in the capital. Nevertheless, due to its high success, it started spreading across the world, finally developing a new lab in Oman. While the production of oxygen tanks has been proliferating, the ambition of the group wanted to reach new levels seeing that the world entered into a massive crisis.

Around midnight on the 12th of April of 2035, Dmiek struck simultaneously most of the biggest reserves of Nilepet Petroleum Corporation (the government's petroleum company), with an estimated 3.5 billion barrels of oil. The following day, they struck the headquarters and took over 4 reserves in the nation of Oman belonging to OQ (the government's petroleum company) with an amount of 2.8 billion oil barrels.

While the entirety of the COTU and the governments' of South Sudan and Oman condemned these actions, the citizens around the world have claimed that this type of action was needed years ago as the government was not responsible enough to properly administer their own reserves. With both of these reserves under their control, Dmiek is under the 5 biggest organizations with the biggest reserves of oil in the world.

## ***Significant Actions taken by the UN or the International Community***

### **Special Report: Global Warming of 1.5°C / IPCC**

The IPCC also known as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, functions as a body of the UN focused on providing scientific information regarding climate change. The Panel released this special report in 2018, prepared with over 6,000 scientific references and 91 authors from 40 countries, the report found the following. It was found it was extremely likely that if temperatures continue to increase at the current rate, between 2030 and 2052 global warming will reach a temperature of 1.5°C. As it was predicted, the temperature increase of 1.5°C was reached by 2035. The impacts of reaching a 1.5°C temperature are dire. As stated by the report humanity faces risks to health, food security, water supply, livelihoods. Furthermore, the reduction in crop yields, the spread of diseases and new vector-borne diseases (Malaria, and Dengue), and a sea-level increase between 0.26m - 0.77m are just some of the effects an increase between 1.5°C - 2.0°C is having. Regarding the distant future of our planet, the report stipulated that if the temperature were to increase beyond 1.5°C before 2100, some impacts would be long-lasting and even irreversible, such as the loss of entire ecosystems. These risks can be mitigated by upscaling and accelerating far-reaching climate mitigation. In this case, this refers more to the adaptation to new green technologies and renewable energies. Finally, it was stated that keeping temperatures at a 1.5°C increase is vital if we wish to mitigate and limit the effect of climate change, keeping temperatures at a 1.5°C increase could, for example, reduce the amount of global population exposed to the damages of a sea-level increase by over 50%

### **2050 Long Term Strategy / EU**

The European Union adopted the 2050 Long Term Strategy in 2020. With these new measures, the European Union Aims to be climate neutral by 2050, having an economy with net-zero greenhouse gas emissions. To achieve this the European Commission lays out a series of possible scenarios, all of which converge on one element, a nation's capacity to store energy. Also known as stationary storage, this is used in the power system to store energy for future use (such as charging electronic devices and cars). There are various types of renewable energy stationary storage systems, such as pumped hydro storages, stationary batteries, and chemical storage. In order to successfully incorporate green energies as a mainstream source of energy, it is estimated that Stationary storage capacity must reach between 200 TWh and 450 TWh before 2050. Furthermore, under this resolution, all EU member states are required to submit their own national long-term strategies on how they plan to achieve this greenhouse gas reduction by the year 2050. The following are guidelines established by the EU for the national strategies:

- Total greenhouse gas emission reductions and enhancements of removals by sinks
- Emission reductions and enhancements of removals in individual sectors, including electricity, industry, transport, agriculture, and housing.
- Links to other national long-term objectives, planning and other policies and measures, and investment.

Expected socio-economic effect of the decarbonization measures, including aspects related to macro-economic and social development, health risks and benefits and environmental protection.

This measure goes hand in hand with the 2030 Climate Target Plan also issued by the EU. Some of the goals set by the EU for 2030 were the following:

- At least 40% cuts in greenhouse gas emissions (from 1990 levels)
- At least 32% share for renewable energy
- At least 32.5% improvement in energy efficiency

Due to a lack of cooperation and of intense lobbying by Oil companies, and large multinational corporations, the European Union failed to achieve its goals, it only achieved a 15% cut in greenhouse gas emissions, it managed to achieve its goal of 32.5% improvement in energy efficiency, however, it only saw a 10% increase in the renewable energy field. Because of the failure of the 2030 Climate Target Plan, the future of the 2050 Long Term Strategy is uncertain, and as of now, it is unlikely to be reached unless the European Union can reach a steady flow of cooperation in the research of new technologies and execution of new green measures.

### **Resolution 1376 / Security Council**

Resolution 1376 was adopted in 2001, the main takeaway from this resolution is its emphasis on the condemnation of the illegal exploitation of natural resources in The Democratic Republic of the Congo. This resolution reaffirmed the sovereignty of the Congo over its own natural resources. Finally, it stressed that the exploitation of these resources shall in no way be used to finance conflict within the country. The importance of this resolution lies within the parameters it established regarding the exploitation and linkage between natural resources and armed conflict. It would also be enforced in future resolutions such as Resolution 1478, which placed sanctions on Liberia's timber industry which fueled conflict and insecurity within the country. Towards 2035 the UNSC has moved to make the illegal exploitation of Natural Resources one of its main points to tackle. More importantly, it is focused on fighting armed groups who take advantage of the profits made in this business and use it to hurt the global population or to damage the core values of the UN.

***Resolution 1625 / Security Council***

Resolution 1625 was adopted in 2005, the resolution served as a declaration on the role of the Security Council in the prevention of future armed conflicts, especially in Africa. The resolution stated that action would be taken against nations that illegally exploited natural resources. In addition, the resolution called upon African states to join the African Union Non-Aggression and Common Defence Pact, in order to establish peace, security, and sustainable development. By 2030 as the effects of global warming were beginning to take a toll on mankind Armed groups particularly from the Middle East and Southeast Asia, began to attack cities and towns across eastern Africa. Their motives were largely unknown at the time, however, the impact was significant enough to force the deployment of Peacekeeping forces and the enforcement of Resolution 1625 to fight the waves of armed terrorists threatening Africa.

***Further Actions taken by the UN or the International Community***

**The Toronto Accord / Security Council**

By 2033 Africa remained one of the few territories vastly unaffected by climate change. In contrast, the Middle East and South-East Asia were amongst the most affected regions. Thus large flocks of refugees fled to Africa in search of a safe haven. However, these were quickly turned down by African Union which coordinated a centralized response alongside the UNSC. This decision fueled unrest amongst the refugees and soon unrest turned into violence, armed groups, and some states such as Iran viewed this ruling as an attempt of the UN to snatch Africa for themselves. Thus a breeding ground for terrorism was formed, independent and state-sponsored terrorist organizations began attacking power grids, dams, windmills, solar arrays, and public sites across Europe, North America, and Africa. Eventually, the projected threat was so large the UNSC was forced to hold an extraordinary meeting in Toronto where the Toronto Accord was signed by all UNSC member states except China, Oman, and the UAE.

## ***Bloc Positions***

While the entire world is aiming to find a way out of this world-threatening crisis, many others have already had a history of prioritizing profit and the priority of their nations over the solution for global warming.

### ***The United States***

While the United States of America does suffer from an air pollution crisis and many of their states such as Arizona, New Mexico, Montana and Texas suffer from constant droughts, and not to even mention the inhabitable state due to the smog and low air quality of Detroit, New York City and Atlanta, the United States kept the decision to stay out of the Paris Agreement after President Donald Trump. While the United States has stated many times that it is in favor of world progress, the actions throughout the last years cannot be confirmed. Under the Biden administration, the United States supported and allegedly supported the coup d'état of Juan Guaidó through the training, formation and supply of guns to the paramilitary forces that executed the power takeover. Politicians such as Vladimir Putin have stated that this move might have been another attempt to create another puppet state (like they did with Guatemala, Cuba and South Korea) with the purpose of reaching the oil reserves. There was no statement from the White House regarding the latter accusations. Currently, the country is under the Michelle Obama administration, having as a Vice-President (surprisingly enough) Kanye West.

Nevertheless, throughout the congress, there were passed laws regarding the reduction of carbon taxes to American companies with the purpose of boosting the economy. Not limited to this, they decided to privatize the distribution of oxygen tanks under the idea of free trade. The scarcity of oxygen for people has become such that the oxygen Blackmarket revenue has surpassed the drug trafficking revenue in recent years.

### ***The Communal Oil Trade Union (COTU) Bloc***

The nations of Russia, Venezuela, Brazil, Oman, UAE and South Sudan, at the time of joining the COTU, decided that they had the duty to reduce the world consumption of oil by increasing the taxes with the sale of fossil fuels to other nations.

Nevertheless, there have been many debates that the formation of the COTU resembles more a monopoly rather than a reserve or bank as in countries such as South Sudan there have been instances

where oil has been sold to other parties at a smaller rate than the one stated with the COTU standards where the revenue has been seen to be deposited in private accounts.

The COTU members have condemned deeply the actions of the Dmiek State as the reserves of South Sudan and of Oman combined could be really close to entering to the black market

There has been a contemplation of adding Peru as another member of the COTU.

### **Nature Conservation Blocs**

The nations of Peru, Netherlands, Democratic Republic of Congo, Netherlands, Madagascar and Kenya have decided to focus first on the conservation of nature and the health state of their citizens rather than on the trade of oil.

As President Susy Diaz of the Republic of Peru has stated: “Years of negligence, corruption and a lack of support from the government of the state to the welfare of the people have led us to this situation. We pronounce that Peru is a sustainable state that does not need more foreign companies to destroy our natural reserves, drill our soil for our oil and let our people die from pneumonia.”

Other countries such as the Netherlands have condemned the actions of the United States for allowing the congressmen to pass laws allowing the privatization of the healthcare of the countries and trying to go for other reserves.

Many of the countries that have this standpoint have suffered significant loss of resources and damages in their territory to be able to continue with the previous life and economic standards.

### **Consumer Blocs**

Nations such as China, France, the US, UK and Ukraine have found themselves in dying need of an oil and other resources.

Countries like China have developed the problem of having areas that require oxygen tanks to be able to visit, let alone live in. This has created a great need for oxygen supply, which has been a challenge to chemically produce the same air quality as it would naturally be done.

However, countries like France and the UK have gone in the need of trying to find other sustainable ways to power up the country without relying on fossil fuels. This has led to the discussion of what else to do? While countries such as the United States have contemplated the idea of taking over the

natural resources of other countries, this could disturb the entire international community in a moment where they need each other the most.

Nevertheless, countries like Ukraine, while still needing the power, have developed more efficient ways to supply energy to many parts of the country. However, this is not enough as it used to be. The Ukrainian government has only consistently provided sustainable energy to the capital and areas that are close to it.

### **Final note**

While all the countries have different standpoints regarding the current crisis, they have all condemned the actions of Dmiek State, having no choice but even taking the option of military actions. While this could be devastating for countries such as South Sudan and Oman, this is a risk to be contemplating.

### ***Questions A Resolution Must Answer (QARMAs)***

1. What would actions that the UNSC must take to solve the oxygen crisis around the world? Should the UNSC allow the privatization of oxygen or should there be a free equal distribution amongst the nations?
2. Should this council take action regarding COTU's control of the oil reserves around the world?
3. What form of solution there may be for the purification of air or reduction of carbon emission?
4. What solution should the UNSC implement to either stop the increase of the sea level or prevent any further damage of flooding for nations worldwide?
5. What plan should be taken regarding the massive droughts and the massive crop failures around the world? How should this new wave of world hunger be solved?
6. Should there be a formation of an international trading union? Should there be regulations and restrictions for this union?
7. What should be the actions to stop the ongoing burning Salong National Park in the Democratic Republic of Congo?
8. What should be the military actions regarding this uprising terrorist group?



### ***Position Paper Requirements***

Position papers establish the position of a country on a specific issue. They allow delegates to demonstrate the research they have done for the committee. The position paper should consist of three paragraphs. The first paragraph should have general information about the committee as well as your country's position. The second paragraph should have passed UN resolutions regarding the topic. Finally, the third paragraph should elaborate on your proposals which you will present in the conference.

The position paper should be written in Times New Roman 11 and be no longer than one page. In addition, sources must be included in MLA format. Delegates should include a header with the following information: their full name, delegation (if applicable), and the delegation's flag and the official of the country they are representing. The text should be justified on both sides. The Position Paper should be sent to **securitycouncil@altair.pe** in a PDF format before **Friday, June 11th at 11:59 P.M.**

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