



**HRC**  
**The Human Rights Council**

**Presidents:**  
**Martin Restrepo**  
**Luciana García**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS ..... 2**

**1. WELCOMING LETTER:..... 3**

**2. INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMITTEE:..... 4**

**3. TOPIC 1: REGULATION OF COMMON RESOURCES AND ITS IMPACT ON NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONFLICTS IN AFRICAN COUNTRIES.... 5**

    3.1. SUBTOPIC 1: COUNTERMEASURES TO HEALTH CRISES DUE TO AFRICAN COUNTRIES’ SECURITY CRISES..... 8

    3.2. SUBTOPIC 2: RESOURCE DEPENDENCE ON AFRICAN CONFLICTS..... 10

    3.3. SUBTOPIC 3: IMPUNITY ON THE FACE OF MISUSE OF RESOURCES ..... 14

    3.5. SUGGESTIONS FROM THE CHAIR..... 15

    3.6. USEFUL LINKS: ..... 15

    3.7. QARMAS: ..... 16

**4. TOPIC 2: HUMAN RIGHTS CRISIS IN YEMEN CIVIL WAR..... 16**

    4.1. SUBTOPIC 1: ASSESSMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW. 19

    4.2. SUBTOPIC 2: ADDRESSING THE REPERCUSSIONS OF WAR CRIMES ..... 22

    4.5. SUGGESTIONS FROM THE CHAIR..... 24

    4.6. USEFUL LINKS: ..... 24

    4.7. QARMAS: ..... 24

**5. LIST OF COUNTRIES: ..... 25**

**6. REFERENCES: ..... 26**



## 1. WELCOMING LETTER:

Dear delegates,

It is an honor for us, Martin Restrepo and Luciana Garcia, to be the presidents of the Human Rights Council, VMUN's new committee. In the same matter, we are grateful that you have decided to be part of the fourteenth version of the model.

Understanding what entails being part of a new committee, we hope that during your partaking you can take advantage of all the skills that you possess, not only to have a meaningful process by challenging yourself, but to explore critical thinking, have personal growth, and perform the best of your abilities. Moreover, you can count on our support for anything you need as we are happy to help you.

VMUN represents for both of us the opportunity to connect with others and engage in academic spaces to learn about global circumstances that define the world we live in.

We are confident in your capacities, that even though they cannot change the world, these skills give us the hope to continue *working for change* every day.

Finally, we encourage you to allow yourselves to appreciate VMUN and the work that ourselves and past generations have put in to make this a memorable event, as we look forward to seeing you in future versions of this model. Without further ado,

---

Martin Restrepo  
301 3966536

Luciana García  
317 6378011

Email: [hrcouncilvmun@sanjosevegas.edu.co](mailto:hrcouncilvmun@sanjosevegas.edu.co)



## **2. INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMITTEE:**

The United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) was established in 2006 to substitute the United Nations Commission on Human Rights. It is the United Nations intergovernmental body responsible to strengthen the protection and promotion of human rights. Simultaneously, it addresses global human rights violations and makes recommendations on them, assuming responsibility for advocating for high human rights standards.

With 47 member states elected by the majority of members of the General Assembly (GA) in a secret ballot, it considers the contribution towards human rights from each Candidate State. The Membership lasts for a period of three years and contains an equitable geographic distribution of 13 African States, 13 Asia-Pacific States, 8 Latin American and Caribbean States, 7 Western European (and other) States, and 6 Eastern European States.

The HRC functions under the mechanism of a “Universal Periodic Review”, which holds three annual sessions in March, June, and September, whereby annual reports are submitted to the General Assembly. Additionally, the Advisory Committee meets twice a year, in February and August, and exists as a counselor and researcher for countries on specific issues regarding human rights. Simultaneously, it works with independent consultants in the “Special Procedures” that are established by the council to publicly report, monitor, and examine specific matters of human rights annually.



### **3. TOPIC 1: REGULATION OF COMMON RESOURCES AND ITS IMPACT ON NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONFLICTS IN AFRICAN COUNTRIES**

This subject deals with issues that call for immediate control of a crucial panorama. Unfortunately, the distribution of primary resources in all African nations is suspicious, costing millions of dollars. African nations' economic growth and development have been hampered by the ineffective resource regulation, which has remained a persistent challenge. The improper management of natural resources like oil, gas, minerals, and timber is one of the main problems. Foreign companies have been able to exploit these resources due to poor governance structures, corruption, and a lack of transparency, frequently at the expense of the local populace. Potential revenue that could have been used to fund infrastructure, education, healthcare, and other essential services has been lost as a result. Additionally, with little consideration for sustainable practices or the long-term effects on ecosystems, the lack of efficient regulatory frameworks has accelerated environmental degradation. Additionally, these resources' unequal wealth distribution has exacerbated social and political unrest, escalating poverty and inequality. To ensure that the resources benefit the entire population and contribute to sustainable development in African countries, these issues must be addressed through strong and transparent governance systems, strengthened regulatory mechanisms, and increased accountability.

Many African nations struggle with unstable governance systems, such as corruption, a lack of transparency, and ineffective institutions, even though there are many reasons why they have this inefficient way of allocating primary resources and weak governance structures. These elements, along with limited capacity and resources, create an environment



that encourages resource exploitation without proper regulation. It's possible that African nations lack the resources and capacity to effectively enforce laws. Political instability and conflicts are another factor that makes it difficult for them to monitor and regulate resource extraction, which results in a lack of oversight. These factors have also made it more difficult to establish and enforce regulations in many African nations. Resource extraction may be given priority in such chaotic environments over long-term planning and regulation, as well as global power, Dynamics: Strong international corporations and governments with a vested interest in utilizing and accessing the continent's resources frequently exert pressure on African nations. Due to this dynamic, African nations may find it challenging to negotiate fair regulations and terms of resource extraction. Additionally, there may be a lack of public awareness and participation, which can exacerbate the problem in some cases. Finally, there are historical factors to consider. Some African nations have a history of colonization, which has left behind the legacy of resource exploitation without adequate regulation. When citizens are not sufficiently informed or involved in decision-making processes, resource extraction occurs more easily without proper regulations in place. In order to maintain a lack of regulation, former colonial powers frequently established systems that put their own interests ahead of the nations' sustainable development.

These challenges require a comprehensive approach that includes strengthening governance systems, enhancing capacity and resources, promoting transparency and accountability, and fostering inclusive participation of local communities in decision-making processes. It also requires collaboration between African countries, international organizations, and stakeholders to create an enabling environment for sustainable resource management. The lack of regulation of resources in African countries has significant impacts



on both national and international conflicts, the main impacts are resource-driven conflicts: Natural resources such as oil, gas, minerals, and diamonds often become a source of contention, as their extraction and control can lead to conflicts within and between countries. The competition for resource wealth, combined with weak regulatory frameworks, can escalate tensions and fuel violence, as different groups vie for control over lucrative assets, also, fueling armed groups and insurgencies: In regions where resources are poorly regulated, armed groups and insurgencies often exploit this vulnerability to finance their operations. These groups engage in illegal resource extraction, such as smuggling minerals or controlling oil fields, to fund their activities.

The resulting violence and instability contribute to conflicts within the affected countries, in addition cross-border conflicts: The lack of regulation in one country can spill over into neighboring countries, leading to cross-border conflicts. When resources are exploited without oversight, it can lead to territorial disputes, smuggling networks, and the movement of armed groups across borders, exacerbating tensions and potentially triggering conflicts between nations, furthermore, economic disparities and social unrest: Unequal distribution of resource wealth, driven by a lack of regulation, contributes to economic disparities within countries. This wealth imbalance can lead to social unrest, as marginalized communities feel excluded and perceive resource exploitation as benefiting only a select few. The resulting grievances and protests can escalate into larger-scale conflicts if not addressed and last, international involvement and proxy conflicts: The lack of regulation in African countries' resource sectors can attract the involvement of international actors, including governments, corporations, and criminal networks. These external actors often exploit the weak regulatory environment, exacerbating conflicts and deepening divisions. In some cases,

conflicts in African countries become proxy battles for larger international powers competing for control over resources.

### **3.1. SUBTOPIC 1: COUNTERMEASURES TO HEALTH CRISES DUE TO AFRICAN COUNTRIES' SECURITY CRISES**

The health crisis in African countries is one of the most important aspects that this commission will discuss, given that the wide gap and the poor management of these aspects in Africa create the conditions and poverty for viruses and diseases to spread.

Analysis of the seven countries in the greater Horn of Africa - Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda – recorded 39 reported outbreaks, flooding and other acute public health events between 1 January and 30 October 2022. This is already the highest annual reported number since 2000, with two months left in the year. Outbreaks of anthrax, measles, cholera, yellow fever, chikungunya, meningitis, and other infectious diseases account for more than 80% of the acute public health events reported, with drought, flooding and other disasters accounting for 18%. (World Health Organization, 2022)

As a result, when health crises arise in African countries due to security crises, it is essential to implement effective countermeasures to mitigate the impact on public health. Some of them are humanitarian assistance: International organizations, governments, and humanitarian actors should provide immediate and coordinated assistance to affected regions. This includes delivering emergency medical supplies, vaccines, food, clean water,



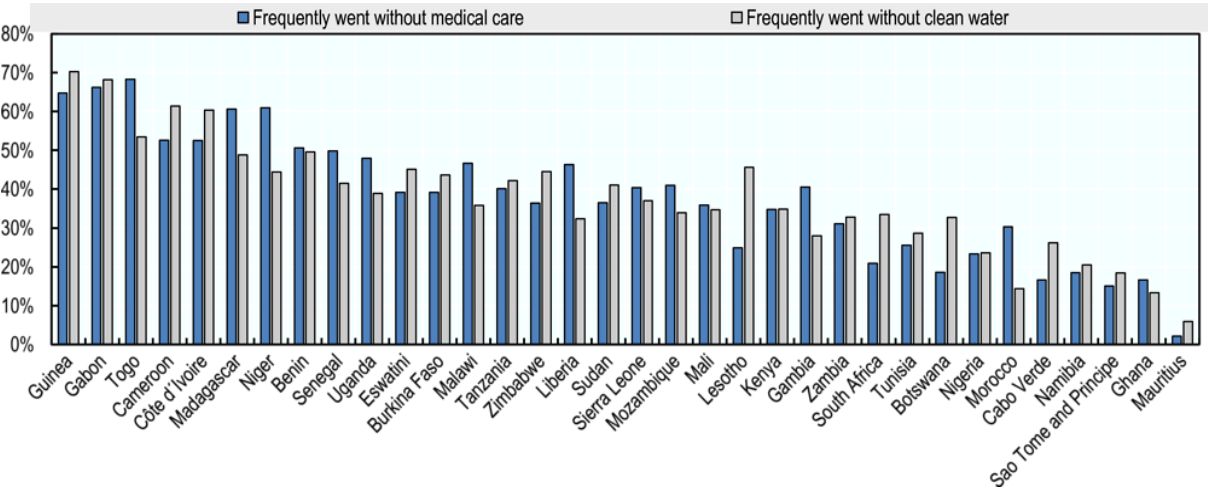


and sanitation facilities to address the population's urgent health needs and strengthening healthcare infrastructure: Invest in strengthening healthcare infrastructure in conflict-affected areas. Establishing temporary health facilities, deploying mobile clinics, and ensuring the availability of trained healthcare professionals to provide essential medical services, in addition to this disease surveillance and early warning systems: Enhance disease surveillance systems to detect and respond to outbreaks promptly. Early warning systems can help identify and track the spread of diseases, enabling a swift response to prevent further transmission, another could be community engagement and awareness: Promote community engagement and awareness campaigns to educate the population about health risks, disease prevention measures, and available healthcare services.

Encouraging community participation fosters trust and empowers individuals to take necessary precautions to protect themselves and others, additionally, the protection of healthcare workers: Ensure the safety and protection of healthcare workers who are on the front lines, providing care in conflict-affected areas. This includes training them in safety protocols, providing personal protective equipment, and establishing mechanisms to support their physical and mental well-being, and security and access: Establish secure corridors and negotiate access with all parties involved in the conflict to ensure the delivery of humanitarian aid and healthcare services. This requires engaging with local authorities, armed groups, and other stakeholders to prioritize the well-being of the affected population. Finally, long-term development: Support long-term development efforts to address the root causes of conflict and instability. Promoting sustainable development, good governance, and economic opportunities can contribute to lasting peace and improved healthcare systems.



It is crucial to emphasize that these measures should be implemented in conjunction with efforts to address the underlying security crises. By addressing both the immediate health needs and the security challenges, it becomes possible to effectively respond to health crises and lay the groundwork for long-term stability and development in African countries.



Source: <https://www.afrobarometer.org/articles/global-response-covid-19-africa-must-protect-lives-livelihoods-and-freedoms/>

**3.2. SUBTOPIC 2: RESOURCE DEPENDENCE ON AFRICAN CONFLICTS**

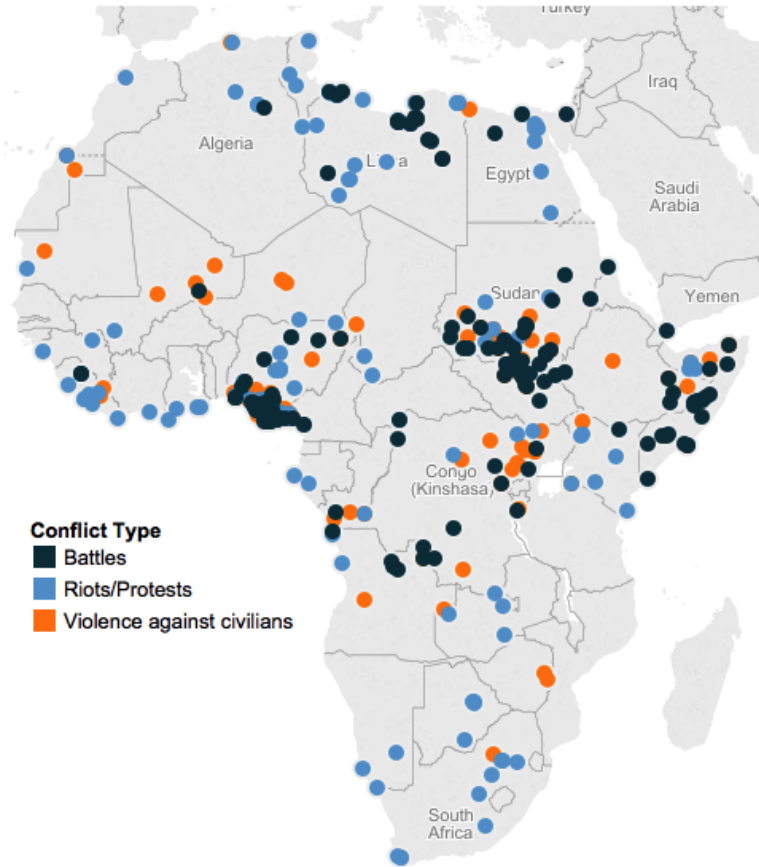
It is difficult to determine the role and the extent of the resources’ effect on social, economic, and political aspects in the African continent, as their dependency shapes their political stability and economic performance, yet an understanding of resource-related conflicts can be found with more direct and specific violations of human rights, as these can involve governments, companies, belligerent groups, development agencies, and local communities, that are seeking control and access to African resources.



There are contributing elements or trends which are known to trigger or substantially exacerbate disputes over resources, since, although they may be something purely material, they influence different areas, such as the functioning of institutions, industries, and governments that often privatize common natural resources management or services, which can set off political conflicts within states; demographic changes are also responsible for the growing competition over natural resources, as the economic conditions combined with the destruction of ecosystems and population growth, can easily aggravate the possibility for conflict.

Managing resources requires collaboration, but also involves conflicting interests, especially in developing countries, as these are their main sources of income. Natural resources are shared goods and used by multiple users: the ongoing crisis in the African territories of Nigeria, Sudan, South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Somalia, showcases resource-dependent countries and how it affects conflicts as seen in Figure 2.

Figure 2: Resource-Related Conflict in Africa, 1997-2014



<sup>1</sup> In certain situations, proxy wars become opportunities for major international powers looking for control of resources, and nowadays it is through conflicts in African countries. The absence of regulation in Africa's resource industries can attract foreign entities such as governments, corporations, and criminal networks. Some external

actors often take advantage of the lax regulatory framework, exacerbating conflicts and deepening divisions. “Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia, and Uganda have experienced long-lasting civil wars involving heavily armed central governments to opposition groups with diverse agendas – cultural, economic, ideological, religious and/or political – and usually also militarily well equipped” (Clapham, 1998). Proxy wars in the Horn of Africa, are known to be common in the region, as was the case for Sudan supporting Ethiopia’s and Eritrea’s opposition groups, or Ethiopia and Uganda endorsing the Sudanese rebels, all these conflicts share one specific feature: the resource control.

<sup>1</sup> Source: <https://acleddata.com/2014/11/19/resource-related-conflict-in-africa/>

Minerals like oil, gold, gas, uranium, or natural resources such as forests, water, and land, are valuable and essential for the livelihood and livestock of the inhabitants, as the Horn of Africa is known for being a farming and agricultural community. The Democratic Republic of Congo hosts around 70% of the coltan reserves and more than half of the worldwide reserves of cobalt, it is rich

in minerals and

simultaneously rich in

violence: “As global

demand for Congolese

mineral resources

increases, so do the

associated dangers that

raise red flags for

Congolese miners' human

rights.” (Wilson Center,

2021). As seen in Figure 3,

the DRC contains a cycle

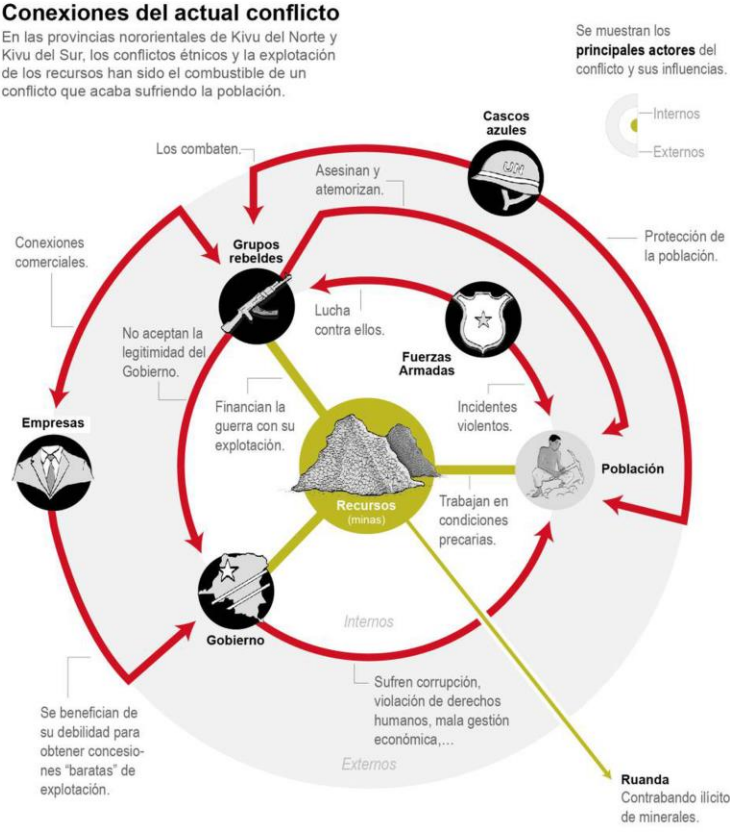
of exploitation that connects civilians suffering with resources, <sup>2</sup>making mines the epicenter

of conflicts as employees are working in precarious conditions to retrieve these minerals

which are used by the government, belligerent groups, and citizens themselves, which

entails influencing external factors such as companies, armed forces, or international

organizations such as the United Nations: this connections between the actual conflict and



<sup>2</sup> Source:

[https://elpais.com/elpais/2020/04/23/planeta\\_futuro/1587638775\\_891949.html](https://elpais.com/elpais/2020/04/23/planeta_futuro/1587638775_891949.html)



resources in the Democratic Republic of Congo represent what happens in African states that are resource-dependent.

### **3.3. SUBTOPIC 3: IMPUNITY ON THE FACE OF MISUSE OF RESOURCES**

The misuse of resources provides the possibility of corruption and impunity due to the mismanagement, exploitation, and illegal activities connected to resource-related conflicts. Impunity under this context is linked to the lack of accountability of those who are responsible for human rights crimes and abuses during these conflicts; inadequate legal frameworks, unsteady institutions, political interference, and corruption often allow for this impunity to rise upon human rights violations.

Rules and regulations governing resource exploitation, revenue management, and environmental protection are often not enforced or are vulnerable to political influence. Currently, people and companies alike can engage in illicit operations such as smuggling, corruption, and environmental devastation without fear of prosecution or sanction. Local communities in resource-rich locations are routinely subjected to relocation, and violence, while strong entities exploit resources without being held accountable. Impunity fosters these atrocities by isolating affected populations and denying them access to justice or redress for damages suffered. Impunity for resource misuse affects Africa's international relations, as it raises concerns about governance, the rule of law, and human rights, impacting foreign aid, trade relations, and investment prospects.

Until African governments and organizations can successfully prosecute human rights violations and resource-related conflicts, international organizations such as the Human Rights Council must advise and advocate the specific matters that occur in these countries.

### **3.5. SUGGESTIONS FROM THE CHAIR**

As the committee will be working as the Advisory Committee, take into consideration that the Council's work is guided by the following:

- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights
- 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Simultaneously, we recommend you focus on the International Humanitarian Law,

### **3.6. USEFUL LINKS:**

- <https://books.openedition.org/cei/295?lang=es#tocfrom1n2>
- <https://orbi.uliege.be/bitstream/2268/211894/1/Natural%20resources%20have%20a%20determinant%20role%20in%20conflicts.pdf>
- [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/249706310\\_The\\_Market\\_for\\_Force\\_and\\_Public\\_Security\\_The\\_Destabilizing\\_Consequences\\_of\\_Private\\_Military\\_Companies](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/249706310_The_Market_for_Force_and_Public_Security_The_Destabilizing_Consequences_of_Private_Military_Companies)
- [https://en.unesco.org/inclusivepolicylab/sites/default/files/analytics/document/2019/4/wssr\\_2016\\_chap\\_09.pdf](https://en.unesco.org/inclusivepolicylab/sites/default/files/analytics/document/2019/4/wssr_2016_chap_09.pdf)
- <https://www.afrobarometer.org/articles/global-response-covid-19-africa-must-protect-lives-livelihoods-and-freedoms/>

### **3.7. QARMAS:**

- How do African resources interact with your delegation's self-interest?
- Has your delegation's healthcare system been affected by any security crisis? How did it manage it?
- Will/do African resource-based conflicts affect your delegation's alliances? What repercussions will it bring on the economic and social levels?
- What are the main human rights violated in resource-based conflicts?

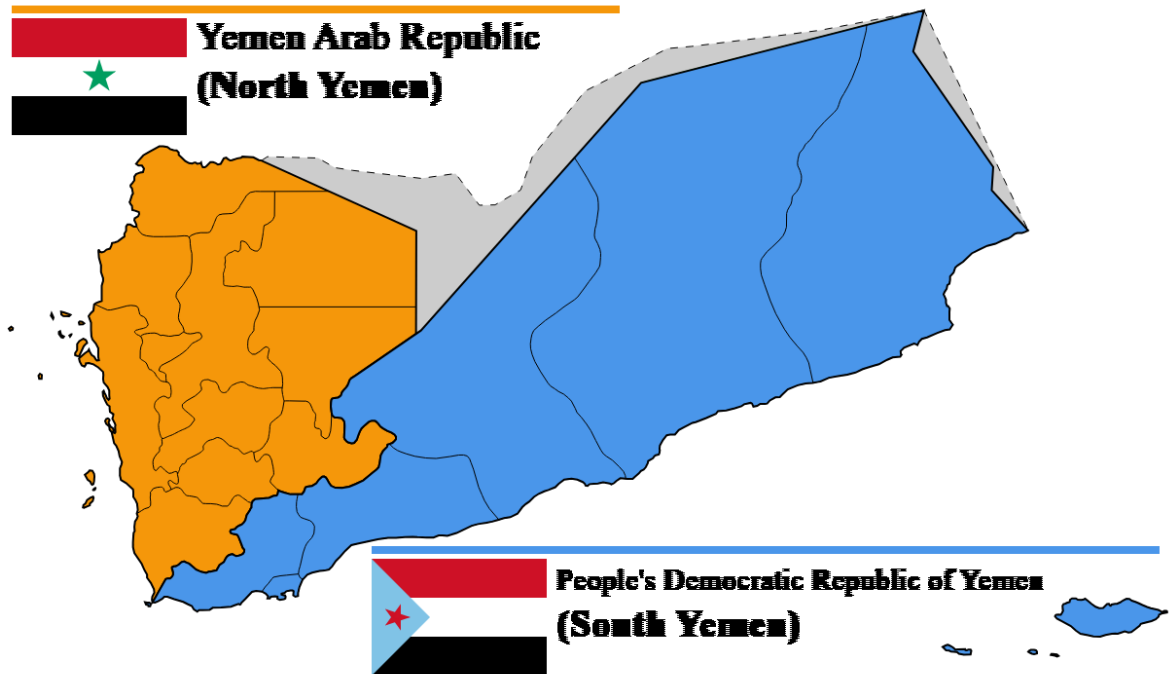
## **4. TOPIC 2: HUMAN RIGHTS CRISIS IN YEMEN CIVIL WAR**

The conflict of Yemen is one of the most catastrophic crises ever known in human history, The Yemeni Civil War is a complex and multi-faceted conflict that involves many idealism and complex political development, although this conflict can be categorized by 2 main sides, the Houthi rebels (ansar Allah) and the international recognized government.

When the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and North Yemen(Yemen Arab Republic) united in 1990, modern Yemen was created. However, contrary to expectations, this unification did not result in stability and prosperity. The integration of two disparate political systems, a flimsy central government, and ongoing territorial disputes were among the difficulties Yemen faced.







Midway through the 1990s, when a brief but fierce civil war broke out between forces supporting the southern leadership and the Yemeni government in Sanaa, the first indications of unrest appeared. The government quickly put an end to the conflict, but the southern separatists' grievances went unresolved. Years later, the conflict would resume because of this, the Houthi rebellion, which started in 2004, presented a further significant obstacle. The Zaidi Shia Muslim minority in Yemen, centered in the northern Saada governorate, was represented by the Houthi movement, which took its name from Hussein Badreddin al-Houthi. The Houthis insurgency sought to address socioeconomic disparities, political exclusion, and purported religious discrimination because they felt marginalized and excluded from the political process. The Houthi insurgency received a harsh response from the government, which resulted in the deaths and displacement of civilians, Yemen was swept up in the Arab Spring, a wave of popular uprisings, in 2011. Massive demonstrations demanded political reforms, an end to corruption, and President Ali Abdullah Saleh's

resignation after more than three decades in office. International mediation efforts ended the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Initiative after months of protests, and Saleh resigned in exchange for immunity from prosecution.

The Houthi insurgency significantly grew in 2014. From their stronghold in Saada, the Houthis moved south in response to widespread discontent with Hadi's administration. They effectively dissolved the government when they took over Sanaa, the nation's capital, in September 2014. First to Aden and then to Saudi Arabia, President Hadi was compelled to flee, shortly after A new stage in the conflict and regional intervention was brought on by the Houthi conquest of Sanaa and Hadi's overthrow. In order to put down the Houthi rebels and reinstate Hadi's government, Saudi Arabia organized a coalition of Arab states out of concern for Iranian influence in Yemen. The Saudi-led coalition launched an airstrikes and ground operations military intervention in March second.

The conflict has endured despite numerous attempts at peace talks, with intermittent ceasefires giving way to fresh hostilities. The Yemen civil war is still a very complicated and unresolvable crisis that seriously impacts the area's stability. Yemen is one of the worst humanitarian disasters in the world due to the severe humanitarian toll. The Yemeni Civil War's long-term peaceful resolution remains an elusive objective, necessitating ongoing international efforts to address its underlying causes and achieve a lasting political settlement.

In more recent developments, In April 2022, Yemen's internationally recognized president, Abd Rabbu Mansour Hadi, resigned to make way for a new seven-member presidential council. Coming to power through an uncontested election in 2012, Hadi was only meant to serve as a transitional president following Saleh's resignation. Instead, he



served for ten years, seven of which he spent governing in exile in Saudi Arabia. His rare appearances and disconnection from events on the ground left him unpopular, and the leadership change makes the government more representative of its various factions. Rashad al-Alimi, a Hadi advisor with close ties to Saudi Arabia and powerful Yemeni politicians, chairs the new council. In April 2022, the Saudi-led coalition and Iranian-backed Houthi rebels agreed to a cease-fire that was twice renewed. Both sides have refrained from significant escalatory actions, and hostility levels are still low as of June 2023 despite the cease-fire's official expiration in October 2022. Oman-mediated peace negotiations between Saudi and Houthi officials resumed in April 2023 as part of ongoing UN-brokered efforts. Hans Grundberg, a special envoy to the UN, expressed "cautious optimism" about the possibility of achieving new peace terms in May.

Hopes of a political agreement to put an end to the Yemeni conflict have been raised by talks between Iran and Saudi Arabia in April 2023 that were mediated by China. After years of tension and hostility, the negotiations resulted in a historic agreement to re-establish diplomatic ties and open both sides' embassies. The agreement, according to Iran's UN mission, could hasten the process of renewing the expired cease-fire.

#### **4.1. SUBTOPIC 1: ASSESSMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW**

As established in the UN General Assembly of the Basic Principles for the Protection of civilian populations in armed conflicts in 1970, "Fundamental human rights, as accepted in international law and laid down in international instruments, continue to apply fully in situations of armed conflict." Furthermore, the International Humanitarian Law (IHL) shares



the central concern of ensuring human dignity by acting during armed conflicts with the International Human Rights Law. The IHL<sup>3</sup> includes two distinct branches of international law: the Law of Geneva and the Law of the Hague, that nowadays work as a part of modern international humanitarian Law as one, due to the additional Protocols established in 1977. The Law of Geneva seeks to protect the military that has retired from conflict and those civilians who are not involved directly in combat, meanwhile the Law of the Hague sets forth the rights and duties of the belligerent when performing military operations and restrains the use of resources in warfare.

All human rights require protection and all parties that make up the hostilities in Yemen are bound to following the laws of the IHL, including Yemen. Yemen is party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination (CEDAW), International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD), Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT), Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), which are 7 of the 9 Core International Human Rights Instruments, as seen in Figure 4.

Understanding the ongoing civil war in Yemen and the established international humanitarian law, the conflict between the Yemeni Government armed forces and the

---

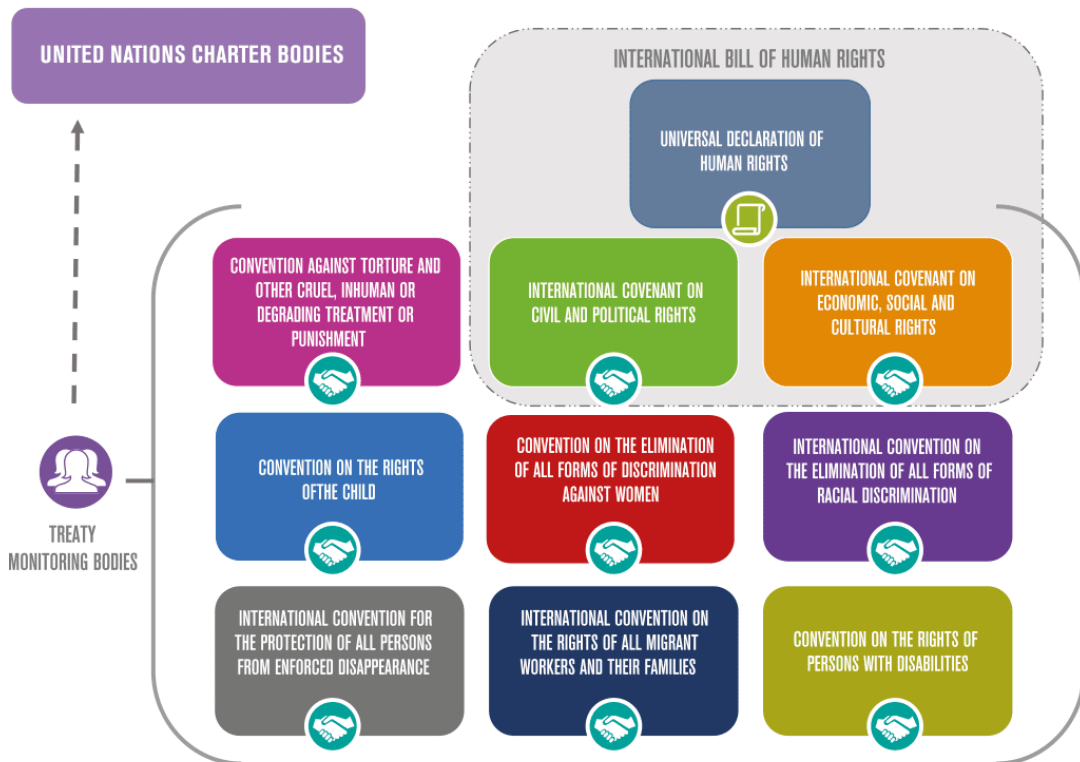
<sup>3</sup> See useful links for all the treaties that make up the international humanitarian law



Houthi is a non-international armed conflict, which differs as to which treaty is valid to use, since if it were an international conflict, it would have different requirements to proceed.

**Figure 4**

**INTRODUCTION TO THE UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS TREATIES**



According to this, the main rules of international humanitarian law which apply to non-international armed conflicts are the following:

Common Article 3 to the 1949 Geneva Conventions (GCs) and 1977 Additional Protocol II (AP II), both of which specifically apply to the non-international armed conflicts under consideration. Yemen and all the States belonging to the Saudi Arabia-led coalition are parties to the GCs and AP II. Additionally, the Houthis meet the requirements set forth in Article 1(1) AP II, namely acting under a responsible

command and controlling a sufficient portion of territory that enables them to “carry out sustained and concerted military operations and to implement the Protocol.” (Journal SINERGI 1, 2021)

#### **4.2. SUBTOPIC 2: ADDRESSING THE REPERCUSSIONS OF WAR CRIMES**

The absence of justice and legal representation of war crimes committed against people in Yemen became concerning, as these violators of human rights have not been held accountable. Economic interests in arms supply, political and diplomatic control between the Yemeni Government, the Houthis, and foreign countries, and countless attacks on markets, hospitals, and schools, make holding accountable for war crimes a difficult task and finding the means to make this conflict come to an end, difficult to be carried out.

A truce that was dealt by the UN Special Envoy for Yemen on April 2, 2022, sought to decrease civilian casualties and stop all attacks by negotiating a cease-fire in the country, simultaneously activating commercial flights in Sana’a and the entry of fuel ships in ports over Hodeidah. However, this truce managed to reduce civilian casualties, there were still 1,205 recorded incidents -during the six-month period that it lasted- that managed to interfere with the humanitarian aid access in the territory; violence against workers, civilians suffering violations and abuses of human rights such as enforced tortures, disappearances, and sexual violence did not come to a halt.

From 2018-2021 the UN Human Rights Council (HRC)-mandated Group of Eminent Experts (GEE) on Yemen also documented a pattern of violations and



abuses of international law perpetrated by all parties to the conflict that may amount to war crimes, including indiscriminate airstrikes and shelling, torture, arbitrary detention, and sexual and gender-based violence. (Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect, 2023)

These investigations experienced by the alleged parties to the conflict showed that France, Iran, Canada, the United States of America, and the United Kingdom can be involved or have knowledge about the violations mentioned beforehand due to their assistance in supplying logistical support, military intelligence, and arms to parties of the hostilities. Unfortunately, the Human Rights Council did not manage to renew the GEE mandate on Yemen in 2021, which caused the only international independent mechanism that was dedicated to monitoring and reporting international law violations occurring in Yemen to come to an end.

Therefore, this is where the European Human Rights Court and human rights organizations such as Mwatana for Human Rights, and the European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights, come into place. Reports regarding casualties done by most if not all parties to the conflict, have been sent to the organizations mentioned beforehand, to seek and ensure that those companies that produce the source of armament or equipment that each party uses to harm civilians and state authorities involved are responsible for their partaking in collaborating to the deaths of Yemeni civilians.

The international community finds itself stuck in a complex crisis, as the time that this civil war has lasted, several efforts such as the truce and the GEE have not achieved for



the conflict to seize, as these attempts for peace have not considered holding accountable those countries that have been involved in what has now become a proxy conflict, that even though it is non-international has severe complications for the Yemeni civilians.

#### **4.5. SUGGESTIONS FROM THE CHAIR**

As this conflict has been happening for several years, look into the measures and strategies that have been implemented to halt or lessen the violations of human rights, and bring to the committee new paths to tackle what has not been accomplished, considering the legal treaties and conventions that govern international law. Simultaneously, the war crimes that have occurred during this civil war should be identified and reported.

#### **4.6. USEFUL LINKS:**

- [https://blogs.icrc.org/ilot/2017/08/07/treaties-make-international-humanitarian-law/War in Yemen | Global Conflict Tracker \(cfr.org\)](https://blogs.icrc.org/ilot/2017/08/07/treaties-make-international-humanitarian-law/War-in-Yemen-|-Global-Conflict-Tracker-(cfr.org))
- [https://www.redcross.org/content/dam/redcross/atg/PDF\\_s/Family\\_Holocaust\\_Tracing/IHL\\_HumanRights.pdf](https://www.redcross.org/content/dam/redcross/atg/PDF_s/Family_Holocaust_Tracing/IHL_HumanRights.pdf)
- <https://reliefweb.int/report/yemen/war-crimes-yemen-europe-s-arms-industry-complicit-enar>

#### **4.7. QARMAS:**

- How is your delegation affected by the Yemeni conflict?
- What roll does your delegation play in the conflict?
- How does you delegation help to solve the conflict?
- Which treaties does your delegation ratifies and/or signs?





**5. LIST OF COUNTRIES:**

- UNITED STATES OF AMERICA 
- UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND 
- FRENCH REPUBLIC 
- PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA 
- RUSSIAN FEDERATION 
- FEDEERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY 
- REPUBLIC OF ITALY 
- DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO 
- REPUBLIC OF ZIMBAWE 
- REPUBLIC OF YEMEN 
- REPUBLIC OF IRAN 
- ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT 
- KINGDOM OF MOROCCO 
- CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC 
- FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF SOMALIA 
- REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA 
- STATE OF ISRAEL 
- JAPAN 

## 6. REFERENCES:

- “African Development Bank - Building Today, a Better Africa Tomorrow.” *Www.afdb.org*,  
[www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Publications/%28E%29%20AfricanBank%202007%20Ch4.pdf](http://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Publications/%28E%29%20AfricanBank%202007%20Ch4.pdf).
- June 12, and 2017. “Government Regulation: The Good, the Bad, & the Ugly.” *Regulatory Transparency Project*, [rtp.fedsoc.org/paper/government-regulation-the-good-the-bad-the-ugly/#:~:text=Poorly%20designed%20regulations%20may%20cause](http://rtp.fedsoc.org/paper/government-regulation-the-good-the-bad-the-ugly/#:~:text=Poorly%20designed%20regulations%20may%20cause).
- Sastre, Irene Escudero y Patricia M. “El Infierno de Una Guerra Inacabada.” *El País*, 23 Apr. 2020,  
[elpais.com/elpais/2020/04/23/planeta\\_futuro/1587638775\\_891949.html](http://elpais.com/elpais/2020/04/23/planeta_futuro/1587638775_891949.html).
- “The Greater Horn of Africa’s Climate-Related Health Crisis Worsens as Disease Outbreaks Surge.” *WHO | Regional Office for Africa*, [www.afro.who.int/news/greater-horn-africas-climate-related-health-crisis-worsens-disease-outbreaks-surge#:~:text=Outbreaks%20of%20anthrax%2C%20measles%2C%20cholera](http://www.afro.who.int/news/greater-horn-africas-climate-related-health-crisis-worsens-disease-outbreaks-surge#:~:text=Outbreaks%20of%20anthrax%2C%20measles%2C%20cholera).
- “The Struggle for Justice: The Situation of Impunity and Accountability Avenues for Violations Committed in Yemen - Yemen | ReliefWeb.” *Reliefweb.int*, 12 June 2023,  
[reliefweb.int/report/yemen/struggle-justice-situation-impunity-and-accountability-avenues-violations-committed-yemen](http://reliefweb.int/report/yemen/struggle-justice-situation-impunity-and-accountability-avenues-violations-committed-yemen). Accessed 1 Aug. 2023.
- TOPIC SHEET NATURAL RESOURCES and CONFLICT.*
- “War Atrocities in Yemen Linked to US Weapons.” *Columbia Magazine*,  
[magazine.columbia.edu/article/war-atrocities-yemen-linked-us-weapons](http://magazine.columbia.edu/article/war-atrocities-yemen-linked-us-weapons). Accessed 1 Aug. 2023.
- “War Crimes Committed by Both Sides in Yemen, U.N. Panel Says.” *The New York Times*, 3 Sept. 2019, [www.nytimes.com/2019/09/03/world/middleeast/war-crimes-yemen.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2019/09/03/world/middleeast/war-crimes-yemen.html).

<https://rtp.fedsoc.org/paper/government-regulation-the-good-the-bad-the-ugly/#:~:text=Poorly%20designed%20regulations%20may%20cause,public's%20confidence%20in%20our%20government.>

chrome-

extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcgclefindmkaj/https://www.oecd.org/gov/regulatory-policy/46466287.pdf

<https://www.afro.who.int/news/greater-horn-africas-climate-related-health-crisis-worsens-disease-outbreaks->

<surge#:~:text=Outbreaks%20of%20anthrax%2C%20measles%2C%20cholera,other%20disasters%20accounting%20for%2018%25.>

[https://elpais.com/elpais/2020/04/23/planeta\\_futuro/1587638775\\_891949.html](https://elpais.com/elpais/2020/04/23/planeta_futuro/1587638775_891949.html)

<https://www.helvetas.org/Publications->

[PDFs/topicsheet\\_naturalresourcesandconflict\\_en.pdf](PDFs/topicsheet_naturalresourcesandconflict_en.pdf)

<https://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Publications/%28E%29%20AfricanBank%202007%20Ch4.pdf>

<https://mwatana.org/en/italian-made-bombs/>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/09/03/world/middleeast/war-crimes-yemen.html>

<https://reliefweb.int/report/yemen/struggle-justice-situation-impunity-and-accountability-avenues-violations-committed-yemen>

<https://magazine.columbia.edu/article/war-atrocities-yemen-linked-us-weapons>

