

Boston College High School

Model UN Conference

XXXII



United Nations Security Council (2020)



Chair: Andrew Mozinski '26

Co-Chair: Tate Lonsdale '26

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Letter From the Chair

Esteemed Delegates,

My name is Andrew Mozinski, and it is my honor to be chairing the UN Security Council for the 30th BC High Model UN conference. This will be my fifth year of doing Model UN and I will be excited to see how you all will handle the subject matter. This is a very nuanced topic, and it is essential to maintain professionalism and maturity. That being said, I look forward to seeing all of you bring your perspective to it. Many of you will be forced to exit your comfort zone. This document is written to give you the information you need to draft your position papers before the conference. Position papers are required to be eligible for any awards. After you finish your position papers please email them to either myself or Mr. Lonsdale.

Best,

Andrew Mozinski '26 Ministre des Delegates

ag.mozinski26@students.bchigh.edu

Letter From the Co-Chair

Hello Esteemed Delegates,

My name is Tate Lonsdale, and I am excited and honored to have the privilege of co-chairing the UN Security Council for BC High MUN 30. I currently have four years of experience in MUN, and look forward to seeing what new ideas and solutions you all bring to the table. I am a sophomore here at BC High, and first became involved in MUN as a result of my interest in honing my verbal and critical thinking skills through the rigorous challenges of these conferences. The best moments of my MUN experience thus far have been getting to attend some of the finest competitions in Massachusetts, but perhaps more specifically creating the successful resolution for the Russo-Ukrainian war as the youngest and most inexperienced delegate at the SJP MUN Conference. I look forward to meeting all of you in person and wish you the best of luck as you delve deeper into the intricacies of attempting to maintain international peace, health security, and equity as well as develop the skills to defend your ideas and research. If you would like your position papers to be considered for the Ben Maher Award, please feel free to email either me at T.Lonsdale26@students.bchigh.edu or the Chair Andrew Mozinski.

Sincerely,

Tate Lonsdale '26 Co-Chair

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United Nations Security Council [2020] Overview

In 2020, the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) was forced to establish a new dynamic of functioning and executing resolutions, due to Covid-19, which the World Health Organization declared as a pandemic, on March 11, 2020. The UNSC adapted swiftly and introduced video conference capabilities to its framework. By the end of the year, they held 269 videoconferences and 81 virtual meetings. Additionally, the UNSC took it a step further, and the president attended virtual events to discuss socio-economic issues brought about by COVID-19, which was originally not on their agenda, of course.

Throughout the year, the UNSC unanimously passed crucial resolutions including peacekeeper safety, urging a global ceasefire in response to the potential impact the pandemic would have on conflict zones, and advocating for meaningful youth participation in peace-building efforts.

The council not only focused on resolutions, however, it also established a new field mission in Sudan, simultaneously making the decision to conclude the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur. To add, it also extended the mandate of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau, to focus on a transition plan for its gradual drawdown. These courses of action and decisions of the UNSC underscored their commitment to peacekeeping and attempting to keep/raise peace in conflicted nations.

Despite 2020 preventing many obstacles to the Security Council, they still maintained robust engagement and executed numerous resolutions. They adapted to their surroundings and acted according to their situation.

History Of The UNSC

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) was brought about in 1945, following the cease of World War II. The UNSC was brought about to maintain international peace and security. The UNSC was made to be composed of five permanent members, which are China, France, Russia, The United Kingdom, and The United States of America. It also has ten non-permanent members, elected for two-year terms. The council's primary responsibility was appointed to be the addressing of threats to global peace, deploying peacekeeping missions, imposing sanctions, and authorizing military actions, if necessary.

Fast-forward 75 years, by 2020, the UNSC had gone through a myriad of discussions, debates, and resolutions, on global issues. In 2020, which is the specific year we are focusing on for the UNSC, they have dealt with the challenges of changing the global landscape. It grappled with Issues such as the Syrian civil war, the rise of terrorism, conflicts in Yemen, and Ukraine, as well as escalating tensions between major world powers. To add, debates surrounding the councils' structure and decision-making process had emerged, with calls to better represent contemporary geopolitical relatives. As we all know, COVID-19 further tested the bandwidth of the councils' efficiency in addressing global crises, which revealed both cooperation, and divisions amongst its members in responding to the unprecedented health, and socio-economic challenges which were faced worldwide. Despite the limitations and criticisms the UNSC 2020 faced, it remained a crucial platform for diplomatic dialogue and action, showcasing the complexities of international relations, and the need for collective efforts to navigate multifaceted global issues and dilemmas.

Presented Conflicts / Obstacles To The UNSC

Front-line healthcare workers are the most affected by the economic crisis of the COVID-19 pandemic. Determining ways to compensate frontline workers, allocate resources towards viral research, and mandate certain restrictions to inhibit the spread of the disease will be crucial for the UNSC. Ongoing or escalating conflicts in regions like the Middle East, Africa, or Asia have demanded urgent attention, causing divisions among members on intervention strategies.

Humanitarian Crises will also be a struggle. With the influx of refugees and the aftermath of natural disasters presented complex challenges. The sheer scale of these crises strained both financial resources and global attention. This led to contentious debates within the Security Council on how to effectively allocate aid and support to affected regions. The urgency to address these crises often clashed with differing priorities among member states, creating hurdles in formulating cohesive, timely responses.

Rivalries between major powers will also be a factor, the deep-rooted rivalries among major powers significantly influenced the decision-making process within the Security Council. Disagreements and conflicting interests among these influential nations often hindered the Council's ability to reach consensus on critical issues. This particularly impacted agreements related to arms control measures and the deployment of peacekeeping missions, as geopolitical tensions and power dynamics played a significant role in shaping policy decisions.

Finally, the escalating threat posed by cyberattacks and the evolution of technological warfare introduced a new dimension of challenges for the Security Council. Member states grappled with formulating appropriate responses and regulations to address these evolving threats. The complexities surrounding attribution, the absence of comprehensive international norms, and the rapid advancement of technology created hurdles in devising effective strategies to prevent and mitigate the impact of cyberattacks on global security.

Questions To Consider

1. How should we reduce severity in conflict and post-conflict societies?
2. How should we research organizations?
3. How do we support small businesses in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic?
4. How to deal with individual rights.
5. How do we allocate resources to researching the virus?
6. How do we resolve other ongoing conflicts such as the Syrian civil war?
7. How can we resolve humanitarian crises such as immigration disputes?
8. How can we address rising concerns in technological warfare?

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