UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL
It is our absolute honor and pleasure to receive you all on the IX edition of the MUN of Universidad del Rosario, and consequently, to the United Nations Security Council committee itself. We, as members of the committee, have the highest expectations on its development, and therefore, on you.

My name is Emilio Camminati Wiese, and I’m an International Business student at Universidad del Pacífico. I started participating in MUNs in 2013 when I was still in school and since then they became an integral part of my life. I consider that participating in a MUN is an extremely enriching experience which allows you to develop several skills, ranging from speaking to negotiating, that are necessary for today’s highly competitive world. Needless to say, as one of the committee’s Directors and fellow Muner I hope to see you soon at MUNUR 2018.

My name is Juan Manuel Rojas Cardona, I’m 18 years old and currently, a Law student at Externado University in Colombia. As one of the committee’s Directors, I would like to inspire every single one of you into giving the best of yourselves and achieving your full potential. Also, you shall remember the whole time that we, as your Board of Directors, are here as a tool in order to obtain your best performance and the best development inside the commission. Welcome to MUNUR and welcome to my beloved Colombia!

My name is Daniela Macedo Arteta and I am truly excited for the experience we all have waiting ahead. Currently, I am a ninth semester student at Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas with a double major in Business Administration and Hotel Management, a program that converges all my passions at once. Also, in this opportunity, I’ll be the Crisis Director for the committee and for that reason, I’m thrilled to show every single one of you the many surprises we have waiting for you. Welcome!

Likewise, the three of us in behalf of the amazingly and well-prepared team that backs us up for this committee, along with Sofia Campos, Egidio Colaianni, Gabriela Varela and Juliana Serna, we are thrilled to hear you discuss the topics that are pretty close to our attention and our hearts. We want you to be as creative and spontaneous as you possibly can, in the pursuit for solutions for the problematics that threat us nowadays. We want you to think outside the box, because even though some situations are not affecting us directly on our daily basis, that does not mean they do not exist; be mindful that your voice will position itself for those who have been silent and those who cannot speak for themselves.

Lastly, as it was previously stated, we want you to feel as comfortable as possible and to enjoy every second of this experience because for us, it has become a very important part of our lives. Remember that we are here for you, at all times. Do not hesitate to contact us, if needed.

Kind regards,

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In this chamber, the most iconic decisions have been made. With place for only fifteen delegations, the UN’s Security Council chamber has witnessed the discussions to the Rwanda crisis, the Syrian conflict, the prohibition of nuclear weapons to some countries, some embargos to others and other infinity of topics which have shaped the world as we know it. With five chairs permanently marked with the name of five UN Member States, we find a reminder of the trace of five powerful nations who were victorious to one of the most terrible wars ever, and a reminder of the meaning of international sway. This chamber reminds to peace, to security, to power. For all these reasons, the UNSC is a main body of the United Nations and, furthermore, of any MUN.

It is a factor of joy, to this wonderful team, to me and to MUNUR, to bring once again the iconic UNSC with our traditional taste of crisis. The topics that you delegates will discuss are ones of those which endanger the international security and order nowadays. In this way, you will find an opportunity to virtually be in the Chamber and creatively look for a solution to these problematics.

We hope you get to find in this experience what has make iconic the UNSC in MUNUR. Welcome to the chamber of possibilities. See you soon!

Camilo Ríos Bernal
Undersecretary General for Crisis Committees
The Security Council of the United Nations is the maximum authority within the United Nations, it is one of the five primary organs of the organization. Composed by fifteen members, the UN Charter on its Article 27 establishes the voting procedure, therefore every substantive decision shall be approved by an affirmative vote of nine members including veto power unanimity; and on the other hand, procedural matters will be decided with the affirmative vote of nine members.

From those fifteen members, five of them are permanent and possess veto power: the People’s Republic of China, the French Republic, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Russian Federation and the United States of America. The other ten non-permanent members are elected for a two-year term by the General Assembly. Currently, those seats are being occupied by: Bolivia, Côte d’Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Poland and Sweden. (United Nations, 2018)

Taking this into account, and as established on the UN Charter, the legal framework of the United Nations, the main purpose of this Council is the maintenance of peace and international security. Thus, the use of military force is sometimes essential to resolve a crisis if the situation requires so; nonetheless, the Council’s actual purpose is to address the crisis and find a peaceful solution first.

According to the United Nations Security Council official website, “the main Council’s functions and faculties are:

- to maintain international peace and security in accordance with the principles and purposes of the United Nations;
- to investigate any dispute or situation which might lead to international friction;
- to recommend methods of adjusting such disputes or the terms of settlement;
- to formulate plans for the establishment of a system to regulate armaments;
- to determine the existence of a threat to the peace or act of aggression and to recommend what action should be taken;
- to call on Members to apply economic sanctions and other measures not involving the use of force to prevent or stop aggression;
- to take military action against an aggressor;
- to recommend the admission of new Members;
- to exercise the trusteeship functions of the United Nations in “strategic areas”;
- to recommend to the General Assembly the appointment of the Secretary-General and, together with the Assembly, to elect the Judges of the International Court of Justice.”

Furthermore, it’s worthy to clarify the fact that the Security Council will be at all moments submitted to the United Nations Charter, and to the principles it establishes. For example, “the maintenance of international peace and security”; the “development of friendly relations among nations”; the “cooperation in solving international problems and in promoting respect of human rights”; and lastly, to “be a center for harmonizing the actions of nations”. [Bolds weren’t included on the original source.]

All members of the United Nations agree to accept and carry out the decisions of the Security Council. While other organs of the United Nations make recommendations to member states, only the Security Council has the power to make decisions that member states are then obligated to implement under the Charter. (United Nations, 2018)

In virtue of the previous statements, it’s essential to understand that on the international dynamic, this Council represents an incredible force of change. For instance, according with the Security Council Report a “visiting mission” it’s programmed in September to the African territory in order to establish a plan of action to counter the situation of instability in the region. (United Nations Security Council, 2018)

Furthermore, it’s imperative to recall the fact that this commission in particular works under the leadership of the chosen President, and –as the UN Charter establishes- works, by its very own procedure and regulations.
Once World War II ended, the world suffered the repercussions of a long-scaled conflict and it was well-known that a new massive conflict would tear the world apart. In order to prevent that from ever happening again, a desire emerged for creating a new organization. One that (based on the League of Nations) would represent a world in unison for one common goal emerged with the purpose of pursuing peace and international security.

In 1944, during the Dumbarton Oaks conference, the creation of the United Nations was decided. And along with it, the Security Council, expecting it to be the answer for potential conflicts that emerged as a consequence of a long and sustained conflict, as was the Second World War.

In 1945, during the Yalta Conference the name “United Nations” came up, and with it, the voting procedure for the international organization. Later this year, on the United Nations Conference on international Organization celebrated on San Francisco, the United Nations Charter was approved. (United Nations, 2005-2006)

Recently, the Security Council has done its best in order to guarantee and safeguard the principles of the United Nations as an international organization. However, controversy has reached an intense point in which the Council has been highly criticized for the monopoly on its decisions. This claim is due to the fact that in order for a resolution to exist, it is required a complete consensus from the five permanent members. Subsequently, the idea of expanding both the permanent and non-permanent members has been obtaining supporters, and therefore getting in the way of the wide agenda it possesses nowadays. In terms of procedure, any labor that’ll take place on the UNSC will be based, firstly under the rules and requirements established on the Handbook as the supreme bylaw for MUNUR 18; secondly, under the most severe rules of ethics, transparency and respect at all costs. All delegates must be aware that no member of the staff will allow any disrespect towards its members or any other delegate or participant.

Last, but not least, in more pragmatic terms, this commission will be addressed as the actual UN Security Council would. Like it was established previously, any Security Council resolution must integrate a voting consensus by the five permanent members. Therefore, the Security Council will pass a resolution with simple majority with the approval, or abstention of the veto powers.
Functioning and procedure

Crisis updates are a simulation of real world events that occur while the debate is in action and that must be solved immediately in order to de-escalate the crisis at hand and continue to work towards resolving the root causes of the problem. Crisis updates will occur every session at irregular intervals and will always be triggered by the committee, either by their inaction leading the dais and crisis team to intervene and create situations for them to resolve or by the delegates themselves through the use of crisis notes. All crisis, although disruptive at first glance, are in place to move the committee forward towards a resolution and are simulations of things that occur in the real world.

Crisis notes, secret directives or secret actions

Crisis notes are secret actions put into place by each representative, they are not actions to be carried out by the members themselves nor do they necessarily represent the will of the member state being represented. They are, however, a series of specific events set in motion through the will of each delegate to cause a certain end goal. These end goals and the process it takes to achieve them are known as crisis arcs. Although not every single crisis note sent by a delegate necessarily has to be a part of their crisis arc, it is appreciated that the majority of actions have a greater purpose beyond the individual consequences of each act. These end goals must be both aligned to the topic at hand and beneficial to either the interests of the representative as a person or the interests of the member state and not just put into motion to wreak havoc for crisis sake.

These notes have no standardized format and delegates are encouraged to be as creative as possible. These can take the shape of letters, lists, instructions, phone conversations, emails, and so on. However, they must be realistic, offer an implied purpose so that those in the crisis team can understand how each crisis note is linked to the committee and to their crisis arc and within reach of the representatives power. That is to say that although a UN Representative holds great power, Nikki Haley UNSC Rep.

For the US could not single handedly decide to launch nuclear weapons with a simple phone call, should she be attempting to do so, she would have to go to great lengths to achieve something of that magnitude. Crisis notes are required to detail how each representative has gone to similar lengths to achieve a certain plan. Lastly, crisis notes should include realistic situations, we are not God, we can’t just make things happen, things in the real world require money, power, influence, favors, connections, etc. As a personal recommendation from your Director, an episode or two of Scandal, How to Get Away With Murder or House of Cards and Kubrick’s acclaimed film Dr. Strangelove might serve as all of the inspiration you need to craft a precise, creative and most of all entertaining crisis arc.

Recommendations regarding procedure

The UNSC does not have a speakers list, a delegate will be recognized as soon as the last delegate has finished speaking until the time of each motion has elapsed. There will also be no working papers, no author’s panels and laptops will only be used during unmoderated caucuses in the last two sessions of debate. The rest of debate will be focused on crisis elements and all will be handwritten. There are no set block structures during debate, negotiation is expected to flow according to each individual subtopic and directives are expected to be negotiated before being introduced. The most important part of a MUN SC is to have fun, to be creative and to carry out powerful negotiations. Unlike a GA committee, delegates have a lot of power to guide the debate so we will only have as much fun as the delegates want. Let’s make this a great weekend!
The Central African Republic (henceforth “CAR”) has been catalogued as an unsteady territory ever since its independence from France in 1960. Due to its richness in diamonds, gold, oil, uranium and other natural resources, it has become a dispute of international relevance; and because of that, it has made the UNSC competent into treating such problematic.
During the last 20 years of the 19th century, the European countries (Belgium, Great Britain, Germany and fundamentally France) competed among themselves for the African territories. In time, this competition resulted in Belgium, Germany, and France disputing over the zone that would eventually become the Central African Republic.

Ultimately, the French succeeded and acquired the French Congo also known as the later French Equatorial Africa. The French colonies included: Ubangi-Shari, Chad, Gabon and the Middle Congo (today known as the Republic of the Congo). As the proprietary of these territories the French government performed several leasing contracts with private European countries which would eventually exploit the land and subjugate the native people.

In exchange for an annual rent, these firms exploited the land and dominated the people. Unable to cultivate their own fields because of the labour demands from European companies, they experienced food shortages and famine. Because they were forced to work in new environments where they were exposed to sleeping sickness, new strains of malaria, and other diseases, the death rate substantially increased. (Encyclopedia Britannica, 2018)

By the beginning of the 20th century, the Ubangi-Shari colony had its frontiers defined by the European power. Nevertheless, their presence caused a quite fierce African resistance which later unleashed several French military campaigns and expeditions with the purpose of eliminate any trace of that opposition. Even though the French management over its colonies created an efficient vial and health system on Ubangi-Shari -with the purpose of fight diseases such as malaria-, the French also used its colonies’ natives for forced labour and increase the production of cotton, coffee and food crops to supply French troops and labour crews as well. This, since they were not able to get these commodities on their own.

During World War II, the French General Charles de Gaulle called on the residents of the colonial territories to help fight the Germans, and 3,000 responded from Central Africa. After the massive conflict, these troops returned to their homeland with a new sense of pride and a national, rather than ethnic, identity. Simultaneously, the General also constituted the French Union and thereby, created new local assemblies -composed by a group of both French colonists and Africans as well- with regional representatives. In November 1946, Barthélemy Boganda became the first Central African elected to the French National Assembly. (Encyclopedia Britannica, 2018)

The conflict in the Central African Republic does not only involve armed groups. The Séléka coalition and the Anti-balaka, it also involved the government. To attain a better understanding, it is necessary to set the political context in 2003.

François Bozizé had become president when a rebellion started, principally between the well-known Union of Democratic Forces for Unity (UFDR) and the government forces, in which around 10,000 people were displaced because of the civil unrest. However, a peace agreement was reached in 2007 with the purpose of ceasing hostilities, billeting, liberation of political prisoners, and the integration of FDPC (Democratic Front of the Central African People) into government.

Later, a new coalition of varied rebel groups, including the FDPC, known as Séléka, accused the government of failing to abide by the peace agreements and captured several towns at the end of 2012. The capital was taken by the rebels in March 2013 with Bozizé’s escape.

Michel Djotodia, the rebel leader, declared himself president. Since then, the combat between Séléka and the Anti-balaka militias started. In September 2013, President Djotodia disbanded the Seleka coalition which had lost its unity after taking power. In January 2014, Djotodia moved from the presidency and was replaced by Catherine Samba-Panza. Nonetheless, the conflict continues.
Past un actions

Being on the, perhaps, most capable commission of the United Nations, it is quite important to highlight the chronological and more relevant aspects, specially what the United Nations as the international peace guard has done.

2013: The Security Council, through resolutions 2088, 2121, 2127 of 2013, inter alia, requests the Secretary-General to carry out without delay all the preparations and contingency planning activities with a view to the possible transformation into a United Nations peacekeeping operation, highlighting that a future decision of the Council to establish such a mission would be needed.

Also, the security Council in Resolution 2121 of 2013, taking into account the recommendations made by the Secretary General in a letter dated September 16th 2013, established the necessity of strength and update the mandate of BINUCA -United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in the Central African Republic. (United Nations Security Council, 2013)


2014: Based on UNSC Res 2127, on April 7, 2014, the UN deploys the MUNSCA, a multidimensional peacekeeping operation with the protection of the civilian population as its highest priority. Its other initial tasks included support for the transition process; facilitate humanitarian assistance; promotion and protection of human rights; support for justice and the rule of law; and disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and repatriation processes. (United Nations Security Council, Resolution 2181/2014, 2014)

2015: The Security Council in Resolutions 2196 and 2212 of 2015, decides that until January 29th, 2016, all Member States should continue to take the necessary measures to prevent the supply, sale or transfer, direct or indirect, to the Central African Republic, from its territory or through it, by its nationals or by using ships or aircraft of his flag, of armaments and related material of any kind. That also includes arms and ammunition, military vehicles and equipment, paramilitary equipment and spare parts for all this, as well as technical assistance, training and financial and other assistance related to military activities or the supply, maintenance or use of any weapon and related materiel, including the supply of armed mercenaries, whether or not they come from its territory. (United Nations Security Council, 2015)

2016: The Security Council decides through Resolution 2262 and 2264 of 2016 that until 31 January 2017, all Member States continue to take the necessary measures to prevent the supply, sale or transfer, direct or indirect, to the Central African Republic, from its territory or through he, by his nationals or using ships or aircraft of his flag, of armaments and related materials of any type, including arms and ammunition, military vehicles and equipment, paramilitary equipment and spare parts for all this, as well as technical assistance, training and financial and other assistance, related to military activities or the supply, maintenance or use of any type of armaments and related materials, including the supply of armed mercenaries, whether or not they come from their territory. (United Nations Security Council, 2016)

2018: The Security Council Committee established, according to resolution 2127/ 2013, whose mandate was recently extended pursuant to resolution 2399/2018 concerning the Central African Republic, oversees the sanctions imposed by the Security Council. (United Nations Security Council, Resolution 2399/2018, 2018)

Sanctions:

- Arms seizures: “All Member States will continue to take the necessary measures to prevent the supply, sale or transfer, direct or indirect, to the Central African Republic, from their territories or through them, by their nationals or by using vessels or aircraft of their flag, armament and related material of any kind, including arms and ammunition, military vehicles and equipment, paramilitary equipment and spare parts for all of the foregoing, as well as technical assistance, training and financial or other assistance, in connection with military activities or with the supply, maintenance or use of any type of armament and related material, including the supply of armed mercenaries, whether or not they come from their territories. Authorizes all Member States, when they discover articles prohibited by paragraph
1 of Resolution 2399 of 2018 to confiscate, record and dispose of them articles whose supply, sale, transfer or export are prohibited by paragraph 1 of this resolution, and that all Member States must do so, and further decides that all Member States will cooperate in these activities.” (United Nations, 2018)

**Travel ban:**

- “Until January 31st, 2019, to prevent entry into or transit through their territories of persons designated by the Committee, on the understanding that none of the provisions of this paragraph shall compel a State to deny its own nationals entry into its territory, and calls upon the Government of the Central African Republic to improve cooperation and the exchange of information with other States in this regard.” (United Nations, 2018)

- Freezing of assets: “Until January 31st, 2019, all Member States will continue to freeze without delay all funds and other financial assets and economic resources that are in their territories and that are owned or controlled directly or indirectly by individuals or entities designated by the Committee, or persons or entities acting on their behalf or under their direction, or entities that are owned or controlled by these persons, and also decides that all Member States will continue to ensure that their nationals or other persons or entities that are in its territory put funds, financial assets or economic resources at the disposal of the persons or entities designated by the Committee or for their benefit.” (United Nations, 2018)

**Human rights situation**

To the present day, the CAR is suffering the outcome of a political crisis marked by conflicts between armed groups and Government forces and, sometimes, between rival armed groups. This seriously endangered the human rights situation and was the determining factor for violence, brutality, abuses, impunity, insecurity and destabilization. A large number of civilians were victims of extrajudicial executions and sexual and gender-based violence; many others were maimed, tortured or severely ill-treated, raped, forcibly displaced or disappeared. Thousands of children were recruited by armed groups. Many civilians had their property pillaged and homes destroyed, and were thus deprived of their economic, social and other fundamental human rights. Hundreds of thousands were internally displaced, while others fled to neighbouring countries. Civilians were too often denied access to humanitarian assistance and the ability to live in dignity. (United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, 2017)

Frequent and violent regime changes contributed to the institutionalization of corruption and nepotism, and violations and abuses of human rights, including repression of freedom of expression of political opinions and ideas. Successive governments neglected or simply failed to deliver services to the citizenry in an insatiable pursuit of personal enrichment. Political leaders, as well as their families and cronies, were involved in embezzlement of public funds, mismanagement of public corporations and illegal exploitation of precious minerals and other natural resources, while the vast majority of the people lived in abject poverty. (United Nations Development Programme, 2015)
Tribalism

According to the definition given by the Cambridge dictionary, tribalism is “the stage of existing as a tribe or a very strong feeling of loyalty to your tribe or loyalty to a political or social group”. (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d.)

The CAR moves on an opposite direction to the West in regards of political modernization due to the differences on political, tribal, cultural and religious matters. To analyze the contemporary African crisis, it is a necessity to make visible various problems such as the chimeras of civil society, crimes, illicit enrichment, violence and corruption, in order to understand the decadence of the states, the limitations in the renewal of political actors and the effects of political tribalism and delve ethnicities in Central African Republic.

Tribalism and the personalization of power is one of the most crucial problems for the processes of democratization in Africa, a continent where political systems hinder development as it is understood Western societies. The political instrumentation that nowadays in CAR is presented through tribalism and ethnicity, is a one of the biggest limitations for applying political reforms that are needed in this country.

Child soldiers

The use of children for military purposes in CAR has affected the country for a long time. Even before the latest conflict, virtually all armed groups and militias were known to have recruited and used children, even though some had made commitments to the UN not to do so. It can be particularly difficult to secure the release and reintegration of children involved in community-based militia, since their families and their former commanders share the same community background. Armed groups in the mainly Muslim “Séléka” coalition and predominantly Christian militias called “Anti-Balaka” have both used children as young as eight as combatants, guards, human shields, porters, messengers, spies, cooks, and/or for sexual purposes. (Child Soldiers International, 2018)

Since CAR’s current conflict started in 2012, the United Nations says more than 14,000 child soldiers have been recruited by Anti-Balaka and Séléka forces and several other disparate armed groups across the country. However, 80% of the country has been roughly controlled by armed groups and still growing. Even though some children have been kidnapped, others join “voluntarily” to protect themselves and their communities. (Time, 2018)

French interference

France has been one of the most important and influential countries in CAR, if not the most. With the French Constitution of 1946, France granted full french citizenship to the people of the Ubangi-Shari, allowing the establishment of local assemblies in the region. Since then, France is the only European country with an embassy in Bangui, where the European Union has a delegation.

In 1976, France helped with the Coronation of the self-proclaimed Emperor of the Central African Empire (CAE), Jean-Bédel Bokassa, for the relations between the two nations were based on the benefits that each country could get from the other. France also helped with military security during the times of the CAE until 1979, when it was suspected that the Emperor had plans to to become a partner of Muammar al-Gaddafi, Revolutionary Chairman of Libya. After claims of civilian massacres due to rebellion against the CAE, France started operations Caban and Barracuda in order to Remove Bokassa from power and establish David Dacko as new president of the CAR. France has been a full-time participant in all the political situations of the CAR in the following years, mostly removing and establishing presidents and military missions.

The most recent direct military intervention of France in the CAR was the called Operation Sangaris, where the country tried to stop the bloodshed due the ethnic conflict between the Séléka armed group, the Anti-balaka group and many other rebel unions in the country. France is an active contributor of the UN mission MINUSCA in the CAR.

Nowadays, France still plays an essential role in the Central African Republic. It has a full support on the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), it has provided economical, cultural and military aid to the CAR through MINUSCAS and, The African Union, the European Union Training Mission (EUTM) and more. France is an active contributor
of MINUSCAS and has its own counterterrorism military mission in the Sahel region, next to the Central African Republic, called Operation Barkhane. It has been shown through history that the French Republic has been a key factor to the Central African politics, economics and stability. Even now, the current French president, Emmanuel Macron, has repeated the intentions of his government to keep being an influential key to the central African states and the african region in general.

Being an european country with an embassy in the CAR and with its active role in Africa. It is not a mystery that the French Republic was, keeps being and will be a key factor of the general situation of the Central African Republic.

**TOPIC B: CRISIS ON SOUTH SUDAN**

South Sudan is a landlocked african country on East Central African Country, bordered by Sudan to the North, Ethiopia to the east, Kenya to the southeast, Uganda to the south, the Democratic Republic of Congo and CAR to the southwest and west respectively. Home for over 60 different ethnic groups, it is also known as a State full of diversity. As a member of the United Nations, the African Union, the East African Community and a signatory of the Geneva Conventions, it’s completely alarming the civil war that faces nowadays.

*Image 2. South Sudan geographical position.*
Historically, the Sudanese state was unofficially divided into the northern and southern regions. This division was due to the predominantly Muslim descent of those who settled the north and the predominantly Christian population in the south. Sudan was not officially a state until it was incorporated into the Ottoman Empire. Thus, for centuries, Sudan remained only an unofficially demarcated region divided into kingdoms and tribal territories until the Turko-Egyptian invasion of 1821.

Before the Turko-Egyptian invasion of 1821, these ethnic groups lived divided, each settled within their territories. However, conflict between the two regions and groups was frequent and rampant, fueled by the slave trade and the hunt for timber, ivory and gold; millions of Sudanese were transported as slaves to the Arab and New Worlds, most of these from the southern region. It is important to acknowledge that despite the frequent violent invasions of South Sudan, the region remained mostly independent of the control of the Turko-Egyptian administration of 1820-1898. As is usual of African countries, the country itself is an artificial creation of Britain, in this case, Egypt and elites from the northern region prior to 1800s.

In the late 1890s, the French were seizing major parts of the south of Sudan and had eventually secured strong administrative control over the area by 1896, fueled by the desire to annex the south of Sudan with its territories in West Africa. However, when France suffered a defeat at the hands of the British over African territory during the Fashoda Incident in 1898, France was forced on focusing on their western territories only. In 1899, the British and French signed an agreement in which the French retreated from the south of Sudan and ceded control to the British, who had already defeated the Mahdist forces in the North of Sudan.

The British Policy of administration regarding Sudan considered the division between the Muslim Arabs and the Christian Africans. Bearing in mind the social differences of the two regions, the British implemented the closed districts ordinances of the 1920s, intending to sustain the northern regions Islamic culture while retraining the native African culture of the south. The passports and permits ordinance of 1922 mandated that travel between the north and south of Sudan carry passports and permits. The immigration policy of 1925 required North Sudanese residents to acquire permits in order to conduct trade in the south. The Language policy of 1928 made English the official language of Sudan and allowed for the use of some local languages while purposefully excluding Arabic. The policies established by the British and their colonial policies essentially established the south of Sudan as a separate state from North Sudan.

After the 1920s, Britain and Egypt continued to strengthen their joint administrative control of Sudan. In 1943 the North Sudan Advisory Council ordinance was established to prepare North Sudan to eventually rule itself. The ordinance covered the six north Sudan provinces of Khartoum, Kordofan, Darfur, Eastern, Northern and Blue Nile provinces and had no bearing on the south of Sudan. In fact, no administrative officials representing the south of Sudan were present at the Council’s meeting. In 1946, the Advisory council pushed for the North to colonize the South, exposing Britain’s agreement to give South Sudan to North Sudan with Egypt’s backing. It is common speculation that this was due to the belief that the south was not yet ready to become an independent state. However, the Sudan Legislative assembly was made in 1948 and 13 delegates from South Sudan were forced to participate, unfortunately, it was dissolved in 1951 after which members from South Sudan were banned from participating in political activities.

The ban was part of a larger ban on organized political activities in the south of Sudan. The Cairo agreements of 1953 established self determination for Sudan, markedly occurred without the participation of South Sudan. Once the British vacated the government after Sudan officially achieved its independence January 1 of 1956, North Sudanese filled all government positions, excluding all southern politicians including 22 members elected to parliament but prohibited from participating in the judiciary and armed forces. The exclusion included forcing all southerners to undergo the Sudanization program, a policy of Arabization and Islamization of South Sudanese imposed by the Northern Sudanese officials.
Country’s independence

On July 9th, 2011 the Republic of South Sudan achieved independence. The process leading to independence was driven by the Sudan People’s Liberation Army/Movement (SPLA/M), an insurgency force and political movement begun in Southern Sudan. On 1 January 1956, Sudan achieved independence but southern states were unhappy with their lack of autonomy. The first five years of independence were relatively peaceful, but by the early 1960s the southern insurgency was driven by a loose grouping of rebels who became known as the Anaya-Nya. Anaya-Nya was the rebellion that emerged from the Equatoria Corps, a military unit formed during the Anglo-Egyptian administration who marked the beginning of the first civil war in southern Sudan on 18 August 1955. The war concluded in 1972 with the Addis Ababa Agreement, which granted Southern Sudan semi-autonomy through a regional government.

The Agreement eventually collapsed as a result of both the inability of Southerners to unite politically in its defense and the steady undermining, and ultimately total abrogation, of its key provisions by the regime of Jafaar Mohammed Nimairi. Consequently, Southern Sudan again erupted into war in 1983; under leadership of John Garang’s Sudanese People’s Liberation Movement (SPLM). The Second Civil War ended on 9 January 2005 with the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) between the Khartoum-based regime of Omar Hassan al-Bashir and his National Congress Party (NCP) and the Sudan People’s Liberation Army/Movement (SPLA/M). Deal provides for a permanent ceasefire, autonomy for the south, a power-sharing government involving rebels in Khartoum and a south Sudanese referendum on independence in six years time. On October an autonomous government is formed in South Sudan, in line with the January 2005 peace deal. The administration is dominated by former rebels.

Finally, on December 2009 the leaders of North and South reach deal on terms of referendum on independence due in South by 2011. By the early 2011 the people of South Sudan vote in favour of full independence from Sudan.
Ethnic tensions

Having around 64 tribes all around the country accounting for 35% of the total population, ethnic violence is one of the most relevant issues in South Sudan. Conflicts regarding ethnic violence in the country go from cattle raiding for cultural reasons to civil war in the country, the latter for suspected aid to the government from the Dinkas, the largest tribe in the whole nation. Salva Kiir Mayardit, a Dinka politician who has been the president of the country since the nation’s independence in 2011, attempting to make ethnic tensions disappear, appointed Riek Machar, from the Nuer tribe in South Sudan, as his vice president. In February 2013, vice president Machar gave out his intentions to run as presidential candidate against Kiir, establishing his dimission from elections in July of the same year by orders of president Kiir. Thereafter, Machar joined the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement-in-Opposition, or SPLM-IO, the conflicts between SPLM and SPLM-IO broke out, and the the Civil War in Sudan started. Although this Civil War can be seen as a political conflict between some solid rival groups, the majority of the tribes in the nation have been involved in some degree with the dispute, sometimes both as victims or precursors, leading to famine, massacres and a total instability in the country.

There is no definite clarification nor account of all the ethnic conflicts in the country, but some of the most relevant are as follows:

Dinka-Nuer-Murle Fighting: These three factions represent the largest ethnic groups in South Sudan, causing most of the national instability in the country. These tribes are constantly in dispute against each other for the political influence of the country and complete control over the nation. Most of the civilian deaths in the country are also caused by confrontation among this groups.

Civil wars: Clashes between the SPLM and SPLM-IO, Muslim-Catholic conflicts, rebel groups coming from different tribes, etc, are the main precursors of civil wars in the country. There never been a moment of complete ceasefire in South Sudan, conflicts and war among its inhabitants being regular on a day to day basis.

Nomadic Conflicts: These unites all the non-direct state conflicts in South Sudan. This kind of conflicts are very common, and also one of the major causes of displacement and civilian casualties. Nomadic clashes oftenly involve battles for land, cattle, population, water, famine, and cultural differences. These conflicts can be found not only in South Sudan, but also on the neighboring Republic of Sudan as well, involving tribes from both countries, making the conflict even more complex.

For each day that goes by, more people die from famine or gun related conflicts, children and women are violated, and more youngsters are recruited to the military groups. In an effort to tackle this issue, the United Nations Mission in South Sudan, UNMISS, was established on 8 July 2011 by the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1996 to ensure peace on the region. Although the intentions from the UN have been clear, the situation seems far from improving, as more and more violence develops between among the people of South Sudan.
Humanitarian crisis

The civil war that nowadays one lives in South Sudan exploded two years after the independence of this country. South Sudan is currently one of the countries with the most refugees since 2016, thus joining Syria, Afghanistan and Somalia to the group of countries with more than one million refugees. His independence from Sudan in 2011, after a long conflict of more than 20 years, brought hope to one of the poorest nations on the planet.

In December 2013, President Salva Kiir dismissed his vice president Riek Machar from his government, whom he accused of plotting a failed coup, and belonged to the same party, the Sudan People’s Liberation Army. A few hours later, the military also split and shots began to be heard in Juba, the capital, this being the beginning of the political crisis that has lasted for five years. The conflict at its origin is very political, having a deep division within the government party, however, political rivalry was compounded by tensions between the country’s two majority ethnic groups: the Dinka, Salva Kiir’s group that represents a 15% of the population, and the Nuer, to which Riek Machar belongs and account for about 10% of the population. (Human Rights Watch, 2018)

In 2015, the groups in conflict reached a peace agreement, where the plan foresaw for the return of Machar to the country and his reinstatement as vice president to a unity government chaired by Kiir. Three months after his return in April, Machar was expelled from the government and the conflict erupted again in July 2016.

Taking into account the above, this new State has little to celebrate, in the recent reports presented by international organizations such as Human Rights Watch, suggest that a continuous process of ethnic cleansing is being carried out in several areas through the use of hunger, the group violations and the burning of villages, leaving thus, that the civil conflict was triggered in December 2013, more than 1,174,000 people sought refuge in the neighboring nations, especially in Uganda, Ethiopia, Sudan and Kenya, thus reaching 1.8 million the number of displaced people from this country. Since July 2016, more than 400,000 people have been reported to have fled the country, according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in the young state. (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, 2018).

South Sudan is a very complicated country from the political point of view. There are many factors that influence this conflict: the ethnic rivalries are one of the obvious reasons, but also the economic ones, having an inflation of 800%. Most of the territory maintains a subsistence economy and the situation worsened in recent years: the GDP of South Sudan went from US $ 17,000 million in 2011 to just US $ 9,000 million in 2015.

The impact of the war is being brutal, both from an economic and humanitarian point of view. Although there is no clear figure, it is often said that more than 150,000 people have died in these five years of war, generating an enormous and unprecedented humanitarian crisis. (BBC, 2018)
MAIN ACTORS
SOUTH SUDANESE CONFLICT

Killed total 50,000-300,000  
Int. Displaced 2,100,000+  
Ext. Displaced 1,500,000+  
Beginning 15 December 2013  
Nature Political-Ethnical  
Status Active

Since 2013 the conflict has grown in complexity entrapping a fragmentation of factions that are threatening the country's integrity and social fabric (1).

NATIONAL ACTORS

SPLA

When in 2011 South Sudan voted to secede in a referendum granted as part of the CPA, the South Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) became the official army of the Republic of South Sudan (2). The SPLA is currently working with the United Nations Mission in South Sudan to stop child recruitment, even though, it continues to be reported as committing violations.

SPLM-IO

The South Sudan People's Liberation Movement/A-in-Opposition (SPLM/A-IO) consists of a heterogeneous political and military rebellion led by former South Sudanese vice-president Riek Macher, a Nuer (3). The SPLM/A calls for the restructuring of South Sudan's government, the establishment of a federal system, judicial independence as well as public sector reform (4).


Topic B: Crisis on South Sudan.


Main Actors Image References:


