

**Committee:** Security Council (SC)

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**Topic:** Addressing On-Going Situations in Arab Countries



## **I. INTRODUCTION**

The United Nations (UN) is an international organization that was founded in 1945 after the Second World Conflict. In this organization, more than fifty countries have been committed to maintain international peace, security and safeguard every individual's human rights. They develop strategies aimed to build and strengthen relations among nations and overcome worldwide issues in order to prevent hostilities of any kind.

The Security Council is part of the main organs of the UN. The Security Council's main purpose is to maintain international peace and security. There are fifteen members that are part of this organ, five of which are permanent and have the obligation to vote, (China, France, Russia, United States of America (U.S) and The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) the other ten non-permanent members are given a two years term permission to temporarily belong to the committee in question, and may not vote if intended. The non-permanent members are elected by the General Assembly (GA). It is important to mention that every member must comply with the council according to the UN charter.

The Security Council can take action in order to maintain and restore international peace and security, this under the Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter. The Arab countries have been facing problems that are decades-long problems, such as political violence, civil conflict, foreign military intervention, gender inequality, limited social protection coverage, and widespread human vulnerability owing to undeveloped economical growth and unmet basic needs.

## **II. HISTORY OF THE CONFLICT**

**March 1980:** The Iraqi National Assembly is formed.

**April 8, 1980:** Muhammad Baqir al-Sadr, an islamist and a key figure in the Iraq Dawa Party, is executed by the Iraqi government.

**September 12, 1980:** Turkey undergoes a third military coup. The armed forces seize control of Turkey for the third time.

**September 22:** Iraq invades Iran.

**October 6, 1981:** Islamists murder President Anwar al-Sadat of Egypt.

**February 1982:** Syrian forces vanquish a Muslim Brotherhood uprising in Hama, causing 10,000-30,000 fatalities.

**June 6, 1982:** Israel invades Lebanon, cutting off food and water in Beirut.

**September 16, 1982:** Christian militia takes the life of hundreds at the Sabra and Shatila Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon.

**May 1983:** An Israeli-Lebanese peace deal calls for Israel to make a withdrawal from Lebanon.

**May 1983:** Kenan Evren returns Turkey to democratic rule following three years of military rule.

**September 15, 1983:** Menachem Begin resigns as prime minister of Israel.

**October 23, 1983:** U.S. Marine barracks in Lebanon are attacked with explosive material, causing 240 Marines' fatalities and more than 100 were wounded.

**1984:** Kurdish extremist group in Turkey begins a bloody campaign for independence.

**June 1986:** Civil conflict breaks out in Southern Yemen.

**December 9, 1987:** The Palestinian Intifada, a spontaneous popular uprising, goes against Israeli occupation, taking place in the West Bank and Gaza.

**March 16, 1988:** Iraq unleashes chemical material, causing approximately 50,000-100 Kurdish fatalities.

**July, 1988:** King Hussein of Jordan severs political links with the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and orders its main offices closed.

**July 3, 1988:** A.U.S. Navy ship shoots down an Iranian passenger plane carrying 290 people.

**August 29, 1988:** UN secretary-general, Javier Pérez de Cuellar, announces a cease-fire between Iran and Iraq, ending the Iran-Iraq conflict.

**November 15, 1988:** A Palestine National Council meeting in Algiers proclaims the State of Palestine.

**December 2, 1988:** Benazir Bhutto becomes Prime Minister of Pakistan.

**December 14, 1988:** The PLO recognized the State of Israel and calls for negotiation.

**May 22, 1990:** Northern and Southern Yemen unify in a democratic republic. It was based on popular elections, freedom of speech, and an independent judiciary was installed.

**August 1990:** King Fahd invites U.S troops to use Saudi Arabia as a base of operations against Iraq.

**August 2, 1990:** Iraq invades Kuwait by being led by Saddam Hussein.

**January 15-March 3, 1991:** U.S. military fight to remove Iraqi forces from Kuwait with the support of Muslim states.

**February 28, 1991:** Kuwait is liberated from Iraq by U.S. forces.

**March 2, 1991:** The Iraqi army causes 50,000 fatalities of Kurds and Shii Muslims.

**April 6, 1991:** Iraq accepts UN terms to cease-fire in the Persian Gulf.

**1991:** The UN deems Iraq a pre-industrial state as a result of recent conflicts.

**May 1991:** Yemen ratified its constitution.

**December 1991:** The FSI ( Islamic Salvation Front) won the first round of general elections in Algeria.

**January 1, 1992:** Boutros Boutros-Ghali of Egypt becomes Secretary General of the United Nations.

**March 2011:** Pro-democracy protests in the southern city of Deraa after the arrest and torture of a teenager group who painted revolutionary slogans on a school wall.

**July 2011:** Nationwide protests that demanded President Assad's resignation, government use of force did not yield results and protests continued. Hundreds of thousands were taking to the streets across the country.

**June 2013:** The UN registered 90,000 people who had been taken their lives away in the conflict in Syria.

**August 2013:** Hundreds of people affected after rockets filled with the nerve agent sarin were fired at several suburbs of Damascus.

### **III. CURRENT HAPPENINGS**

The UN's refusal to add Israel to its child-murderer list shows that to it, Palestinian kids matter less than others, otherwise the gunman and a Nepalese security guard were taken their lives away in the attack, the latest near the Jeddah consulate. Tehran accuses Ottawa of violating international obligations to uphold the "Principle of Sovereign Immunity", do to this residents and local reports say intense conflict continues in Omdurman.

Top U.S diplomat, claims Washington is ‘very much involved’ in push for formal relations between Israel and Saudi Arabia. A respite in Yemen’s conflict lets the sons of a retired builder in Sanaa help raise the economical founds for their father’s pilgrimage; as well as Syria has pledged to conflict drug smuggling in talks with Arab neighbors, but the stimulant keeps moving across the region. Israel’s raid of the Jenin refugee camps, hosted one of the biggest attacks in the occupied West Bank for years. Residents report heavy gunfire in parts of the capital despite both sides’ humanitarian crisis.

#### **IV. KEY POINTS**

##### **Escalation of political violence and conflict involvement:**

- Syrian Civil War: The Syrian conflict, which began in 2011, has involved intense political violence. It initially started as a peaceful uprising but later escalated into a full-scale civil war. The conflict has witnessed extensive violence perpetrated by various parties, including government forces, opposition groups, and extremist organizations. The use of airstrikes, artillery shelling, and other weapons has resulted in significant civilian casualties and widespread destruction.
- Yemeni Civil War: The Yemeni conflict, which started in 2014, has involved a range of political violence. It primarily involves Houthi rebels fighting against the internationally recognized government, which is supported by a coalition led by Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. The conflict has witnessed intense airstrikes, ground fighting, and other forms of violence, leading to a dire humanitarian crisis.
- Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: The Israeli-Palestinian conflict has experienced recurring bouts of political violence. The conflict involves clashes between Israeli security forces and Palestinian individuals or groups. This violence takes various forms, including military operations, suicide bombings, rocket attacks, stabbings, and protests. The conflict has resulted in significant loss of life and widespread suffering on both sides.
- Libyan Crisis: The Libyan conflict, which escalated in 2014, has been characterized by political violence between different factions. The conflict involves various armed groups, militias, and rival governments vying for power and control. It has witnessed clashes, airstrikes, and other forms of violence, resulting in civilian casualties and instability throughout the country.

### **Government affecting civil wars during the emerged of democracy:**

- Syrian Civil War: The Syrian civil war, which began in 2011, emerged from a pro-democracy uprising against the government of President Bashar al-Assad. The conflict has evolved into a complex and multi-sided war, involving various factions, including the Syrian government, rebel groups, Islamist extremists, and Kurdish forces. The war has resulted in significant casualties, displacement of millions of people, and extensive destruction.
- Yemeni Civil War: The Yemeni civil war began in 2014 when Houthi rebels took control of the capital, Sanaa, and ousted the internationally recognized government. The conflict escalated into a broader war, with various actors involved. The Houthi rebels, supported by Iran, are fighting against a coalition led by Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, which supports the Yemeni government. The conflict has caused a severe humanitarian crisis, with widespread civilian casualties and a dire humanitarian situation.
- Libyan Civil War: The Libyan civil war erupted in 2014 following the overthrow of longtime leader Muammar Gaddafi. The conflict involves multiple factions, including the UN-recognized Government of National Accord (GNA) based in Tripoli, the Libyan National Army (LNA) led by General Khalifa Haftar, and various militias and armed groups. The conflict has resulted in political fragmentation, violence, and instability throughout the country.

### **Consequences because of the inequality and gender conflicts:**

- Women's Participation in Conflict: Women often face unique challenges during times of conflict, including increased vulnerability to violence, displacement, and loss of livelihoods. However, they have also played active roles in various conflict situations, such as participating in protests, advocating for peace, providing humanitarian assistance, and taking part in post-conflict reconstruction efforts.
- Legal and Social Barriers: In many Arab countries, legal frameworks and social norms can limit women's rights and opportunities. Discriminatory laws, cultural traditions, and gender-based stereotypes can hinder women's access to education, employment, political participation, and decision-making positions. These barriers often persist during and after conflicts, exacerbating gender inequalities.
- Women's Empowerment Initiatives: Despite the challenges, there have been notable initiatives promoting gender equality and women's empowerment within the Arab

conflict context. Civil society organizations, women's rights activists, and international actors have worked to raise awareness, advocate for policy changes, and provide support services to women affected by conflict. These initiatives aim to enhance women's agency, leadership, and participation in all aspects of society.

- UN Resolutions and International Efforts: The United Nations Security Council has adopted resolutions, such as Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security, which recognizes the importance of women's participation and protection in conflict and post-conflict contexts. International organizations and governments have also supported programs and projects to advance gender equality and women's rights in Arab conflict-affected areas.

## **V. UN ACTIONS**

The United Nations Security Council resolutions dictated that the UN Security Council has adopted numerous resolutions regarding Arab conflicts. For example, Resolution 242 and Resolution 338 are pivotal resolutions concerning the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, calling for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from occupied territories and the achievement of a just and lasting peace in the region.

The UN has deployed peacekeeping missions in several Arab countries to help maintain peace and security. These missions aim to facilitate political processes, support conflict resolution efforts, protect civilians, and assist with humanitarian efforts. Examples include the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) and the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO).

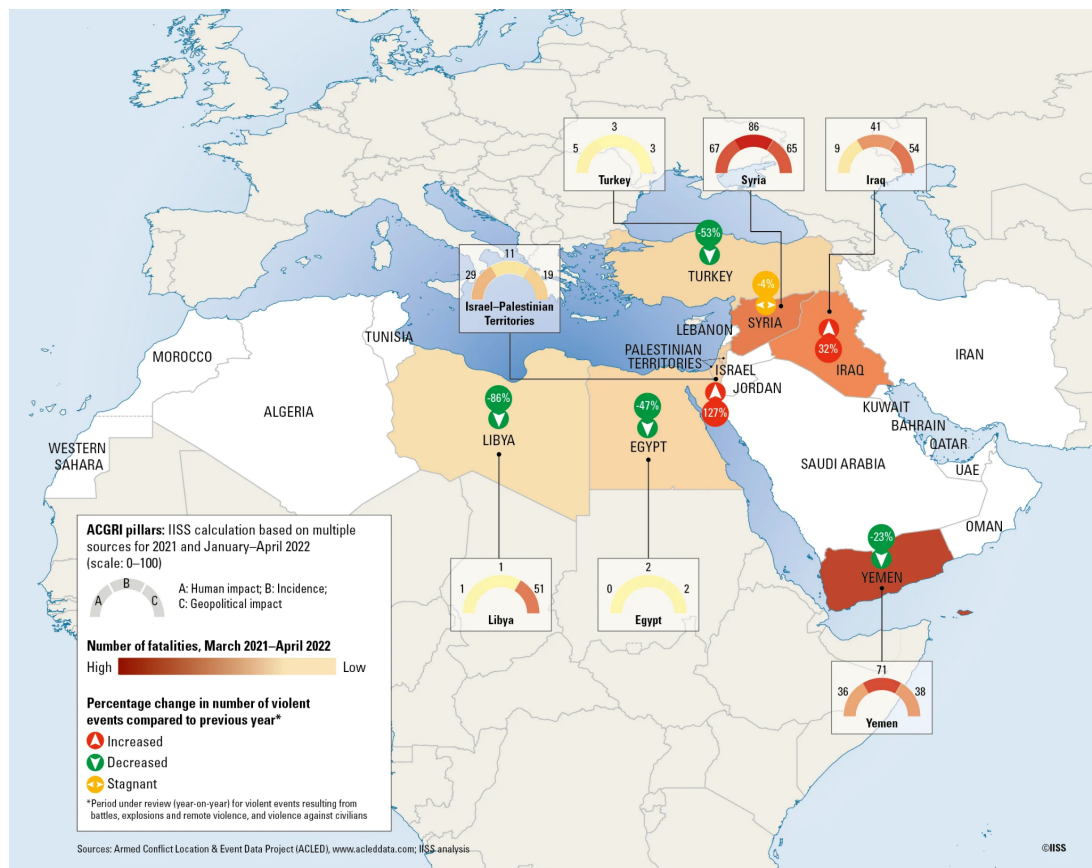
The UN plays a role in facilitating negotiations and mediating peace talks in Arab conflicts. For instance, the UN has been involved in mediating peace negotiations between the Israeli and Palestinian authorities, aiming to find a mutually acceptable solution to the long-standing conflict.

The UN agencies, such as the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), provide humanitarian aid and support to affected populations in Arab conflict zones, including refugees, internally displaced persons, and vulnerable communities.

## VI. BLOCK ANALYSIS

### Africa:

The rise of Islamic State, the territorial disputes, the Civil conflicts and the militarized borders in Arab countries affect directly to the Middle East, furthermore, African countries, in terms of trade, economic growth, security, cultural tolerance and religion. Countries such as Libya and Egypt, since they are the geographical neighbors of the Arab countries, have faced problems to keep peaceful international relations with the zone in question, together with setbacks to maintain their internal sovereignty. Syria, Libya and Yemen have not shown a de-escalation on their armed conflict but multiple adaptations, the following image shows a conflict tracker based on the fatalities concentration of the mentioned Arab countries, Libya and Egypt, which belong to the African continent.



(Map of fatalities' concentration in Africa and Arab Countries, Fact Analysis Influence, 2022)

### Asia:



The 22 Arab countries are located in Western Asia, India, and Northern Africa. The Arab countries located in Asia are: Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia and Yemen. The intern conflicts among Arab countries threatens international relations, maritime security and pro-democratic movements in Asia, South Asia has been pushed to enforce a de escalation conflict programme together with anti-extremist groups policies. Countries such as China, continue to enforce economic ties with Arab countries and support the de-escalation strategies that have been developed in the last decades, such as the Arab-Israeli armed conflict prevention.

### **America:**

Due to globalization and foreign policies, the United States of America is fully involved in the Middle East, Northern Africa and Western Asia conflicts. The U.S partnership has played an important role in building up alliances with some of the countries in question, such as Egypt, and provided the economic and trade interests, the U.S has been providing aid in the form of militar material and harsh security measures. The trade and economic ties between U.S with India and Saudi Arabia may be threatened by conflict and inner economical instability, furthermore, U.S. mission to lessen hostilities and the humanitarian crisis in Arab countries.

### **Europe:**

The European Union, among other countries in the European continent, due globalization, have also suffered the consequences from the ongoing situation in Arab countries, such as humanitarian crisis escalation among the years, a large quantity of refugees migrate to Europe, seeking for better development of opportunities, such migrants escape from dehumanizing situations resulting from conflict and violence. The migration crisis leads to inhibiting the expected economic growth, since reinsertion to migrant individuals, humanitarian aid, legal help and protection supposes a major spend of resources. The extremist groups that prevail in Arab countries made the European Union lose around 180 billion in GDP terms due to extremist groups exacerbating the situation (reported by the Rand Europe Corporation in 2018).

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