



Dear delegates,

I sincerely welcome you to this year's Model of the United Nations with open arms and hopes that all of you will be able to successfully develop yourselves through this experience by learning and doing everything in your power to solve the current situations that threaten us as efficiently and effectively as possible.

With this being the Security Council, you will be discussing topics that threaten global peace and as such, it is required that every single one of you gives it your all, you will need to negotiate, investigate, be creative and, most importantly, argue with other delegates in order to eliminate the troubles that affect the world in the best manner possible while ensuring that peace does prosper. The Council will have access to a wide array of tools its disposal ranging from economic and political sanctions to the application of peacekeeping forces; it is expected that the delegates make use of these assets when thinking of solutions as they will be of great help while you progress in the committee.

Further along you will find information regarding the topics at hand, it is recommended that the delegates investigate more on their own to better prepare themselves.

I eagerly await to see how you will face these issues and we hope you enjoy your time on the committee.

Yours truly,
Rodrigo de Lemos
President, Security Council



TOPIC A: Cyber Warfare in the Middle

East

Cyberwarfare is a network based conflict which involves attacks motivated by politics from a nation to another state. By these, the activities of organizations and the government of the attacked nation, are disrupted, with strategic or military purposes and cyber espionage. It also refers to attacks by terrorist groups and hackers, with aims towards particular nations. The Middle East suffers these with the largest financial losses, than any other region. Being included spam emails, data theft, private cyber operations, between others. Israeli, Iranian and Syrian cyber attackers can derail nuclear weapons programs, such as the Stuxnet attack in 2010, and are also capable of inflicting damage on multinational corporations; with the Saudi Aramco incident in 2015 as an example. The cost effectiveness of these attacks, have persuaded Middle Easterns to involve into this cyber-warfare, which can provide a smarter approach than bombs; being the reason why the trend appears to be increasing. Cities such as Dubai, are creating more opportunities for hackers to interfere in any system. This has become a problem further than data loss, but also involves the possibility of life's loss; since the intrusion

can relate to specific motives, including preventing vehicles' brakes to function, or circuit power grids which caused heat-related deaths in Riyadh. With the pass of the time, more and more systems appear to be electronically based controlled, and defences require to be future proofed, since they have to upgrade to meet developing threats, but the damage is coming to severely affect corporations and individuals, and at every possible grade.

Background:

With technology's increasing growth throughout the years it was nothing more than a matter of time before someone decided to use it for their own benefit. The middle East has been an all around active war zone ever since the end of the 19th century, their conflicts only growing in tension as the year progressed but it all took a turn when a new weapon was thrown into the mix that was this wars. In the year 2010 a computer virus suspected to have been developed by Israel and the United States infected an Iranian nuclear program and destroyed over 1000 nuclear centrifuges before continuing to spread across the country until it was stopped by the government.



Seeing the new potential these new weapons had, it didn't take long for other countries to take advantage of it, more importantly, Iran, which as a response to this attack decided to develop itself in this area. It's low economic cost, highly disruptive nature and quick deployment led to an entirely new arena for these countries to fight on; the digital one.

Current situation:

Since the aforementioned attack on Iran's nuclear plant, it and Israel have continuously kept developing themselves on this area, while other countries try to keep up, this combined with the already dangerous status of the middle East forcing countries to focus on the physical side of war more, all leads to it becoming the area with the most Cyber attacks in the world.

Some notable attacks that have occurred since it all started are

- The shamoon virus which destroyed over 35.000 thousand computer systems of the Saudi Arabian oil company Aramco in 2012.
- An attack towards Israel's internet infrastructure by Iran in 2014.
- Another attack by Iran against Turkey caused a massive power outage in 44 of it's

81 provinces in 2015

- In 2015 an Israeli hacker group leaked details of more than 4 million Palestinian citizens.
- The "dark caracal" incident in 2014 where the Lebanese government funded a group of hackers that used fake apps and other malware to collect information on people's devices.

Today, stuff hasn't slowed down by a bit, Iran is currently one of the biggest Cyber threats in the world and attacks to computer systems and software has become almost commonplace with various countries being forced to at least spend a lot of money on Cyber defense on the very least.

Questions:

- Which actions have been taken by the international community to fight the past and ongoing cyber attacks?
- What do nations need to do to prevent cyber warfare?
- How are developing countries going to fight the issue, if they are incapable of upgrading their



technology to a really major level? Taking into consideration their economy weaknesses, in comparison with a potent nation.

- What are the United Nations willing to do to manage the issue with the countries that are creating opportunities for hackers to interfere other nation's vulnerable digital platforms?

- How are nations going to act in order to fight terrorism in the Middle East based on the digital Era?

- How are corporations and also individuals going to be protected from these threats?

Recommendations:

In quality of assessors, we highly recommend you to merge into the topic, and take into account the several previous attacks, which targets include corporations, governments and individuals from different nations. Focus on the issue specifically in the Middle East, since the attacks have achieved another grade, not limited to data loss or hackers to obtain basic information, but hackers that are making use of the, each time more and more advanced, digital platform to develop terrorist attacks. It is a risk for these

nations, the fact that they are constantly exposed to a robbery of information, that can lead to the death of thousands of people, with a much easier strategy, and without any kind of advertisement. Find the way to help the nations that are being affected, specially the ones that are more vulnerable due to their technology's lack of representative or quick advancement. Also, you need to propose the actions that require to be taken in order to localize and prevent the governments and groups that are authors of these crimes, from committing them.

TOPIC B: Venezuela's right to have a seat on the Security Council

The Venezuelan crisis has been a very big topic of discussion since the hyperinflation started in Chavez's presidency, shining the country in a negative light in most cases, this of course has created quite a bad image of the country's representatives and their validity. One of the debates that has surged from this debate has been if Venezuela should truly be a member of the United Nations, starting before it was even officially one.

Eventually it was brought to center stage when during a Security Council



meeting, the Vice President of the United States, Mike Pence stated that the current representative of Venezuela should leave the Security Council due to his bias towards the presidency of Nicolas Maduro, and his place should be taken by the interim president Juan Guaido or a representative of his. These claims were of course met with some discussion, particularly from those that still supported Nicolas Maduro: the delegations of Russia, China and of course Venezuela

Background:

Venezuela was set to join the council in the 2015, for the following two years if they met the required two-thirds majority of votes in the 193-nation General Assembly. Since this moment, different countries were against Venezuela being in the Security Council, because of the abuses committed by their government. Washington has also been clearly opposed to the idea of Venezuela joining the council, since they could disturb their main task; overseeing international peace and security. Even though they disagree with this, a senior U.S. congressional aide said Washington was not going to make an effort to keep Venezuela off the council. "People are resigned to it," the

aide said. U.N. diplomats establish that it does not correspond to an U.S. campaign.

Kurtis Cooper; spokesman for the US mission to the United States said:

"Regional groups have a responsibility to put forward candidate countries that support the principles of the U.N. Charter, contribute to the Security Council's role in maintaining international peace and security, and uphold and advance human rights," said Kurtis Cooper, deputy spokesman for the U.S. mission to the United Nations.

"Our concerns with regard to Venezuela's record on human rights and democratic governance are well known," Cooper added. He declined to comment on any diplomatic discussions that might be going on behind the scenes.



Accusing Venezuelan officials of abuses in a crackdown on recent protests against Chavez's successor, President Nicolas Maduro, Washington has barred some Venezuelan government ministers and presidential advisers from entering the United States.

Venezuela will likely use the council seat as a platform to aggressively back allies such as Syria and Russia in their diplomatic wrangling with the United States, part of its broader effort to continue the anti-Washington foreign policy of late socialist leader Chavez.

Current Situation:

More recently the newest representative of the US "Mike Pence" in a recent United Nations session directly addressed Venezuela's delegate with the following speech:

"With all due respect, Mr. Ambassador, you shouldn't be here, you should return to Venezuela and tell Nicolas Maduro that his time is up. It's time for him to go."

Pence then directed himself towards the council:

"Members of this Security Council: The men, women, and children in Venezuela are suffering. Their economy has been destroyed. Their democracy has been destroyed. The people of Venezuela are paying the price. And soon, the region and the world will pay the price if we fail to act. There can be no bystanders to this history. For the peace and security of our hemisphere, the world and the United Nations must stand with the people of Venezuela. To that end, the United States is preparing a resolution recognizing the legitimacy of the government of Interim President Juan Guaidó. And today, we urge every member of the Security Council and all U.N. member states to support this resolution."

In response to this, the US was accused of hypocrisy by the Russian ambassador for also having broken various UN laws in the past and of having set up the Venezuelan



crisis in order to kick a legitimate president out and replace him with one of its own pawns since the USA's attempts to help haven't done very much in their eyes other than directly harm Venezuela.

Of course "Samuel Moncada" Venezuela's delegate also responded to the accusations while leaning on Russia's speech by declaring that this so called "humanitarian crisis" didn't actually exist and that it's economic crisis was completely due to the USA's meddling in foreign affairs.

While most countries continue to support the United States, some others have been influenced to change sides by Russia's and Venezuela's arguments and with the power of two veto holding countries on Venezuela's side, it's not a problem that simple majority is going to solve

Questions:

Why is it important the representation of Venezuela in the Security Council?

Why should Venezuela be excluded from the Security Council because of the actions committed by the government while

they are not supported by most of the country?

How can Venezuelans make themselves feel in the international community?

Recommendations

Feel free to investigate deeper about the subject, in order to really follow the timeline of the events.

You can make reference to Venezuela's current situation, to prove why should the country have a recognition in the organism and the international community.

Propose actions that could be taken against Venezuela's government because of their crimes committed, without affecting its population, and besides the ones that are going on.

Do not attach just to the information about Venezuela being a topic of debate in the Security Council, but specifically to its expulsion from it.



