

# STUDY GUIDE

## LISBON INTERNATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE



**2019**





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## I. INTRODUCTION

Dear delegates, this is the Study Guide for the UNICEF committee on the topic of “Children in the Civil War in Yemen – Humanitarian and Educational Assistance”, which will be simulated during the first edition of Lisbon International Model United Nations Conference, in the Faculty of Law of the University of Lisbon, from the 29<sup>th</sup> to the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2019.

As you probably know, MUN is a simulation of the United Nations (UN) that is done at a high school and university level. MUN aims to educate participants about civics, effective communication, globalization and multilateral diplomacy. In MUN, students participate as “delegates” from the UN Member States and simulate UN committees. From this experience, you will not only get involved and debate today’s pressing current issues, but also be given a chance to broaden your world view and knowledge of international relations and the UN, allowing you and all delegates to develop critical thinking and soft skills whilst discussing the most amazing topics that are on our International Agenda nowadays (and hopefully make new friends from all across the world!).

Before the Conference it is very important to investigate the position of the country you will represent on the topic that will be discussed. For that, we advise you to not only look for multiple media sources that refer to your countries position, but also to look for official documents of the government, past declarations (either at the UN or official statements) and the International Alliances/Opposition the country will face in the Committee (remember that lobbying with other Member States is also part of the MUN experience).

Furthermore, do not forget to pay attention to the relation of the country's official position/diplomatic speech and the real interests it has behind that position (States and their representatives are not always crystal clear with their interests, try to read in between the lines of the diplomatic speeches!). In order to have a great performance (which we are sure you all will) it is imperative to understand the relation between the speeches you will





give as a representative of that State and the interest you will pursue in the final Resolution. If you understand the position of your country and its interests, this will be a very easy task.

Moreover, the final goal for the committees during the Conference is to get a majority to vote in favour of a resolution that hopefully creates real, effective and creative solutions for the topic discussed. As a delegate of a Country, your personal goal should be that the Resolution you support and that integrates your State's goals for that committee should be the one approved. We remind all of you that the solutions presented on the Final Resolution should be applicable in the real world, within the limits to the UN power and innovative (think outside of the box!). It is always a good idea to see what other past resolutions the UN has passed on that topic. Additionally, try integrating in specific clauses UN offices/departments/services or International NGO's that could help reach that specific goal.

We know that probably by now this experience may sound very overwhelming, but **don't worry!** We assure you that during the committee sessions this will all feel very natural and remind you that nobody expects that everything is absolute perfect. MUNs are, above all, a learning space for everyone.

Next, we will briefly explain the structure of this Study Guide. It begins with an introduction to the committee and to the topic of the debate. You will have some information about its history and current situation, as well as some guidance towards the different possible approaches. As such, you should read it with close attention, so that you know the directions that the debate might take.

It also addresses some key terms that you need to keep in mind, which will provide all Delegates some definitions that we all agree on, making sure that everyone is on the same level in terms of concepts and interpretations. With this, it is guaranteed that the debate does not end up discussing only the definition of certain expressions and words and the committee can therefore address the core issues of the topic. We advise you to also use these terms in your speeches to make sure it stays clear to other delegates and on topic.

The bloc positions intent to reflect a certain tendency that countries located in certain geographical areas tend to form, influenced by its surrounding neighbours. As such, you should see what position the country you represent adopts, as well as the ones taken by its



neighbours, so that you can see which would be more open to cooperation for a possible Draft Resolution.

After that we list the issues the Draft Resolutions should address. These are some of the most important points and issues that your Draft Resolution should try to present solutions to. Lastly, you have the further research chapter, which consists on some suggestions and advice to help you prepare for the Conference, and the further reading and bibliography, where you can find some links to to help you do your own research!

Please note that this is **only** a study guide. This does not include the comprehensive research on the topic, it is not enough by itself to prepare you to debate. You will have to do your own research, not only on the topic, but also on the position that your country takes on the matter.

Having all of that said, we sincerely hope that this will be a memorable experience and that you have an amazing time learning about international issues that affect our society. Above all else, this event is an opportunity to meet people with the same interests (they are all curious and passionate about MUN and they all have creative and empowering ideas to make the world a better place!). Last but not least, don't forget to have **FUN and enjoy the Conference!**

Sincerely,

**Lisbon International MUN Team**





## 1. MEET YOUR CHAIRS



### **Natalie Raidl**

Natalie 25 years old and currently finishing her masters in Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Originally from Austria, she has lived in Israel for three years. She started MUN five years ago in Vienna and has since participated in 12 conferences around the world. This year, she the coach at her university's society and the Secretary General of JLMUN 2019. Without a doubt – MUN is probably the thing Natalie most passionate about. She very excited to be chairing the UNICEF committee at LisboMUN this year and accompany and will be sure to make this experience most beneficial, interesting and fun for everyone! Here's to successful debating and negotiating and some fun days in Lisbon!



### **Catarina Wanhe**

Catherine is a second-year student in University of Minho. She is really glad to be the chair in the following three days and I hope all the delegates can enjoy this conference!



## II. THE UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S EMERGENCY FUND (UNICEF)

The United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund was created by the United Nations General Assembly on 11 December 1946, to provide emergency food and healthcare to children in countries that had been devastated by World War II. In 1950, UNICEF's mandate was extended to address the long-term needs of children in countries everywhere. Today, UNICEF works in 161 countries, areas and territories on solutions to the problems plaguing poor children and their families on ways to realise their rights. Its activities are as varied and include for example: helping prevent childhood illness and death, making pregnancy and childbirth safe, combating discrimination and co-operating with communities to ensure that girls as well as boys attend school.

Since its creation at the end of World War II to relieve the suffering of children in Europe, UNICEF has responded rapidly in crises, helped re-create a sense of stability and normalcy, reopened schools and established safe spaces for children when armed conflict and war, flood and other disruptions occur. UNICEF was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1965 and the Prince of Asturias Award of Concord in 2006.

A 36-member executive board establishes policies, approves programs and oversees administrative and financial plans. The executive board is made up of government representatives who are elected by the United Nations Economic and Social Council, usually for three-year terms.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Esa.un.org. (2018). [online] Available at: [https://esa.un.org/techcoop/associateexperts/applicants/guide\\_to\\_employment/unpan000153.pdf](https://esa.un.org/techcoop/associateexperts/applicants/guide_to_employment/unpan000153.pdf) [Accessed 24 Dec. 2018].





### III. CHILDREN IN THE CIVIL WAR IN YEMEN – HUMANITARIAN AND EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE

#### 1. DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

##### A. WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene)

Universal, affordable and sustainable access to WASH is a key public health issue within international development and is the focus of Sustainable Development Goal 6.

#### 2. DISCUSSION OF THE TOPIC

The civil war in Yemen, that has raged since 2015, has caused the biggest humanitarian catastrophe of our times. Millions of people are at risk of starvation and a cholera outbreak has swept the country, with millions of people contracting the disease. Children are the ones most severely affected by this crisis: they are not only subject to health hazards but have also been unable to attend school and therefore create a sustainable future for them and their families.

#### Geert Cappelaere, UNICEF Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa

Yemen is today a living hell for children. A living hell not for 50-60 per cent of children. It is a living hell for every single boy and girl in Yemen.

##### A. HISTORY OF THE CIVIL WAR IN YEMEN

The Yemeni Civil War is an ongoing conflict that began in 2011, when a popular revolution arose against then-president Ali Abdullah Saleh. In a deal brokered by the Gulf Cooperation Council, Saleh was granted immunity and power was transferred to vice-president Abd

##### Timeline

#### Conflict in Yemen

2014

September ● **21 SEPTEMBER**  
Houthis seize government headquarters in Sanaa.

2015

February ● **21 FEBRUARY**  
President Abedrabbo Mansour Hadi escapes house arrest and flees south to Aden. Houthis begin advancing beyond Sanaa.

March ● **25 MARCH**  
Saudi Arabia leads coalition airstrikes against the Houthis.

May ● **5 MAY**  
Houthis bomb Saudi border town, killing several people.

June ● **16 JUNE**  
Al-Qaeda confirms that its chief in Yemen, Nasir al-Wuhayshi, has been killed in US drone strike.

**17 JUNE**  
More than 30 people killed in bombings claimed by the Islamic State at Shia mosques and offices in Sanaa. Attacks come three months after IS killed 142 people in a Shia mosques in the capital.

July ● **17 JULY**  
Liberation of Aden province announced.





Rabbo Mansour Hadi. In the subsequent constitution making process conflict escalated again between government forces loyal to president Hadi and the Houthis, loyal to previous president Saleh, in 2014. The Shiite Houthi forces have been supported by Iran, while the internationally recognized Yemeni government has been allied with an international coalition including Saudi Arabia and other Sunni Muslim states (Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco, Senegal, Sudan and the United Arab Emirates). The US and UK have supported the Yemeni government with weapons sales and logistical help.<sup>2</sup>

Houthi forces controlling the capital Sana'a, and allied with forces loyal to the former president Ali Abdullah Saleh, have clashed with forces loyal to the government of Abdrabbuh Mansur Hadi, based in Aden. Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) and the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant have also carried out attacks, with AQAP controlling swaths of territory in the hinterlands, and along stretches of the coast. On 21 March 2015, after taking over Sana'a and the Yemeni government, the Houthi-led Supreme Revolutionary Committee declared a general mobilization to overthrow Hadi and further their control by driving into southern provinces. The Houthi offensive, allied with military forces loyal to Saleh, began on the next day with fighting in Lahij Governorate. By 25 March, Lahij fell to the Houthis and they reached the outskirts of Aden, the seat of power for Hadi's government; Hadi fled the country the same day. Concurrently, a coalition led by Saudi Arabia launched military operations by using airstrikes to restore the former Yemeni government; the United States provided intelligence and logistical support for the campaign.<sup>3</sup> According to UN sources, 6,660 civilians were killed and 10,563 injured between 2015 and 2018; however, the real figures are likely to be significantly higher. Coalition air

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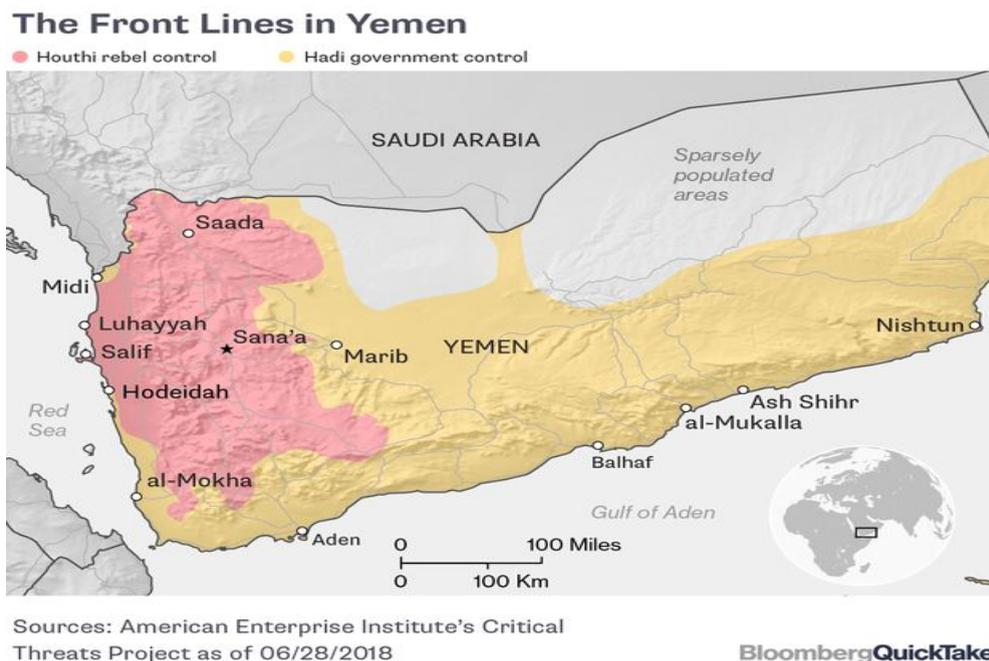
<sup>2</sup> Glen Carey and Sarah Alghetami, "How Saudis, Allies Made Yemen a Humanitarian Crisis" *Bloomberg*, October 19, 2018, <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-10-19/how-saudis-turned-yemen-war-into-humanitarian-crisis-quicktake>

<sup>3</sup> En.wikipedia.org. (2018). *Yemeni Civil War (2015–present)*. [online] Available at: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yemeni\\_Civil\\_War\\_\(2015%E2%80%93present\)#Background](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yemeni_Civil_War_(2015%E2%80%93present)#Background) [Accessed 24 Nov. 2018].





strikes have caused most direct civilian casualties. The airstrikes have hit residential areas, markets, funerals, weddings, detention facilities, civilian boats and even medical facilities.<sup>4</sup>



## B. THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IN YEMEN

The humanitarian situation in Yemen is one of the worst in the past century. Even before the conflict, Yemen suffered from chronic food insecurity due to its heavy reliance on imports for over 75 percent of its food demand, while 80 percent of Yemenis lived below the poverty line. The ongoing conflict has plunged the country into a widespread famine that has caused the worst cholera outbreak in history. As of August 2018, 20 million Yemenis were food insecure, due to lack of supply and high prices. The World Food Program is feeding nearly eight million people a month. If not for that, two-thirds of the population in Yemen would be facing horrific levels of hunger and starvation. A large proportion of the

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<sup>4</sup> United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, "Yemen: United Nations Experts point to possible war crimes by parties to the conflict", August 28, 2018, <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=23479>



population cannot access basic food commodities because food prices have jumped by 150 percent compared to pre-crisis levels. Fuel prices, including gas for cooking, have also soared. The agriculture sector has suffered from the conflict and food production has decreased sharply. Even during the crisis, agriculture remains the primary livelihood for three-quarters of the population. It is their only source of income and is critical to enabling them to access food on the markets.<sup>5</sup>

A major cause for this humanitarian crisis is also the Saudi-led coalition, which has disrupted food and other supplies coming into Yemen by imposing a naval blockade on ports in the Houthi-controlled north. This blockade has been declared illegal according to international humanitarian law, since its impact on civilians is disproportionate compared to its military benefits. Saudi Arabia claims that the blockade prevents arms shipments to rebels but searches of blockaded ships turned up no weapons. Saudi Arabia has come under severe criticism for its policies regarding Yemen, with several allies withdrawing their support for the kingdom as a result of their intervention in Yemen.<sup>6</sup> In response to the coalition's blockade of Yemen, the United Nations established a Verification and Inspection Mechanism (UNVIM) in 2016 to inspect and issue clearances to ships bound for Houthi-controlled ports. If cleared ships proceed to an area held by the coalition for inspection and permission to go to port.<sup>7</sup>

Contributing to the food shortage is a drop in commercial imports and the sharp rise in prices for food, which is due to additional tariffs imposed by the Houthis and the depreciation of the national currency in combination with payment gaps for civil servants.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, "Humanitarian assistance continues to prevent a massive human catastrophe in Yemen but it is not enough", August 12, 2018, <http://www.fao.org/emergencies/fao-in-action/stories/stories-detail/en/c/1174044/>

<sup>6</sup> Glen Carey and Sarah Alghetami, "How Saudis, Allies Made Yemen a Humanitarian Crisis" *Bloomberg*, October 19, 2018, <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-10-19/how-saudis-turned-yemen-war-into-humanitarian-crisis-quicktake>

<sup>7</sup> Human Rights Watch, "Yemen: Coalition's Blocking Aid, Fuel Endangers Civilians", September 27, 2017, <https://www.hrw.org/news/2017/09/27/yemen-coalitions-blocking-aid-fuel-endangers-civilians>

<sup>8</sup> Glen Carey and Sarah Alghetami, "How Saudis, Allies Made Yemen a Humanitarian Crisis" *Bloomberg*, October 19, 2018, <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-10-19/how-saudis-turned-yemen-war-into-humanitarian-crisis-quicktake>





Houthi forces have also violated international legal obligations to facilitate humanitarian aid to civilians and significantly harmed the civilian population. They have blocked and confiscated aid, denied access to populations in need, and restricted the movement of ill civilians and aid workers.<sup>9</sup>

The World Food Program is scaling up its operations to up to 12 million people every month with food and nutrition assistance. Among these are some 3 million women and children who need special support to treat and prevent malnutrition. Across Yemen, UNICEF has accelerated the implementation of specialized programmes in existing health facilities to prevent and treat severe acute malnutrition in children. This includes training staff and supplying facilities with essential equipment, specialized foods for severely malnourished children and medicines. So far in 2018, nearly 230,000 children have been treated for severe acute malnutrition.<sup>10</sup>

The health situation is aggravated by the fact that half of the country's hospitals are closed, 15.7 million people lack access to clean water, and the country has over 700,000 suspected cholera infections, increasing by about 5,000 cases daily.<sup>11</sup> Cholera is a diarrhoeal disease that is transmitted by consumption of faeces-contaminated water or food. The disease thrives in conditions of poor water sanitation and hygiene; its health effects are compounded by poor health and malnutrition.<sup>12</sup> In Yemen, the disease has spread with unprecedented speed. Since the outbreak in 2017, 1.2 million cholera cases have been registered in Yemen and 2,500 of those infected have died.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> Human Rights Watch, "Yemen: Coalition's Blocking Aid, Fuel Endangers Civilians", September 27, 2017, <https://www.hrw.org/news/2017/09/27/yemen-coalitions-blocking-aid-fuel-endangers-civilians>

<sup>10</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, "Humanitarian assistance continues to prevent a massive human catastrophe in Yemen but it is not enough", August 12, 2018, <http://www.fao.org/emergencies/fao-in-action/stories/stories-detail/en/c/1174044/>

<sup>11</sup> Human Rights Watch, "Yemen: Coalition's Blocking Aid, Fuel Endangers Civilians", September 27, 2017, <https://www.hrw.org/news/2017/09/27/yemen-coalitions-blocking-aid-fuel-endangers-civilians>

<sup>12</sup> The Lancet Gastroenterology & Hepatology, "Health catastrophe: the toll of cholera in Yemen", September 1, 2017, [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/langas/article/PIIS2468-1253\(17\)30224-8/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/langas/article/PIIS2468-1253(17)30224-8/fulltext)

<sup>13</sup>[https://www.unicef.org/yemen/reallives\\_12800.html](https://www.unicef.org/yemen/reallives_12800.html)



## A. THE SITUATION OF CHILDREN IN YEMEN

The dire humanitarian situation in Yemen has taken a particularly harsh toll on children. According to Save the Children, 29% of children are out of school, with 75% of schools having been destroyed. 55 out of 1000 children die before the age of 5 and 23% of children are engaged in child labor.<sup>14</sup>

The level of acute malnutrition among children remains high. Across the country, 1.8 million children are acutely malnourished, including nearly 400,000 who suffer from the most severe form. Children with severe acute malnutrition are 11 times more at risk of death if not treated in time than a healthy child of the same age. The high levels of malnutrition are compounded by lack of food, poor child feeding practices at home, sub-optimal functioning of the health, water and sanitation systems, disease outbreaks and the deteriorating economy.<sup>15</sup> In 2016 UNICEF reported that one Yemeni child was dying from malnutrition every 10 minutes. In July 2017, three UN humanitarian agencies found that “nearly 80 percent of children in Yemen need immediate humanitarian assistance.”<sup>16</sup>

Since the cholera outbreak in 2017, 1 million people have been affected and over 2,000 people have died. Public water and sanitation are barely functioning, and 8.2 million children are in need of humanitarian assistance for access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation.<sup>17</sup>

The conflict has also impacted the education of 4.5 million Yemenite children, as teachers’ salaries have not been paid, painting a very bleak future for an entire generation of children, as they remain illiterate and unskilled, perpetuating the poverty cycle. Almost 2 million children are out of school, and are therefore at higher risk of being recruited for fighting, early marriage and child labor. More than 2,000 boys have been recruited for fighting since

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<sup>14</sup> Save the Children, “The Challenges for Children in Yemen”, <https://www.savethechildren.org/us/what-we-do/where-we-work/greater-middle-east-eurasia/yemen>

<sup>15</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, “Humanitarian assistance continues to prevent a massive human catastrophe in Yemen but it is not enough”, August 12, 2018, <http://www.fao.org/emergencies/fao-in-action/stories/stories-detail/en/c/1174044/>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.hrw.org/news/2017/09/27/yemen-coalitions-blocking-aid-fuel-endangers-civilians>

<sup>17</sup> UNICEF, *If Not in School: The Paths Children Cross in Yemen* (March 2018), [https://www.unicef.org/yemen/YEM\\_resources\\_ifnotinschool.pdf](https://www.unicef.org/yemen/YEM_resources_ifnotinschool.pdf)





2015 and almost half of the women married were under the age of 15.<sup>18</sup> Three quarters of school teachers do not receive wages, which endangers millions of additional children to drop out of the education system. Those children that are studying lack essential supplies. 2500 schools around Yemen can no longer be used, with most of them having been destroyed by attacks or are used as shelters for displaced people or as military shelters.<sup>19</sup>

Access to education is a fundamental building block to every person's life. Only by allowing all children access to education can a society make sure to progress, as the children that are in schools today are the engineers, politicians, teachers and doctors of tomorrow. Making sure Yemenite children have access to education and can subsequently pursue jobs is a fundamental requirement for rebuilding the torn country in the future.

### 3. BLOC POSITIONS

The Saudi-led coalition claims its intervention in Yemen was aimed at compelling the Houthis to return to the political discussions they earlier abandoned. The Saudis also justify military action as a response to aggression by Iran, which they paint as the Houthis' master. If this intervention was meant to bring stability to Yemen, so far, the opposite has happened. In any case, the priority for Saudi Arabia is limiting Iranian influence in Yemen and preventing the instalment of an Iranian-friendly government. Independent observers say that's an exaggeration — that the Houthis receive aid from Iran but don't dance to its tune. It is known, however, that Iran has provided large scale support for the Houthi rebels and thereby seeks to increase its influence in the region.<sup>20</sup> So far, none of the two sides

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<sup>18</sup> UNICEF, *If Not in School: The Paths Children Cross in Yemen* (March 2018), [https://www.unicef.org/yemen/YEM\\_resources\\_ifnotinschool.pdf](https://www.unicef.org/yemen/YEM_resources_ifnotinschool.pdf)

<sup>19</sup> Saba Relief, *Struggle for Education in Yemen* (September 2018), <https://www.sabarelief.org/struggle-for-education-in-yemen/>

<sup>20</sup> <https://www.bloomberg.com/quicktake/yemens-fault-lines>



have shown real interest in ending the conflict that has caused the worst humanitarian disaster of our time.

The U.S. and U.K. have largely backed Saudi Arabia in its policies in Yemen, with weapons and fuel used by Saudi Arabia being largely supplied by the United States. While the bombardments and killings conducted by Saudi Arabia were made possible by the U.S. support with supplies, the United States has increasingly become critical of Saudi Arabia's indiscriminate killings and has called for the protection of civilians through improved targeting. Nevertheless, many blame the United States for their involvement in the suffering of Yemeni people.<sup>21</sup>

China's involvement in the conflict in Yemen is largely driven by its interest in maintaining close relations with Saudi Arabia. While not being prominently involved in the conflict itself, China has acquiesced to the Saudi-led military campaign. While China did not support the Saudi-led airstrikes, they also did not want to confront Saudi Arabia and therefore refrained from openly condemning the actions. Any involvement by the Chinese government has been low-key and was geared towards resolving the world's humanitarian crisis. China has delivered millions of dollars in relief assistance to Yemen as well as the World Food Programme. Additionally, being Yemen's major trading partner, China could become a prominent actor in Yemen's reconstruction.<sup>22</sup>

Russia, having made efforts to boost its prestige and involvement in the Middle East over the past years, has sought to establish itself as a mediator and offered to facilitate peace

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<sup>21</sup> Marlo Safi, „Understanding U.S. Involvement in Yemen's 'Forgotten War'“, *National Review* (November 30, 2018),

<https://www.nationalreview.com/2018/11/yemen-civil-war-american-involvement-under-increasing-scrutiny/>

<sup>22</sup> I-wie Jennifer Chang, *China and Yemen's Forgotten War*, United States Institute of Peace (January 16, 2018), <https://www.usip.org/publications/2018/01/china-and-yemens-forgotten-war>





talks in Yemen. Some say that Yemen is located in a strategic location important to Russia, which wants to project its power especially along the Red Sea.<sup>23</sup>

The EU has been involved in Yemen through political support as well as humanitarian and development assistance. They strongly support the United Nations-led process and view the engagement with the UN Special Envoy as most constructive to resuming peace negotiations.<sup>24</sup>

#### **IV. POINTS THE RESOLUTIONS SHOULD ADDRESS**

There can be more than one resolution in the debate. As long as it is cohesive and coherent with the topic, delegates are free to compose their resolution(s) as they see fit to what is relevant in the ongoing debate.

All delegates are also advised to think about the topic importance in the current worldwide scenario. Consider researching what are the many solutions and measures Nations across the globe have taken and how effective or not they were in dealing with those issues.

A resolution in the UNICEF committee should suggest ways to respond to the humanitarian disaster in Yemen, specifically with relation to children. Delegates should consider the humanitarian aspects of the crisis, like the food scarcity and insufficient WASH levels, as well as educational issues, like lack of access to schools and the impacts of lack of education.

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<sup>23</sup> Samuel Ramani, „How Serious is Russia’s Offer to Mediate in Yemen?“ *World Politics Review* (February 26, 2018), <https://www.worldpoliticsreview.com/articles/24245/how-serious-is-russia-s-offer-to-mediate-in-yemen>

<sup>24</sup> European External Action Service, “EU response to the conflict in Yemen” (November 19, 2018), [https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage\\_en/53984/EU-Yemen%20relations.%20factsheet](https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage_en/53984/EU-Yemen%20relations.%20factsheet)



## V. FURTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

The first step for making a good intervention during the debate is to research the topic itself, in a more general way. Make sure to not only attend to not only statistics, but also research information that identify the roots of the problems and effective policies that have been promoted both nationally and by the UN.

After getting a general idea on the topic itself, you should research your state's policy about it. It is crucial to know what your country's aspirations are, and what kind of measures can be put into practice. Besides that, political alliances are one of the master keys to make sure that your state's goals will be successful. How is your state in terms of diplomacy? Is it more bellicose, strategist and likes to be a leader? Or is it more peaceful and gentler, more like a follower, in an already formed block? These are some points that you should keep in mind to get information about the subject.

After that you need to have a **look in statistics, legal framework** and, maybe, try to find **interesting facts** and **stories** that capture the Committee's attention! That will help you to reach partners and political coalitions for your ideas. Because of that, we highly recommend delegates to check-out a **MUN application** available both on Google Play, App Store and <http://munapp.com/>. The application not only has an offline database of all States, but also provides general information on States' positions on different matters in the international scenario as well as a quick guide on rules of procedures.

The **Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)** website can also be useful tools for your research since you can look for information on Draft Resolutions about this topic or related issues, and some official speeches from your state, explaining its position about this problem. Beyond that, and if you have curiosity, you can also see other state's speeches to have an idea of which are the ones that are on your side and the ones that you should convince with your views.

You should also keep in mind that not all sources are reliable. NGO's websites are always good choices for a good investigation because they usually have interesting articles and correct statistics. Then again, you must keep in mind that regarding social and political affairs, and particularly, if you search for media coverage, being impartial is almost impossible so it is likely to find more obstinate convictions about this topic. However, media





articles are always very useful for your researches and you shouldn't forget to take a look at them too.

You, as a Delegate, are **an official representative of your State** in the UN. Therefore, you **must share its views as faithful as possible**.

Unity makes strength so don't forget that consensus must be a goal, and this can only be achieved through dialogue and tolerance. Finally, if every delegate is open to new suggestions, the Debate will be much more successful – and even if we don't find a solution to the problem, we are making efforts to accomplish one soon.



## VI. FURTHER READING AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

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