

# **BALMUN'24**

**GA1: DISEC**

**CO-Under Secretary  
Generals:**

**Emre TAHMAZ**

**Hakkı Yılmaz YILMAZER**

**STUDY GUIDE**

**BALMUN'24**

**UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
- FIRST COMMITTEE -  
DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY  
(DISEC)**

**Agenda Item: Forestalling Nuclear Proliferation**

**Table of Content**

- I. Letter From Secretary General**
- II. Letter From Under Secretary General**
- III. Introduction to the Committee “Disarmament and International Security (First General Assembly Committee)”**
- IV. Key Terms**
- V. History of Nuclear Energy, Past Usage of Nuclear Weapons and Incidents and Practices for Its Forestallment**
- VI. Nuclear energy in today's world**
- VII. Questions needs to be addressed in resolution paper**
- VIII. Requirements for BALMUN'24**

## **1. Letter From Secretary General**

Most Esteemed Participants,

As the Secretary-General of the conference, it is my utmost pleasure to welcome you all to the very first edition of BALMUN'24.

The World is changing in various and major impacts. Every single day, another crisis occurs in a different location on Earth. Policies are changing, economies are changing, and even human culture is changing. However, the only thing that does not change is humanity's desire to achieve their own interests. This desire has been the main factor in the establishment of the global system in the past, present, and future.

At this conference, we aimed to show you the real politics, the truth behind the curtains, and provide a full United Nations simulation experience for you. We created eight wonderful committees that contain all the political aspects of the past, present, and future. We are expecting a lot from you to find initiative solutions for crises, successfully cooperate with other ideologies, have lasting reconciliation for the problems which occurred in the World for more than a century...

While academically improving yourselves also, I, as Ceylin Umay Köylü, sincerely hope you have fun during the conference. MUN events brought me amazing friends that I would not have even dreamed of. I wholeheartedly wish you to gain friendships and enjoy every single second of the conference.

We were the past, we are the present and we will be the future. I wish you all to find your importance and purpose in the World.

Yours Faithfully,  
Secretary-General  
Ceylin Umay Köylü

## **2. Letter From Under Secretary General**

Hello Distinguished Delegates of BALMUN'24 Conference

I welcome you all to the first General Assembly Committee DISEC as the Under Secretary General. My name is Emre Tahmaz and I am a senior in Büyükçekmece Private Doğa Anatolian High School. Before starting to the academic part of the study guide I want to thank Ceylin Umay Köylü our Secretary General for inviting me, my Co-Under Secretary General Hakkı Yılmaz Yılmaz for helping me and accepting my invite, my President and Deputy Chairs Mert and Baran for their upcoming efforts and to the Organization team for making this experience possible.

Besides that, it is my pleasure to present this study guide to you, which will inform you thoroughly about the topic that will concern you during our sessions. I insist you read and study upon this guide for better and more challenging debates.

I believe that we will have 4 amazing days in our committee while debating and finding solutions to our related agenda topic.

Furthermore, you can contact me whenever and whatever during the day or night.

Are you ready to unite for a nuclear-free future?

Sincerely,

Emre Tahmaz

Under Secretary General of the 1st General Assembly Disarmament and International Security Committee

My number: +90 534 898 70 36

### 3. Introduction to the Committee “Disarmament and International Security (First General Assembly Committee)”:

Introduction To The Committee Disarmament and Security Committee, or shortly DISEC is the first of the six General Assembly committees. It deals with issues regarding the usage of any and all kinds of weaponry, ways to prevent or reduce their presence and the security of the people in general. The Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC) was created when the charter of the United Nations was signed in 1945, and it is the first committee in the United Nations General Assembly.

There are two main bodies that report to DISEC: the Disarmament Commission (UNDC) and the conference on Disarmament (CD). UNODA provides substantial support in the disarmament of weapons of mass destruction such as **nuclear**, chemical and biological weapons. **Its aim is to enhance the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.** In addition UNODA cooperates with relevant international organizations and specialized agencies of the UN, in particular **IAEA**, the OPCW and the CTBTO PrepCom, and also supports multilateral treaties such as the **Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty** and the Biological Weapons Convention.

The Conference of Disarmament (CD) is made up of 65 member states, including the five NPT **nuclear weapon** states. The conference focuses on issues such as transparency in armaments, **prevention of nuclear war**, cessation of the **nuclear arms race** and **nuclear disarmament**, transparency in armaments, effective international arrangements to assure **non-nuclear-weapon states against the use of nuclear weapons**.

All resolutions passed by DISEC are non-binding resolutions and must be formatted as recommendations to the 193 nations in the committee. DISEC sessions are split into three distinctive stages: (1) general debate, (2) thematic discussions and (3) actions and drafts. These debates take up to several days or weeks, and though this won't be the exact procedure for our conference, it is important that you keep this information in order to understand why and how we do the procedure during the conference.

#### 4. Key Terms

**Nuclear Energy:** Nuclear energy is a form of energy released during nuclear reactions. It can be produced through nuclear fission, where the nucleus of an atom is split, releasing a significant amount of energy. This process is harnessed in nuclear power plants to generate electricity. Nuclear energy is known for its high energy density but comes with challenges such as radioactive waste disposal and safety concerns.

**Proliferation:** Proliferation generally refers to the rapid increase or spread of something. In the context of nuclear weapons, nuclear proliferation specifically refers to the spread of nuclear weapons and technology to additional countries or entities beyond those that already possess them. It's often a concern in international relations and security, as it raises the risk of nuclear weapons being used or falling into the wrong hands. Efforts to prevent nuclear proliferation include international treaties, diplomatic initiatives, and non-proliferation agreements.

**IAEA:** The IAEA, or the International Atomic Energy Agency, is an international organization that promotes the peaceful use of nuclear energy while preventing its use for any military purpose, including nuclear weapons. It conducts inspections and provides guidance on nuclear safety and security measures. Essentially, it works to ensure that nuclear technology is used for peaceful purposes and to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons.

**Nuclear Arms Race:** The nuclear arms race refers to a competition between nations to acquire and build up their stockpiles of nuclear weapons. During the Cold War, the United States and the Soviet Union engaged in a prominent nuclear arms race, each striving to outpace the other in terms of the quantity and capability of their nuclear arsenals. This competition heightened global tensions and was marked by the development and testing of increasingly powerful and sophisticated nuclear weapons. The arms race eventually led to arms control agreements aimed at limiting the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

**Nuclear Weapon:** A nuclear weapon is an explosive device that relies on nuclear reactions, either fission or fusion, to release an enormous amount of destructive energy. These weapons have the potential for widespread and devastating impact, and their development and use are subject to strict international regulations due to the significant risks and consequences associated with nuclear explosions.

**Nuclear Disarmament:** Nuclear disarmament is the process of reducing or eliminating the stockpiles of nuclear weapons held by nations. It involves agreements, negotiations, and concerted efforts to achieve a world free from nuclear weapons. The goal is to promote global security by reducing the risk of nuclear warfare and preventing the proliferation of these highly destructive weapons. Treaties and diplomatic initiatives, such as the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), aim to encourage nations to disarm and work towards a world without nuclear weapons.

**Mass Destruction:** Mass destruction refers to the capability of causing widespread and severe damage or harm, typically on a large scale. It often relates to weapons or events that can cause extensive destruction to infrastructure, ecosystems, or human life. The term is commonly associated with weapons of mass destruction (WMDs), such as nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons, which have the potential to inflict massive and indiscriminate damage. The concept underscores the seriousness and scale of the impact that certain weapons or events can have on a broad scale.

**Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty:** The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) is an international treaty aimed at preventing the spread of nuclear weapons and promoting peaceful uses of nuclear energy. It has three main pillars: preventing the spread of nuclear weapons and nuclear weapon technology (non-proliferation), promoting peaceful uses of nuclear energy (cooperation), and working towards nuclear disarmament. The NPT is a cornerstone of global efforts to control the spread of nuclear weapons, with countries either classified as nuclear-armed (recognized nuclear-weapon states) or non-nuclear-armed (non-nuclear-weapon states) under the treaty. The NPT is intended to create a balance between the pursuit of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes and the prevention of nuclear weapons proliferation.

## **5. History of Nuclear Energy, Past Usage of Nuclear Weapons and Incidents and Practices for Its Forestallment**

### **5.1.1 Early Discoveries (Late 19th to Early 20th Century):**

The early discoveries related to nuclear energy began in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Scientists like Henri Becquerel, Marie Curie, and Pierre Curie made crucial contributions to understanding radioactivity, the phenomenon where certain materials emit radiation spontaneously. Marie Curie's work on the isolation of radium and polonium furthered our knowledge of radioactive elements.

In 1905, Albert Einstein's theory of relativity introduced the famous equation  $E=mc^2$ , which highlighted the equivalence of mass and energy. This theoretical foundation laid the groundwork for understanding how nuclear reactions could release a tremendous amount of energy.

The discovery of the neutron by James Chadwick in 1932 was another key milestone. Neutrons are neutral subatomic particles, and their identification was crucial for understanding nuclear reactions, particularly the process of nuclear fission.

Finally, in 1938, Otto Hahn and Fritz Strassmann discovered nuclear fission—the splitting of an atomic nucleus into smaller fragments. This groundbreaking discovery opened the door to harnessing nuclear energy for various purposes, eventually leading to both peaceful applications and the development of nuclear weapons.

### **5.1.2 Theory of Relativity and Mass-Energy Equivalence (1905-1915):**

The Theory of Relativity, developed by Albert Einstein, consists of two main parts: Special Relativity and General Relativity. Mass-Energy Equivalence is a concept that arises from Special Relativity.

#### **Special Relativity (1905):**

Einstein's Special Relativity revolutionized our understanding of space and time. One of its key principles is that the laws of physics are the same for all observers in unaccelerated motion. This led to the famous equation  $E=mc^2$ , where:

- **E** represents energy,
- **m** is mass,
- **c** is the speed of light in a vacuum (approximately  $3 \times 10^8$  meters per second).



## Mass-Energy Equivalence:

$E=mc^2$  expresses the equivalence of mass and energy. It suggests that mass can be converted into energy and vice versa. In simple terms, a small amount of mass can be converted into a large amount of energy. This concept has profound implications, especially in the realm of nuclear reactions.

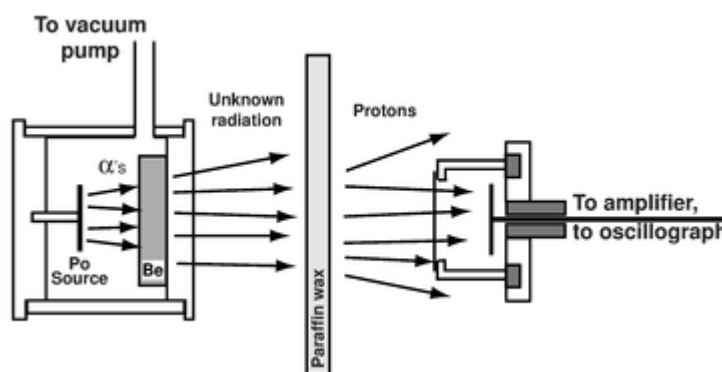
For example, in a nuclear reaction like nuclear fission (the splitting of an atomic nucleus), a tiny amount of mass is converted into a significant amount of energy, as dictated by  $E=mc^2$ . This principle is fundamental to understanding the energy release in processes like nuclear power generation and the detonation of nuclear weapons.

In essence, the Mass-Energy Equivalence highlighted the interconvertibility of mass and energy, providing a theoretical foundation for understanding the incredible energy released in nuclear reactions.

### 5.1.3 Neutron Discovery (1932):

In 1932, James Chadwick made a groundbreaking discovery that revolutionized our understanding of atomic structure. He identified the existence of the neutron, a subatomic particle with no electric charge, located in the atomic nucleus.

Chadwick's discovery was crucial because it addressed a key puzzle in nuclear physics at the time. Scientists knew that atomic nuclei contained positively charged protons, but the repulsion between these protons posed a problem. According to electromagnetic principles, charges repel each other, so it seemed unlikely that protons alone could hold the positively charged nucleus together.



*James Chadwick's Experiment*

Chadwick's experiments involved bombarding beryllium with alpha particles (helium nuclei). The resulting radiation contained a neutral, penetrating component that could not be deflected by electric or magnetic fields, unlike the positively charged alpha

particles. Chadwick concluded that this neutral radiation consisted of a previously unknown particle—the neutron.

The discovery of the neutron provided a solution to the nuclear stability problem. Neutrons, being electrically neutral, could move within the nucleus without experiencing the electromagnetic repulsion faced by positively charged protons. This insight was crucial for the understanding of nuclear reactions, particularly the process of nuclear fission, and laid the foundation for the development of nuclear technologies.

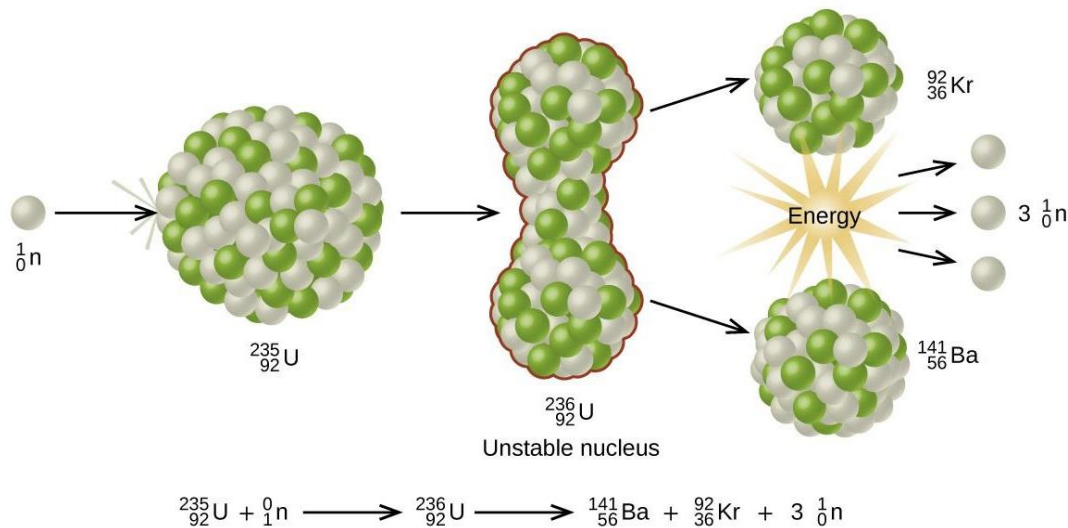
#### **5.1.4 Discovery of Nuclear Fission (1938):**

In 1938, Otto Hahn and Fritz Strassmann, German chemists, made a groundbreaking discovery that would change the course of science and technology. Working with uranium, they observed unexpected results when bombarding it with neutrons.

The traditional understanding was that when uranium absorbed a neutron, it would increase in atomic weight by one unit. However, Hahn and Strassmann found that the products of their experiments didn't match this expectation. After careful analysis, they reached a surprising conclusion: the uranium nucleus had split into two smaller fragments.

This phenomenon, later termed nuclear fission, was a revolutionary discovery. Lise Meitner, an Austrian physicist who had fled Nazi Germany, collaborated with her nephew Otto Frisch to provide the theoretical explanation for the observed fission process. They explained that the nucleus had indeed split into two parts, releasing a tremendous amount of energy.

This discovery had profound implications. It not only explained the anomalous results observed by Hahn and Strassmann but also opened the door to the harnessing of nuclear energy for both peaceful and destructive purposes. Nuclear fission became the basis for nuclear power generation and, unfortunately, also for the development of atomic bombs. The realization that a small amount of mass could be converted into a vast amount of energy, as described by Einstein's  $E=mc^2$ , underlined the immense power and potential consequences of nuclear fission.



*Schematic of Fission*

## 5.2 Past Usage of Nuclear Weapons and Incidents:

### 5.2.1 Manhattan Project (1942-1946)

The Manhattan Project was a top-secret research and development project undertaken during World War II to develop the first nuclear weapons. It was named after the Manhattan Engineer District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which oversaw the project.

The project began in 1939, driven by fears that Nazi Germany might develop atomic weapons. The United States, with the support of the United Kingdom and Canada, initiated an unprecedented collaborative effort to build atomic bombs.

Key scientists involved included Robert Oppenheimer, Enrico Fermi, and Richard Feynman. The project reached its climax with the successful test of the first atomic bomb, code-named "Trinity," in July 1945 in New Mexico.

The culmination of the Manhattan Project came with the deployment of two atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of **Hiroshima** and **Nagasaki** in **August 1945**. These bombings played a significant role in Japan's surrender, marking the end of World War II.

The Manhattan Project remains one of the most significant scientific and engineering endeavors in history, but it also raised profound ethical and moral questions about the use of nuclear weapons. It set the stage for the Cold War and initiated the nuclear arms race between the United States and the Soviet Union.

### 5.2.2 Atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki (1945)

The atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki were tragic events that occurred during the final stages of World War II.

#### 1. **Hiroshima (August 6, 1945):**

- The United States dropped the first atomic bomb, code-named "Little Boy," on the Japanese city of Hiroshima. The bomb utilized uranium-235 and exploded with a force equivalent to approximately 15,000 tons of TNT.
- The immediate impact was catastrophic, causing widespread destruction and resulting in the deaths of an estimated 140,000 people by the end of 1945. Many more suffered from injuries and long-term health effects due to radiation exposure.

#### 2. **Nagasaki (August 9, 1945):**

- Three days later, the U.S. dropped a second atomic bomb, code-named "Fat Man," on Nagasaki. This bomb used plutonium-239 and had a yield equivalent to about 21,000 tons of TNT.
- The bombing of Nagasaki led to the deaths of around 70,000 people by the end of 1945. The city, like Hiroshima, faced widespread destruction and long-term health consequences.

These bombings played a pivotal role in Japan's decision to surrender, bringing an end to World War II. The use of atomic weapons, however, sparked intense debates and ethical considerations due to the unprecedented scale of destruction and the long-term effects of radiation on survivors.

The bombings had a lasting impact on global geopolitics, contributing to the beginning of the nuclear arms race during the Cold War. The events also spurred international efforts to control and regulate the use of nuclear weapons, leading to the establishment of organizations such as the United Nations and efforts like the **Non-Proliferation Treaty**.

### 5.2.3 Post-War Nuclear Power Development (1945-1950s):

In the post-war period from 1945 to the 1950s, nuclear power development shifted from wartime applications to peaceful uses. President Eisenhower's "Atoms for Peace" initiative marked a turning point, advocating for international cooperation in using nuclear technology for electricity generation. The 1950s witnessed the

establishment of experimental and commercial nuclear power plants, such as the Shippingport Atomic Power Station. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) was established in 1957 to promote peaceful nuclear use globally. Peaceful nuclear cooperation agreements facilitated the exchange of technology, contributing to the optimism surrounding nuclear power's potential. This era saw technological advances, research, and the beginning of nuclear power's growth as a significant energy source.

#### **5.2.4 The Three Mile Island accident (1979) and the Chernobyl disaster (1986)**

The Three Mile Island accident occurred on March 28, 1979, at a nuclear power plant in Pennsylvania, USA. It involved a partial reactor meltdown, releasing a small amount of radioactive gases. Although there were no immediate casualties, it led to increased regulatory oversight and changes in emergency response procedures, impacting public confidence in nuclear power in the United States.

The Chernobyl disaster took place on April 26, 1986, at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant in Ukraine. A safety test gone wrong caused a catastrophic explosion, releasing a significant amount of radioactive materials. It resulted in immediate deaths, long-term health effects, and the evacuation of nearby towns. The disaster had global implications, prompting reassessments of nuclear safety standards and emergency preparedness.

### **5.3 Past Practices for Its Forestallment :**

#### **5.3.1 Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) - 1968:**

Established in 1968, the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) is a pivotal international agreement with three core objectives. Firstly, it aims to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons by distinguishing between nuclear-armed states and non-nuclear-armed states. The latter commit to refraining from developing or acquiring nuclear weapons, while being granted access to peaceful nuclear technology for energy purposes. Secondly, the treaty encourages international collaboration in the peaceful use of nuclear energy, under the oversight of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Lastly, the NPT calls for nuclear-armed states to pursue disarmament, emphasizing the ultimate goal of a world without nuclear weapons. The treaty undergoes regular reviews to assess its implementation and address evolving challenges. Despite its impact on shaping global norms regarding nuclear weapons and energy, the NPT faces ongoing challenges and critiques.

### **5.3.2 International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) - 1957:**

Established in 1957, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is a specialized agency under the United Nations system. Its primary objective is to promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy while preventing its use for any military purpose, including the development of nuclear weapons. The IAEA achieves this through various means, including international inspections and safeguards to ensure that nuclear materials are used exclusively for peaceful purposes. It provides technical assistance, conducts research, and facilitates cooperation among member states in the development and application of nuclear technologies. The IAEA plays a vital role in enhancing the transparency and accountability of the global nuclear community, contributing to nuclear safety, security, and non-proliferation efforts.

### **5.3.3 Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) - 1996:**

Adopted in 1996, the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) is an international treaty aimed at prohibiting all nuclear explosions for both civilian and military purposes. Its primary goal is to curb the development and testing of nuclear weapons, contributing to global non-proliferation efforts. The CTBT establishes a comprehensive verification system, including an International Monitoring System (IMS), to detect and deter potential nuclear tests. While the treaty has been signed by a large number of countries, its entry into force is contingent upon ratification by specific key states. The CTBT represents a significant step towards nuclear disarmament and the prevention of nuclear weapons testing on a global scale.

### **5.3.4 Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) - 2003:**

Established in 2003, the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) is an international effort aimed at preventing the trafficking of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs), their delivery systems, and related materials. This initiative involves voluntary cooperation among participating countries to interdict and seize such shipments, thereby curbing the proliferation of WMDs. The PSI is characterized by its flexible and dynamic nature, allowing member states to coordinate actions on a case-by-case basis. By promoting collaboration in intelligence-sharing, maritime interdiction exercises, and legal frameworks, the PSI seeks to strengthen global efforts to counter the illicit trafficking of materials that could contribute to the development of weapons of mass destruction.

## **6. Nuclear energy in today's world:**

In the contemporary world, nuclear energy stands as a crucial player in the global energy mix. On one hand, it presents itself as a low-carbon option, contributing to efforts to combat climate change. Its capacity for providing stable baseload power makes it a reliable source, ensuring a consistent supply of electricity. Ongoing advancements in reactor technologies, such as small modular reactors, hint at the potential for safer and more efficient nuclear energy solutions.

However, challenges persist. Safety concerns stemming from historical incidents, such as Chernobyl and Fukushima, continue to shape public perception. The high initial costs associated with constructing nuclear power plants pose economic challenges, especially when compared to the decreasing costs of renewable energy alternatives. Managing nuclear waste remains a significant hurdle, requiring sustainable solutions for long-term storage.

In the face of these challenges, nuclear energy competes with the rapid growth of renewable energy sources like solar and wind. The evolving energy landscape, coupled with the need for secure and sustainable energy solutions, raises questions about the role nuclear energy will play in the future. Addressing safety, economic, and waste management concerns will be pivotal in determining the trajectory of nuclear energy in the contemporary and future energy scenarios.

## **7. Questions needs to be addressed in resolution paper:**

- a. How can we reduce the usage of nuclear energy?*
- b. What can we do to prevent any nuclear war?*
- c. Ways to prevent any nuclear race?*
- ç. Can we bring a limitation to nuclear energy/weapon manufacturing?*
- d. How to achieve a nuclear free world?*

## 8. Requirements for BALMUN'24

This committee of BALMUN'24 requires a position paper which is written by you. Your position papers will be sent to the academics of the GA:1 DISEC Committee.

*Under-Secretary-General:* [emrtt2006@gmail.com](mailto:emrtt2006@gmail.com)

*Under-Secretary-General:* [hyy6134@gmail.com](mailto:hyy6134@gmail.com)

At the very first session of BALMUN'24, all committees shall begin the session with opening speeches lasting for one minute.

### 8.1 Position Paper Examples

**Forum:** High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

**Topic:** Russian Ukrainian conflict and its effects on refugees

**Submitter:** Iraq

As a former ally to the USSR, Iraq. We used to have relations with Russia, Ukraine, Georgia, Belorussia, Uzbekistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia under one name USSR. But in 1991, the Soviet Union was broken into pieces with the collapse of its communist government. Unfortunately, now the Russian Federation claims ownership of the land of Ukraine, and they are cruelly attacking Ukraine to claim the land they say. Which is a term named Annexation. Additionally in the time of 20 Mar 2003, the United States of America tried to do the same with a similar purpose in our country. When it's happening, Russia and France supported us against this invasion, and we must say that we are thankful for the support they made. Therefore, as Iraq, we must help both our former alliance for the peace and the sake of their own people.

The war has severely impacted social cohesion, community security and the resilience of local communities, especially women and girls. Lack of access to social services including schools and strained community resources have increased the care burden of local people and caused a worry in their life. This worry influenced them to legally or illegally immigrate to Ukraine. Nearly 2.9 million refugees from Ukraine due to the Russian invasion were recorded in Russia as of October 3, 2022. Furthermore, over 1.5 million were reported to have fled to Poland as of December 6, 2022. In total, over 7.8 million Ukrainian refugees were registered across Europe. This war also affected the Russians in Ukraine, on February 24 when the invasion started, immigration authorities stopped accepting documents from Russian passport holders and Third-Country Nationals like students from Iran, Iraq, Egypt etc. Thus this action made them illegal immigrants in Ukraine.

Ukrainians, Russians and the third-country nationals who were living in Ukraine are terribly affected by the things caused by war. For all of them this war should be ended. Or massive territorial genocide will be colossal. This action is harmful for both mental and physical health. If this situation continues, they might have to continue their life traumatized



by the war even if they are safe.

Thankfully, host countries like Poland and Romania accepted these asylum seekers to their countries as refugees. But in some countries, racism and xenophobia. Which is the last thing we want right now. Furthermore, the ones that were not lucky enough to immigrate to these countries, they followed an illegal path. These illegal ways ended up some of them caught in human trafficking. They are being tricked into recruitment, transportation, and hope for escaping war zones and when they are tricked, human smugglers use them for profit purposes like forced labor, sexual exploitation, debt bondage, etc. Individuals of all ages and sexes can be a victim for trafficking, however, some can possess vulnerabilities that make them more likely to be taken advantage of. Like children they are easier to trick and manipulate. Which made them the number one focus of human smugglers

Therefore as The Republic of Iraq, we are here to provide a shelter, food and better place for them. UNHCR for sure will be a platform to discuss, share and unite.

# **BALMUN'24**

## **UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY - FIRST COMMITTEE - DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY (DISEC)**

**Agenda Item: Ensuring Security and Stability in Post-Conflict Syria**

### **Table of Content**

- 1. Letter From the Secretary General.**
- 2. Letter From the Under Secretary General.**
- 3. Key Terms.**
- 4. The Refugee Crisis in Syria**
- 5. Major Parties Involved**
- 6. How the Civil War started**
- 7. The Current Situation of the Civil War**
- 8. Questions to be addressed**
- 9. Requirements for the committee**

## **1. Letter From the Secretary-General.**

Most Esteemed Participants,

As the Secretary-General of the conference, it is my utmost pleasure to welcome you all to the very first edition of BALMUN'24.

The World is changing in various and major impacts. Every single day, another crisis occurs in a different location on Earth. Policies are changing, economies are changing, and even the human culture is changing. However, the only thing that does not change is the humanity's desire to achieve their own interests. This desire has been the main factor in the establishment of the global system in the past, present, and future.

At this conference, we aimed to show you the real politics, the truth behind the curtains, and provide a full United Nations simulation experience for you. We created eight wonderful committees that contain all the political aspects of the past, present, and future. We are expecting a lot from you to find initiative solutions for crises, successfully cooperate with other ideologies, have lasting reconciliation for the problems which occurred in the World more than a century...

While academically improving yourselves also, I, as Ceylin Umay Köylü, sincerely hope you have fun during the conference. MUN events brought me amazing friends that I would not have even dreamed of. I wholeheartedly wish you to gain friendships and enjoy every single second of the conference.

We were the past, we are the present and we will be the future. I wish you to all find your importance and purpose in the World.

Yours Faithfully,

Secretary-General

Ceylin Umay Köylü

## **2. Letter From the Under Secretary-General**

Dear Delegates,

It is quite an honor to serve as the Under Secretary General of this committee and it is my greatest pleasure to welcome you all. I extend my warmest greetings to every single one of you.

First and foremost, I'd like to express my enthusiasm towards BALMUN'24, this is a conference where brilliant minds will come together to solve many obstacles and problems in world politics, so as I said it is really an honor to be among you delegates to enjoy the four days that we will be together.

Our committee, GA:1 DISEC is the pinnacle of enforcing world peace and a future where all sorts of gun violence is aspired to be eradicated, with this vision that we all share together, I have no doubt that we will all have an unforgettable experience full of exciting and heated debates as well as fruitful resolutions in the end.

Finally, with an agenda that has never been discussed anywhere before, we will be great examples to any young minds in our country that are heavily affected by the agenda.

Feel free to contact me through my e-mail or my instagram account which I'll be sharing with you.

Sincerely, Hakkı Yılmaz  
Co-Under Secretary-General of GA:1 DISEC.

My email. [hyy6134@gmail.com](mailto:hyy6134@gmail.com)

My instagram account: [@yilmazerhakkiiilmaz](https://www.instagram.com/yilmazerhakkiiilmaz)

### 3. Key Terms.

**Syrian Civil War:** The Syrian Civil War, which erupted in 2011, is a complex and devastating conflict that emerged against the backdrop of the Arab Spring protests. Initially sparked by discontent with the authoritarian rule of President Bashar al-Assad and demands for political reforms, the situation escalated rapidly into a multifaceted conflict involving various domestic and international actors. The war has been characterized by the brutality of the Assad regime, the rise of extremist groups like ISIS, and the involvement of regional and global powers supporting different factions. The conflict has resulted in widespread displacement, humanitarian crises, and significant loss of life. International efforts to find a peaceful resolution have faced numerous challenges, reflecting the deep-seated complexities and geopolitical dimensions of the Syrian crisis.

**Misplacing:** Misplacing involves the forced movement of a significant portion of the population due to conflict, violence, and insecurity. The Syrian Civil War has led to one of the most extensive humanitarian crises of our time, with millions of Syrians internally displaced and millions more seeking refuge in neighboring countries and beyond. The displacement has resulted in dire living conditions, strained resources in host communities, and a multitude of challenges for both the displaced individuals and the countries providing shelter. The misplacement of millions of Syrians reflects the devastating impact of the conflict on civilian lives, highlighting the urgent need for international assistance and efforts to address the root causes of the crisis.

**Corruption:** Corruption in government is a serious and pervasive issue that can have far-reaching consequences for the functioning of a state and the well-being of its citizens. When public officials engage in corrupt practices, such as bribery, embezzlement, or nepotism, it undermines the principles of good governance, erodes public trust, and diverts resources away from essential services. Combatting corruption requires a multifaceted approach, including robust legal frameworks, effective anti-corruption institutions, transparency measures, and a commitment to accountability. International cooperation and public awareness campaigns are also essential in fostering a culture that rejects corruption. While progress can be made, addressing corruption in government remains an ongoing challenge that requires sustained efforts at both national and international levels.

**Syrian Civil War:** The Syrian Civil War, commencing in 2011, is a multifaceted conflict stemming from discontent with President Bashar al-Assad's rule and demands for political reforms. The conflict quickly evolved into a complex struggle, involving various domestic and international actors, compounded by the emergence of extremist groups like ISIS and the intervention of global powers supporting different factions. The war has led to extensive displacement, humanitarian crises, and substantial loss of life. Efforts to achieve a peaceful resolution encounter significant challenges, reflecting the intricate complexities and geopolitical dimensions of the Syrian crisis. This conflict not only profoundly impacts the Syrian population but also presents global ramifications, emphasizing the intricate nature of contemporary conflicts and the imperative to find sustainable solutions.

**Refugee:** A refugee is an individual who has been forced to flee their home country due to a well-founded fear of persecution based on factors such as race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group. The term also applies to those compelled to leave their country because of armed conflict, widespread violence, or other circumstances seriously disrupting public order. Refugees seek safety in other nations, often facing immense challenges and uncertainties. International legal frameworks, particularly the 1951 Refugee Convention, define the rights and protections afforded to refugees, emphasizing the need for the international community to offer support and asylum to those escaping perilous conditions.

**Arab Spring:** The Arab Spring refers to a series of pro-democracy uprisings and socio-political movements that swept across the Arab world, beginning in late 2010. Sparked by discontent with autocratic regimes, widespread corruption, economic inequalities, and a desire for political reforms, the Arab Spring saw mass demonstrations, protests, and activism in countries such as Tunisia, Egypt, Libya, Yemen, Bahrain, and Syria. The movement, largely facilitated by social media and communication technologies, led to the overthrow of some long-standing authoritarian leaders, such as Tunisia's Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and Egypt's Hosni Mubarak. While the outcomes varied across countries, the Arab Spring had a profound impact on the region, challenging existing power structures, inspiring hopes for democratic change, and highlighting the complex interplay between popular aspirations and the entrenched realities of governance in the Arab world.

**Paramilitary:** Paramilitary groups are non-state armed entities that operate with a level of organization and weaponry resembling military forces but are not part of the official armed forces. Often motivated by political, ideological, or criminal objectives, paramilitary groups exist in various contexts worldwide. In the context of conflicts like the Syrian Civil War or other asymmetric conflicts, paramilitary groups may play a significant role, acting independently or in collaboration with state forces. These groups can further complicate the security landscape, contributing to instability and posing challenges to peace and security efforts. The term "paramilitary" encompasses a wide range of organizations, from irregular militias to quasi-official forces, and their activities may involve combat, intelligence, or other support roles.

**Bashar al-Assad:** Bashar al-Assad, born in 1965, has been the President of Syria since 2000, succeeding his father, Hafez al-Assad. His presidency has been marked by authoritarian rule, characterized by limited political freedoms and a lack of tolerance for dissent. Bashar al-Assad's leadership became a focal point of the Syrian Civil War, which erupted in 2011 amidst calls for political reforms and greater democracy. Accusations of human rights abuses, including the use of chemical weapons against civilians, have been leveled against his government. While maintaining support from allies such as Russia and Iran, Assad's role in the conflict has been a subject of international criticism, with calls for accountability and a political resolution to the ongoing crisis in Syria.

**Rojava:** Rojava is a semi-autonomous region in northeastern Syria, is predominantly inhabited by Kurdish populations. Established in the midst of the Syrian Civil War, Rojava, officially known as the Autonomous Administration of North and East Syria (NES), has gained international attention for its unique political experiment. Governed by a system inspired by democratic confederalism and gender equality principles, Rojava aims to build a decentralized and inclusive society. The region's armed forces, including the People's Protection Units (YPG) and Women's Protection Units (YPJ), have played a pivotal role in countering the threat of ISIS and defending the region's autonomy. However, Rojava faces challenges, including geopolitical complexities, disputes with neighboring powers, and the broader dynamics of the Syrian conflict, as it strives to establish a model for coexistence, self-governance, and pluralism in the midst of a tumultuous regional context.

**ISIS:** ISIS, or the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, is a terrorist organization that emerged in the early 2000s. Formally known as ISIL (Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant) or Daesh, it seeks to establish a caliphate based on a radical interpretation of Sunni Islam. Notorious for its extreme brutality, including mass executions and the use of social media for propaganda, ISIS gained global attention during its territorial expansion in Iraq and Syria. The group's actions have led to widespread condemnation, and concerted international efforts have been made to counter its influence and military capabilities.

#### 4. The Refugee Crisis in Syria

The Syrian refugee crisis is a profound humanitarian tragedy that unfolded in the wake of the Syrian Civil War, which began in 2011. The conflict has resulted in one of the largest and most complex displacement crises of the 21st century, forcing millions of Syrians to flee their homes in search of safety, stability, and a chance for a better future. The crisis has not only had a devastating impact on the lives of individuals and families but has also posed immense challenges for neighboring countries and the international community.

The scale of the Syrian refugee crisis is staggering. According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), by 2024, over 6.7 million Syrians have sought refuge outside their country, while an additional 6.6 million are internally displaced. The majority of Syrian refugees have sought shelter in neighboring countries such as Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, and Iraq, placing an enormous strain on their resources and infrastructure. Turkey alone has become home to millions of Syrian refugees, creating a complex socio-economic dynamic as host communities try to absorb the influx.

The reasons for displacement are diverse and often interlinked. Civilians have fled their homes due to the indiscriminate violence, human rights abuses, and the use of chemical weapons by various actors in the conflict, including the Assad government, rebel forces, and extremist groups. Additionally, the collapse of essential services, economic opportunities, and educational institutions further fueled the exodus. Discrimination, persecution, and the destruction of communities have compelled many Syrians to abandon their homes in search of safety.

The living conditions for Syrian refugees vary, but many face dire circumstances. Overcrowded and under-resourced refugee camps, inadequate access to healthcare, education, and employment opportunities, and the constant fear of an uncertain future are daily challenges. Vulnerable groups, including women, children, and the elderly, are particularly at risk, facing heightened threats of exploitation, abuse, and recruitment by armed groups.

The Syrian refugee crisis has also highlighted the limitations and shortcomings of the international response. While host countries and humanitarian organizations have made commendable efforts to provide aid, the sheer magnitude of the crisis has strained available resources. Funding shortfalls, political tensions, and logistical challenges have hindered the delivery of essential services, exacerbating the suffering of the displaced population.

Efforts to address the Syrian refugee crisis extend beyond immediate humanitarian assistance. The need for long-term solutions, including diplomatic initiatives to end the Syrian Civil War, reconstruction efforts, and the promotion of stability in the region, remains crucial. International collaboration, cooperation among neighboring countries, and sustained support



from the global community are imperative to mitigate the impact of the crisis and pave the way for a more secure and prosperous future for the misplaced Syrians.

In conclusion, the Syrian refugee crisis is a tragic consequence of the protracted and complex conflict in Syria. The displacement of millions has created a humanitarian challenge of unprecedented scale, demanding a comprehensive and sustained response from the international community. While providing immediate assistance is essential, addressing the root causes of the conflict and supporting long-term solutions are crucial steps toward rebuilding shattered lives and communities. The Syrian refugee crisis underscores the urgent need for collective action, empathy, and a commitment to upholding the rights and dignity of those affected by one of the most significant displacement crises in recent history.

#### **4.1 Misplaced Population**

The phenomenon of misplaced population in Syria is a tragic consequence of the protracted and devastating Syrian Civil War, leading to widespread internal displacement and creating a complex humanitarian crisis. The displacement crisis involves millions of Syrians who have been forced to flee their homes due to conflict, violence, and insecurity. Internal displacement often results from the intense and shifting frontlines of the conflict, as well as the deliberate targeting of civilian populations. Displaced Syrians face daunting challenges, including the loss of homes, livelihoods, and access to essential services. Many find themselves in makeshift camps or overcrowded urban areas, living in precarious conditions with limited access to adequate shelter, food, and medical care.

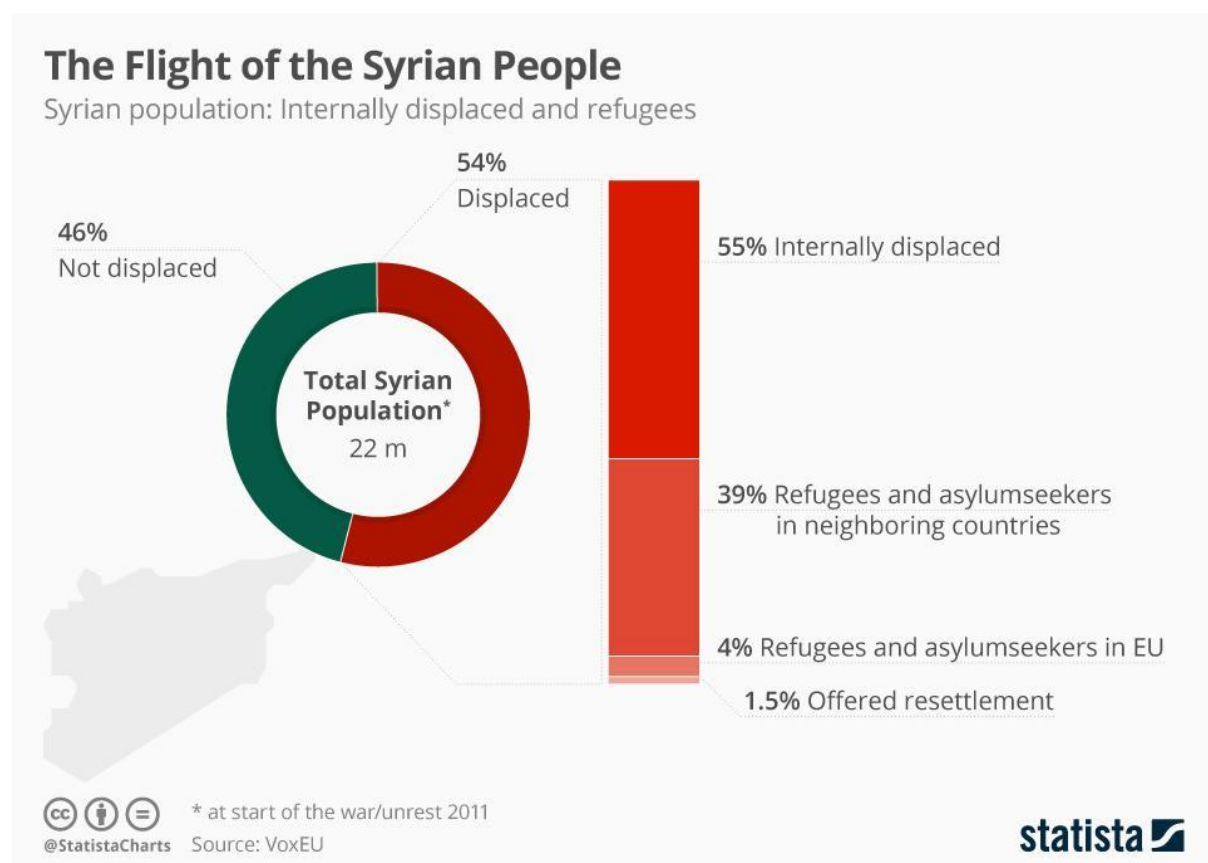
The displacement crisis within Syria has strained the country's social fabric and infrastructure, with cities and towns grappling to accommodate the sudden influx of displaced populations. The displaced individuals and families often endure profound psychological trauma and the disruption of social networks. Children, in particular, face significant disruptions to their education and overall well-being, contributing to the risk of a "lost generation."

The root causes of internal displacement in Syria are complex and multifaceted, involving not only the direct impact of armed conflict but also the collapse of basic services, economic opportunities, and social structures. Discrimination, sectarian tensions, and the targeting of specific ethnic or religious groups have further contributed to the displacement crisis.

Efforts to address the challenges associated with misplaced populations within Syria require a comprehensive approach. This includes providing humanitarian assistance, ensuring access to education and healthcare, and addressing the root causes of the conflict to create conditions conducive to safe return and sustainable reintegration. Local and international organizations, along with host communities, play a crucial role in supporting the displaced population and alleviating the humanitarian consequences of internal displacement.

As the Syrian conflict continues, finding durable solutions for the misplaced population remains a pressing priority. International cooperation, humanitarian aid, and diplomatic efforts to reach a peaceful resolution are essential components of mitigating the displacement crisis and fostering conditions that allow Syrians to rebuild their lives in their home country.

Data on the misplaced population in Syria reveals the staggering human impact of the ongoing conflict. As of the latest available statistics, there are over 6.6 million internally displaced Syrians within the country's borders, according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). These individuals have been forced to flee their homes due to the relentless violence, insecurity, and collapsing infrastructure resulting from the Syrian Civil War. The displacement crisis has led to overcrowded living conditions, with many Syrians seeking refuge in makeshift camps or densely populated urban areas, facing acute challenges in accessing basic necessities. Children, constituting a significant portion of the displaced population, confront disruptions to their education and are at risk of long-term psychological trauma. The profound humanitarian consequences underscore the urgency of addressing the root causes of the conflict, providing essential services, and fostering conditions for safe return and sustainable reintegration. The displaced population's resilience and the collective response of local and international actors remain pivotal in addressing this humanitarian crisis.

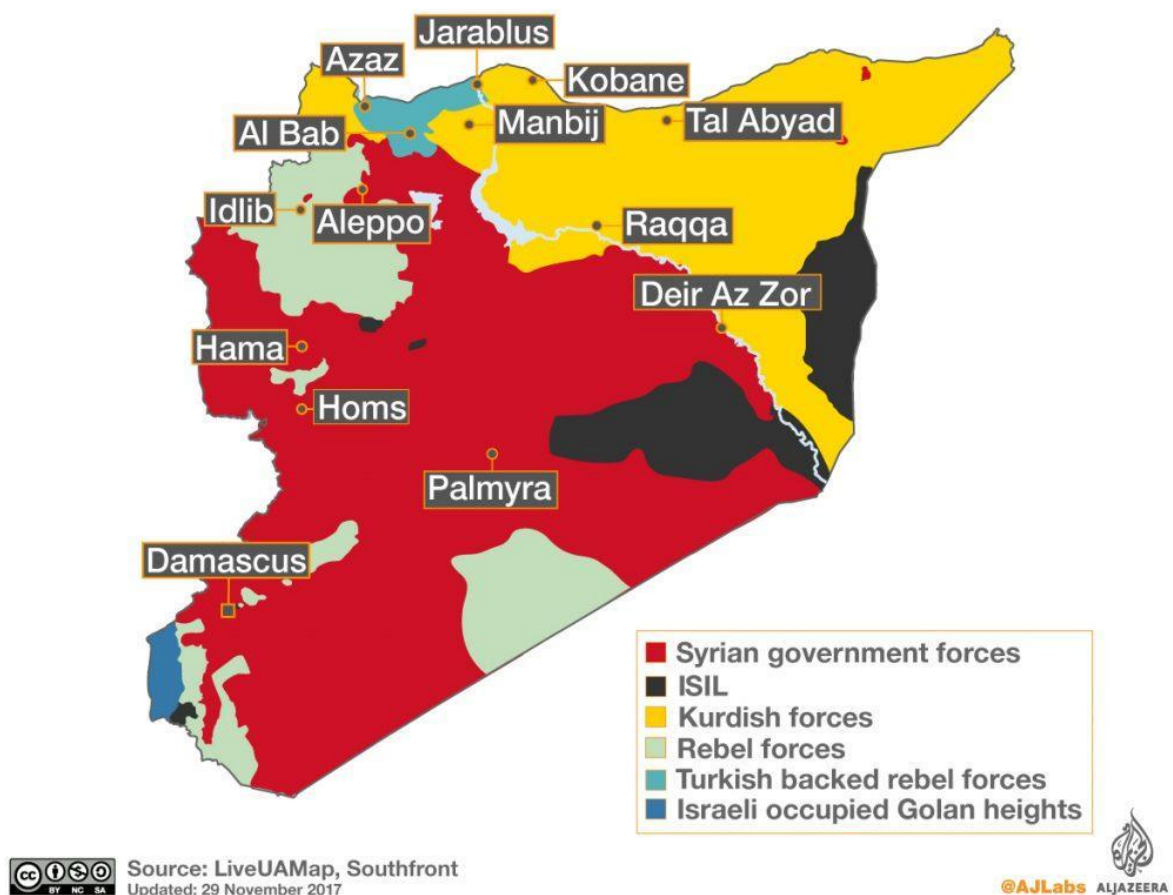


Here is a graph showing the percentage of displaced people in Syria.

## 5. Major Parties Involved

There are many foreign nations indulged with the Syrian Civil War at the moment and with that, there are several regions controlled by several parties ranging from the Government Forces, Rojava, Turkey, Russia, the U.S, ISIS, Hezbollah and the Rebel Forces.

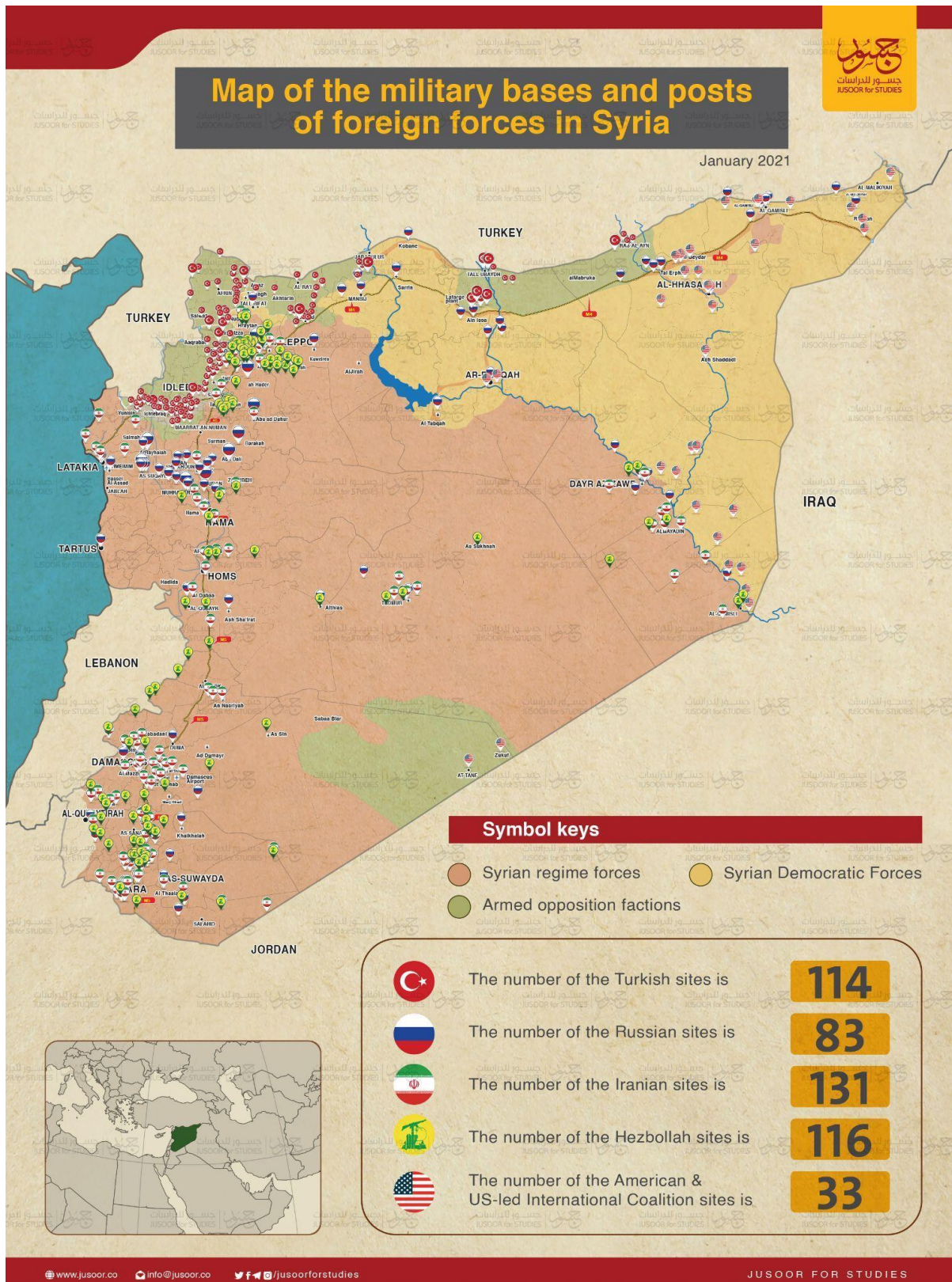
# Syria: Who controls what?



You can see the territory holders in Syria here.

Although there are rebel, government forces and a foreign country here occupying territories as shown in the map, there are many military bases held by Russia and U.S. This region also is home to many paramilitary forces (Wagner for example) and with all the parties active in the region, safety measures seem almost seem impossible which endangers and harms the citizens most.





Here is a map of all military bases that are located in Syria.

## **5.1 Paramilitary action in the civil war**

Paramilitary actions have played a significant and complex role in the Syrian Civil War, adding an additional layer of challenge to the already tumultuous conflict. Various paramilitary groups, distinct from the official armed forces, have emerged with different ideological, sectarian, and political motivations. These groups often operate semi-autonomously, aligning themselves with different factions, including the Assad government, rebel forces, or extremist organizations. Their involvement has intensified the violence and contributed to the fragmentation of the conflict, further complicating efforts towards a resolution. The activities of paramilitary groups in the Syrian Civil War range from direct combat and control of territories to carrying out targeted assassinations and human rights abuses, exacerbating the humanitarian crisis and hindering prospects for peace.

The dynamic presence of paramilitary forces has not only intensified the brutality of the conflict but has also raised concerns about the accountability and conduct of non-state actors in the conflict zone. Reports of human rights violations, including indiscriminate attacks on civilian populations, have been attributed to some paramilitary groups. The intertwining of political, ethnic, and sectarian motivations among these entities has fueled a cycle of violence and revenge, perpetuating the complexities of the Syrian Civil War. As the conflict continues, addressing the influence and actions of paramilitary groups remains a critical aspect of any comprehensive strategy aimed at achieving stability and fostering a path towards lasting peace in Syria.

## **5.2 Who is supporting who ?**

The Syrian Civil War is characterized by a complex web of international and regional actors supporting various factions, contributing to the prolonged nature of the conflict. The Assad government, facing opposition forces seeking political reforms, has received substantial support from Russia and Iran. Russia's military intervention in 2015 has been pivotal in bolstering the Assad regime, with air support, weaponry, and diplomatic backing. Iran, a longstanding ally, has provided military and financial assistance, including support from the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) and proxy militias.

On the other side, various opposition groups have received support from different external backers, adding layers of complexity to the conflict. The Free Syrian Army (FSA), composed of defected Syrian Armed Forces personnel and civilians, has received support from Western countries, including the United States and some European nations. Additionally, certain factions within the opposition have garnered backing from regional players like Turkey and Gulf states. The Kurdish forces, mainly the People's Protection Units (YPG) and Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), have received support from the United States in their fight against ISIS, leading to intricate alliances and tensions among the various actors involved in the Syrian Civil War.

## **6. How the Civil War started**

The origins of the Syrian Civil War are deeply rooted in a complex interplay of political, social, and economic factors that gained momentum in 2011, against the backdrop of the broader regional events known as the Arab Spring. The conflict began as a series of peaceful protests inspired by calls for political reforms and greater democracy in Syria. The initial grievances centered around decades of authoritarian rule under the Assad family, with President Bashar al-Assad succeeding his father, Hafez al-Assad, in 2000.

The discontent simmered for years, fueled by a repressive political environment, pervasive corruption, and economic challenges. The spark for the Syrian Civil War can be traced to mid-March 2011 when security forces detained a group of teenagers in the city of Daraa for painting anti-government graffiti. The arrests and subsequent harsh treatment of the detainees triggered public outrage, leading to widespread protests demanding their release and broader political reforms. Instead of addressing the grievances, the Syrian government responded with brutal force, deploying the military to quell the unrest. The violent crackdown further galvanized opposition, transforming the initially peaceful demonstrations into a full-fledged uprising against the Assad regime.

As the conflict escalated, disparate opposition groups emerged, including defected military personnel forming the Free Syrian Army (FSA) and various factions with diverse political and ideological agendas. The vacuum created by the weakening state control allowed extremist groups, most notably the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), to exploit the chaos and seize territory in Syria. Regional and international actors also became deeply involved, with Iran and Russia staunchly supporting the Assad government, while the United States and its allies provided varying degrees of support to different factions within the opposition.

The Syrian Civil War's complexity stems from a convergence of factors, including sectarian tensions, geopolitical rivalries, and the entanglement of numerous external actors with divergent interests. The conflict has resulted in widespread humanitarian crises, displacing millions of Syrians internally and externally. Efforts to find a political resolution have faced formidable challenges, reflecting the intricate nature of the Syrian crisis. The devastating consequences of the conflict continue to reverberate, highlighting the urgent need for diplomatic solutions and international cooperation to address the root causes and pave the way for a stable and inclusive future for Syria.

## **7. The current situation of the Civil War**

Currently, significant territorial gains have been made by the Syrian government, led by President Bashar al-Assad, with crucial support from Russia and Iran, the conflict remains highly complex and multifaceted. As of 2022, some regions were still contested, and pockets of resistance and rebel control persisted.

The situation in Syria is marked by a combination of ongoing military engagements, diplomatic initiatives, and humanitarian challenges. The conflict has resulted in a dire humanitarian crisis, with millions of Syrians displaced internally and externally. Reconstruction efforts are hampered by the destruction of infrastructure, economic challenges, and the lingering threat of extremist groups.

Key actors in the conflict include the Syrian government forces, various opposition factions, Kurdish forces, and external players such as Russia, Iran, Turkey, and the United States. The presence of foreign troops, especially Russian and Iranian forces supporting the Assad regime, adds a geopolitical dimension to the conflict. Additionally, the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), which received support from the U.S. in the fight against ISIS, has played a significant role in northern Syria.

Diplomatically, efforts to find a resolution to the Syrian conflict have faced numerous challenges. Multiple rounds of peace talks, including those held in Geneva and Astana (now Nur-Sultan), have seen limited success. The issue of chemical weapons use in the conflict has also been a matter of international concern, with accusations and denials involving various parties.

Humanitarian conditions within Syria remain severe, with access to basic services, healthcare, and education severely impacted. Displaced populations face challenging conditions in camps and host communities, and there are ongoing concerns about human rights abuses.

In conclusion, the Syrian Civil War, though transformed in certain aspects, continues to present a highly complex and fluid situation as of my last update. The conflict's resolution demands comprehensive international efforts, diplomatic initiatives, and a focus on addressing the root causes of the conflict to bring lasting stability to Syria.

## 8. Questions to be addressed

- a. How can we reduce the effects of the war against civilians?*
- b. What can we do to put an end to the refugee crisis?*
- c. Are there any ways to fix the displacement issue?*
- ç. How can the UN be involved with the situation, both militarily and humanitarian?*
- d. How to achieve a unified and stable Syria once more?*

## 9. Requirements for BALMUN'24

This committee of BALMUN'24 requires a position paper which is written by you. Your position papers will be sent to the academics of the GA:1 DISEC Committee.

*Under-Secretary-General:* [emrtt2006@gmail.com](mailto:emrtt2006@gmail.com)

*Under-Secretary-General:* [hyy6134@gmail.com](mailto:hyy6134@gmail.com)

At the very first session of BALMUN'24, all committees shall begin the session with opening speeches lasting for one minute.