

Committee Guide

UNSC 2024

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Navigating a New Age

***Ensuring Human
Rights in the
Ongoing Civil War
in Sudan***



Contents

1. Personal Introduction	3
1.1. McKenzie Tomasik	3
1.2. Sammo Orlando Imgart	4
2. What Needs to be Done? - General Information:	5
3. Securing Peace - About the UN Security Council	6
4. History of the Conflict	7
4.1. Independence until now	7
4.2. Coup of 2021	8
4.3. April 15th 2023	8
5. Current Problems	9
5.1. Ethnic Violence	9
5.2. Widespread Displacement of Sudanese People	10
5.3. Humanitarian Crisis	10
5.4. Economic Stagnancy and Mass Unemployment	11
5.5. Gender-Based Violence	11
5.6. Inadequate Rule of Law	11
5.7. International Involvement, Response and Responsibility	12
6. Proposed Solutions	13
6.1. Independent International Fact-Finding Mission for the Sudan	13
6.2. Security Council Resolution 2724 (2024)	13
7. The Next Steps	14
8. Helpful Advice	15
9. Further Reading	16

1. Personal Introduction

1.1. McKenzie Tomasik

Distinguished delegates of the Security Council,

Welcome to the 2024 OLMUN Security Council! My name is McKenzie Tomasik. I am 18 years old, from Chicago, USA, and attending university at the College of the Holy Cross this coming fall.

I love philosophy, art, interesting conversations, and traveling. Model UN has been my activity for 7 years, where I've attended and/or led 40 conferences, primarily in the US. Last year, I held the honor of participating in OLMUN's UNSC alongside Sammo, where OLMUN became my favorite conference. I am passionate about returning this year to carry out an excellent committee for all those who partake in the fruitfully intense and pivotally constructive debate.



I wish you all the best for your preparation and I am looking forward to meeting you all personally in addition to hearing your thoughtful solutions and fruitful discussions on our most critical focus on the Sudan crisis.

Best regards,

McKenzie Tomasik

1.2. Sammo Orlando Imgart

Esteemed Delegates of the Security council,

I am very excited to welcome you to the OLMUN 2024 Security Council! My name is Sammo Imgart, I'm 18 years old and I'm currently taking my Abitur. In my free time I like to play the guitar, paint and do Brazilian jiu-jitsu.

I have participated in OLMUN as a delegate for the past three years and was a delegate in the Security Council myself last year! Due to that I am looking forward to being one of your Chairs this year and giving you an opportunity as amazing as I had in my past OLMUN experiences.

The conflict in Sudan is extremely complex but there are a lot of very current topics in human rights, like ethnic violence, genocide, hunger and gender based violence. Conflicts in the middle east and also the Russian war on Ukraine are conflicts that are intertwined with the civil war in Sudan.

I believe this year's topic will be very interesting for all of us and I am excited for the solutions you will come up with.

Best regards,

Sammo Orlando Imgart



2. What Needs to be Done? - General Information:

The topic of our debate will be „**Ensuring Human Rights in the Ongoing Civil War in Sudan**”.

For you to debate successfully, it is necessary to fully understand the conflict itself, its historical developments and the reasons that lead to the present situation. We created this Committee Guide for you to get started with your research and give you a quick overview on the topic and the conflict itself, as well as the Security Council and the action taken by the UN to solve the conflict.

Firstly, we would like to point out that this guide cannot be your only source of information! We expect you to conduct your own in-depth research, with the focus on your country’s position and policy. Therefore, it is mandatory for you to understand the reasons for your country’s policy and the responsibility that your country may have. Please inform yourself about your country’s alliances and partners, so that during committee sessions you can work realistically with those countries that may have similar interests.

Secondly, it is necessary for you to understand the debating process at OLMUN and the functionality of OLMUN in general. Therefore, please read the OLMUN Handbook carefully, it provides great information about the procedure during OLMUN and our committee sessions. Furthermore, you need to read the Rules of Procedure and especially the Rules of Procedure – Security Council. These are especially important during our committee sessions, because the debating process and all motions and points are explained in detail. Both the Handbook and the Rules of Procedure can be downloaded by the attached link or found on our website in the download section.

If you have read and understood both documents, as well as studied this guide and informed yourself with in-depth research, you are well prepared. If you have any questions or concerns don’t hesitate to reach out to the both of us, we are always happy to be of assistance.

3. Securing Peace - About the UN Security Council



The Security Council is one of six main bodies integrated into the United Nations, and its primary function is to ensure international peace and security in accordance with the United Nations' principles and purposes. In response to global conflicts and crises, the Security Council has passed more than 2600 resolutions.

In order to achieve its goals, the Security Council has been given powers that include a legally binding commitment, which results in the responsibility of all member states to obey the decisions from the Security Council.

The objective of the Security Council involves determining the existence of a threat, investigating the threat and if necessary, taking actions to resolve the conflict. It is always preferable to use diplomatic methods, e.g. mediation or the appointment of envoys to resolve a conflict, but the Council is also able to authorise military actions or sanctions if necessary.

The Security Council consists of 15 members, five of whom are permanent (People's Republic of China, France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom and the United States of America) and ten that are elected by the General Assembly for terms of two years. Permanent members hold special rights, including the right to veto submitted Draft Resolutions or Amendments on Resolutions.

4. History of the Conflict

4.1. Independence until now

A polling process was carried out resulting in the composition of a democratic parliament and Ismail al-Azhari was elected first Prime Minister and led the first modern Sudanese government. On 1 January 1956, in a special ceremony held at the People's Palace, the Egyptian and British flags were lowered and the new Sudanese flag, composed of green, blue and yellow stripes, was raised in their place by the prime minister Ismail al-Azhari.

Dissatisfaction culminated in a second coup d'état on 25 May 1969. The coup leader, Col. Gaafar Nimeiry, became prime minister, and the new regime abolished parliament and outlawed all political parties.

Disputes between Marxist and non-Marxist elements within the ruling military coalition resulted in a briefly successful coup in July 1971, led by the Sudanese Communist Party. Several days later, anti-communist military elements restored Nimeiry to power.

On 30 June 1989, Colonel Omar al-Bashir led a bloodless military coup. The new military government suspended political parties and introduced an Islamic legal code on the national level. Later, al-Bashir carried out purges and executions in the upper ranks of the army, the banning of associations, political parties, and independent newspapers, and the imprisonment of leading political figures and journalists. On 16 October 1993, al-Bashir appointed himself "President" and disbanded the Revolutionary Command Council. The executive and legislative powers of the council were taken by al-Bashir.

In February 2003, the Sudan Liberation Movement/Army (SLM/A) and Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) groups in Darfur took up arms, accusing the Sudanese government of oppressing non-Arab Sudanese in favour of Sudanese Arabs, precipitating the War in Darfur. The conflict has since been described as a genocide, and the International Criminal Court (ICC) in The Hague has issued two arrest warrants for al-Bashir. Arabic-speaking nomadic militias known as the Janjaweed stand accused of many atrocities.

A referendum took place in Southern Sudan from 9 to 15 January 2011, on whether the region should remain a part of Sudan or become independent. The referendum was one of the consequences of the 2005 Naivasha Agreement between the Khartoum central government and the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement (SPLA/M).

On 7 February 2011, the referendum commission published the final results, with a landslide majority of 98.83% voting in favour of independence.

4.2. Coup of 2021

The Sudanese government announced on 21 September 2021 that there was a failed attempt at a coup d'état from the military that had led to the arrest of 40 military officers.

One month after the attempted coup, another military coup on 25 October 2021 resulted in the capture of the civilian government, including former Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok. The coup was led by general Abdel Fattah al-Burhan who subsequently declared a state of emergency and took office as the de facto head of state of Sudan and formed his new army backed Government on 11 November 2021.

On 21 November 2021, Hamdok was reinstated as prime minister after a political agreement was signed by Abdel Fattah al-Burhan to restore the transition to civilian rule (although Burhan retained control). The 14-point deal called for the release of all political prisoners detained during the coup and stipulated that a 2019 constitutional declaration continued to be the basis for a political transition.

On 2 January 2022, Hamdok announced his resignation from the position of Prime Minister following one of the most deadly protests to date. He was succeeded by Osman Hussein. By March 2022 over 1,000 people including 148 children had been detained for opposing the coup, there had been 25 allegations of rape and 87 people had been killed including 11 children.

4.3. April 15th 2023

For months tensions had been building between the two most powerful figures in Sudan's military government: General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, Sudan's de-facto leader since the coup; and Muhammad Hamdan Dagalo (better known as Hemedti), a warlord. He is the leader of the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), a paramilitary unit that grew out of the Janjaweed militias accused of genocidal acts of murder and rape in Darfur. Many warned of an impending clash between the RSF and General Burhan's government forces, known as the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF).

Until recently, the leaders of the two forces were allies. They worked together in 2019 to overthrow Sudan's brutal dictator Omar al-Bashir, who ruled over the country for three decades, sweeping to power as thousands of people took to the streets in a popular uprising against al-Bashir. Negotiations had been under way for a return to the democratic transition that had been halted by the October 2021 coup.

Under mounting international and regional pressure, the armed forces and the RSF signed a preliminary deal in December with pro-democracy and civilian groups. But the internation-

5 Current Problems

ally brokered agreement provided only broad outlines, leaving the thorniest political issues unsettled.

During negotiations to reach a final agreement, tensions between Burhan and Dagalo escalated. A key dispute is over how the RSF would be integrated into the military and who would have ultimate control over fighters and weapons.

On the morning of the fifteenth, fighting erupted at a military base south of Khartoum, with each side blaming the other for having initiated the violence.

Since then, the military and the RSF have battled each other with heavy weapons, including armored vehicles and truck-mounted machine guns, in densely populated areas of the capital and the adjoining city of Omdurman.

The military has pounded RSF bases with airstrikes.

The clashes spread to other areas in the country, including the strategic coastal city of Port Sudan on the Red Sea and eastern regions, on the borders with Ethiopia and Eritrea.

Fighting was also reported in the war-wrecked Darfur region, where U.N. facilities were attacked and looted. The U.N. says three employees with the World Food Program were killed in the clashes there on Saturday.

5. Current Problems

5.1. Ethnic Violence

Alarmed by the increase of ethnic violence in Sudan since the outbreak of hostilities on 15 April 2023 between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) has urged Sudan to address and prevent further escalation of ethnic violence, incitement to racial hatred and racist hate speech.

The Committee was shocked by reports of ethnically motivated attacks committed principally by the RSF and allied militia targeting members of the Masalit, Fur and Zaghawa communities, in particular killing of people fleeing the conflict zones, attacks on camps and sites for internally displaced people, forced displacement, looting, burning and destruction of villages and towns. These include attacks which took place in El Geneina, West Darfur, that were primarily against the Masalit community and resulted in the deaths of thousands of people, including Masalit leaders, lawyers and human rights defenders.

Reports of rape of women and girls, some as young as 14 years old, and of racial slurs towards Masalit and other women and girls of African ethnicity were made. The Committee was also alarmed at reports of arbitrary detentions, torture and extrajudicial killings alleged-

ly perpetrated by the SAF and allied militia, targeting mainly members of Arab tribes from Darfur and Kordofan based on their perceived ethnic or tribal origin. The Committee also warned about reported recruitment and use of children by the warring parties along ethnic lines, in particular in Darfur and Kordofan regions as well as in Khartoum and other northern states. (<https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/04/sudan-un-committee-urges-end-ethnic-violence-and-hate-speech-calls-immediate>)

5.2. Widespread Displacement of Sudanese People

Sudan faces one of the largest refugee crises in the world, with 6 million people being newly displaced within Sudan by October since conflict broke out in April 2023. Over 1.4 million people have also been driven to five neighbouring countries: the Central African Republic, Chad, Egypt, Ethiopia, and South Sudan.

All six of UNHCR country operations involved are already severely underfunded and this new emergency has created significant additional needs that damages the ability of surrounding nations to respond effectively to the crisis.

The most urgent of these needs are water, food, shelter, health, cash assistance, core relief items, and protection services, which nations struggle to provide themselves without aid from international organisations.

In March, the World Food Programme (WFP) reported that food aid for hundreds of thousands of Sudanese refugees in Chad is vulnerable to being soon suspended without more funding. The capacity— both in resources, space, and opportunity— for Sudanese refugees to prosper within and continue migrating to surrounding countries like Chad is being critically challenged at a concerning increasing intensity.

5.3. Humanitarian Crisis

Sudan is facing one of the fastest unfolding crises globally with about 25 million people in dire need of humanitarian assistance and support since fighting started – including over 14 million children, of whom 3 million under five, suffering from acute malnutrition.

About 17.7 million people across Sudan representing 37 per cent of the population face acute hunger. The ongoing conflict has exacerbated existing tensions among communities centered on reported allegiances to conflicting parties, access to land and local authority structures, which has further complicated the already complex displacement context in Sudan.

Access to healthcare remains limited, with 70-80 per cent of hospitals across the country reportedly non-operational either due to the deteriorating security situation, or the lack of medical centres in areas of displacement.

5.4. Economic Stagnancy and Mass Unemployment

The World Bank estimates in 2024 that 49.5% of Sudanese people are unemployed, on top of a 145% inflation rate within the country. The struggling labour market makes it difficult for social mobility and employment success to occur for Sudanese citizens, causing deep insecurity in the population's ability to build up support for itself and to resist to crises.

The majority of employment remains in agriculture, non-wage work, and informal wage work. These economic sectors provide the largest portion of opportunity and availability, but the least amount of employment benefits or protections.

Despite a large Sudanese population belonging to young working-age groups, conflict drives citizens and fair businesses away from finding financial success that could ensure future prosperity in Sudan post-crisis.

5.5. Gender-Based Violence

UN experts expressed alarm about increasing reports of trafficking in persons, especially women and girls, for purposes of sexual exploitation and sexual slavery, child and forced marriage, and the recruitment of boys for participation in hostilities in Sudan. Access to support for victims and survivors has reportedly deteriorated since December 2023. Young women and girls, internally displaced persons are reportedly being trafficked for sexual slavery and other forms of sexual exploitation.

“We are appalled by reports of women and girls being sold at slave markets in areas controlled by RSF forces and other armed groups, including in North Darfur,” the experts said. The experts also expressed concern about the increase in child-, early-and forced marriage, reportedly a result of family separation, and gender-based violence, including rape and unwanted pregnancies. (<https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/03/sudan-trafficking-sexual-exploitation-and-recruitment-children-rise-warn-un>)

5.6. Inadequate Rule of Law

Major political parties in Sudan hold a strong history of inadequate execution of rule of law. Leaders of each of them have been identified as utilising residential areas they hold control over for personal gain.

This may include persecution of people or groups they oppose, unfair imprisonment of Sudanese citizens, and the exploitation or enslavement of people residing within those areas. Additionally, bribery and fraud within Sudanese politics is common, with 24% of public service users having said they paid a bribe within the previous 12 months.

Despite the large number reported, allegations of bribery and fraud are not frequently ad-

equately deliberated by the judicial government. Importantly, those holding political power frequently do not receive punishment under rule of law for illegal activity and evade being summoned to court.

The Corruption Perceptions Index scored Sudan with 20 points in 2023 on a scale from 100 (very clean) to 0 (highly corrupt). Sudan ranks 162 amongst 180 countries assessed, 180 being the most corrupt country. These political challenges have led to further obstacles in effective policy making and implementation that impede Sudan's ability to mitigate ongoing violence, human displacement, and humanitarian crises.

5.7. International Involvement, Response and Responsibility

Addressing the crisis in Sudan has been a pertinent issue within the international community, with many Western and Gulf countries, including Germany, Norway, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, and the United States holding a history of involvement in aid efforts alongside regional organisations like the African Union (AU) and non-government organisations (Red Crescent, Sudan Humanitarian Aid Development, Project of Water and Environmental Sanitation, etc.) often supported by UNICEF and the WHO. Despite the existing response to the crisis and the general acceptance that a response is needed, it is only a single-digit percentage of what is required. Funding efforts have been increasingly unsuccessful.

Importantly, the international community is grappling over which nations and organisations hold the responsibility (and what quantity) of donating aid to Sudan. Directly surrounding nations of Sudan already face severe resource depletion, but a larger portion of impact by the crisis. Some advocate for previous colonial powers to contribute the majority of aid, as the effects of colonisation play a significant role in Sudan's most recent history and political instability.

Others pose questions over whether Sudanese asylum and resettlement efforts should be increased or decreased across regionally distant nations, which have historically included (with help of the IOM): Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Italy, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

6. Proposed Solutions

The United Nations have already been taking action on the topic. Here are some examples of already implemented measures and proposed solutions. These can be inspirations for your own ideas for Draft Resolutions.

6.1. Independent International Fact-Finding Mission for the Sudan

Responding to the human rights and humanitarian crisis caused by the ongoing armed conflict in the Sudan, the Human Rights Council on 11 October 2023, through resolution A/HRC/RES/54/2 decided to establish an independent international fact-finding mission for the Sudan to investigate and establish the facts, circumstances and root causes of all alleged human rights violations and abuses and violations of international humanitarian law, including those committed against refugees, and related crimes in the context of the ongoing armed conflict that began on 15 April 2023, between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the Rapid Support Forces, as well as other warring parties (<https://www.globalr2p.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/HRC-RES-54-2-Sudan.pdf>).

6.2. Security Council Resolution 2724 (2024)

The Security Council recently called for an immediate cessation of hostilities by warring parties in Sudan during the month of Ramadan and for them to seek a sustainable resolution to the conflict through dialogue.

Calls for such a ceasefire were growing as the country remained gripped for almost a year by the brutal fighting between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the Rapid Support Forces that broke out in April 2023 (see Press Release SC/15613: <https://press.un.org/en/2024/sc15613.doc.htm>).

Adopting resolution 2724 (2024) (to be issued as document S/RES/2724(2024)) with 14 votes in favour and one abstention (Russian Federation), the 15-member organ also called on all parties to remove any obstructions and enable full, rapid, safe and unhindered humanitarian access, including cross-border and crossline (<http://unscr.com/en/resolutions/doc/2724>).

The parties were also called on to comply with international humanitarian law, including an obligation to protect civilians and civilian objects, and their commitments under the Declaration of Commitment to Protect the Civilians of Sudan, known as the “Jeddah Declaration”.

7. The Next Steps

During this year's session of the Security Council, you will represent your assigned country's point of view on the matter and try to pass a resolution with other delegations wishing to accomplish the same goals. We have collected a few questions that can help you to start off your research.

1. How and to what extent is the delegation you are representing affected by the start of the civil war in Sudan and which measures has your country taken after it broke out?
2. Did/Does your assigned country have economic relations with Sudan?
3. Is your country in any way responsible for the instability in the region? Did your country ever have military in Sudan or has supported military or militias through weapons or other aid?
4. Is your assigned country criticising the situation publicly? Has your country ever made a clear statement on the situation? If so, where was the focus?
5. Does your country have a geopolitical interest in influencing Sudan or neighboring states?
6. What actions could be taken by the UN?

In your research, you sometimes won't find clear answers on the questions above or even your own. In that case, it is helpful to interpret the given facts and sources. Ask yourself what your county would do, and which response/action would be appropriate for your country's policy.

You are a delegate of your assigned country. Try to think and act in the way your country's policy requires you to. This is why it is so important that you understand your country in general and not only on the given circumstance. Try to inform yourself about your country's history, alliances, partners and constitution.

It may be helpful to consider getting in touch with your country's embassy and asking them if they are able to answer your questions.

As mentioned before, deepened preparation is very important and the key to having a great time during OLMUN. While getting ready for this year's conference, you should prepare both a **Draft Resolution** and a **Policy Statement**, where you can incorporate your research on the topic and the position of the delegation you have been assigned to represent at the conference.

8 Helpful Advice

The Policy Statement consists of a brief, informal overview on your assigned country's position and policy. It is your first expression of your ideas in front of the committee and possesses the chance of gaining sympathisers even before the lobbying process begins.

In hearing other Policy Statements, you can receive important information about the other countries and find possible partners easily. Noting that this would be your first appearance in front of the committee, we would urge you to prepare a precise and meaningful statement. In general, we recommend reading out your policy statement, as it is a great introduction to the debate and getting comfortable with the debating process.

Policy Statements may be short but should entail a minimum of 200 words. However, they should not be longer than 500 words.

The Draft Resolution is the document that sets out the current challenges and proposed solutions. All the work the UN is doing, is based and expressed by these resolutions and they form the basis for our committee sessions.

Therefore, a great deal of your effort in preparing for OLMUN should be invested in writing a constructive Resolution. More information and a detailed look into how to write such documents are available in the OLMUN Handbook. For orientation and inspiration please also have a look at resolutions from the UN and passed Resolutions from past OLMUN conferences, keeping in mind that your Resolution will probably be expanded/amended during our conference.

For all ambitious Delegates we recommend giving an Opening Speech in the General Assembly where all Delegates participating at OLMUN 2024 will be present. This is optional; however, the challenge can be quite a fun one to take on! For further information please consult the OLMUN Handbook.

8. Helpful Advice

- Be aware that you do not represent your personal opinion and ideas! You are the delegate of your assigned country and behave accordingly. This is the only way to have an exciting debate.
- Practice speaking in front of the group and be prepared for everyone to speak in front of our small committee.
- Find out about possible partners for your Resolution early on.
- Most importantly, besides the committee meeting, talk a lot with others to make new friends and attend the evening events. This way you will get the full OLMUN experience!



9. Further Reading

Fact Sheet: Conflict Surges in Sudan:

- <https://acleddata.com/acleddatanew/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/acleddata.com-Fact-Sheet-Conflict-Surges-in-Sudan.pdf>

Security Council Meeting: Conflict Between Warring Parties in Sudan Pushing Millions to Brink of Famine, Top UN Officials Tell Security Council, Warning Entire Generation Could Be Destroyed:

- <https://press.un.org/en/2024/sc15634.doc.htm>

NasAISudan: The war in Sudan a Thread: overview:

- <https://twitter.com/NasAISudann/status/1736477051111006700>

Sudan Human Rights Hub:

- <https://sudanhrh.org/en>

Press Release Fact Finding Mission:

- <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/04/sudan-conflict-enters-its-second-year-un-fact-finding-mission-says-warring>

International Organization for Migration Sudan Country Overview:

- https://sudan.iom.int/sites/g/files/tmzbd1606/files/documents/IOM_PR.pdf

The OLMUN Handbook

- <https://www.olmun.org/uploads/2024/Downloads/Handbook.pdf>

The OLMUN Rules of Procedure

- <https://www.olmun.org/uploads/2024/Downloads/RulesOfProcedure2024.pdf>

The OLMUN Rules of Procedure - Security Council

- <https://www.olmun.org/uploads/2024/Downloads/RulesOfProcedureSC2024.pdf>



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Session**