

CALMUN'24 UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY -FIFTH COMMITTEE-ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY COMMITTEE



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Table of Contents

1. Letter from the Secretary General

2. Introduction to the Committee

3. The Financial Implications of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Potential Funding Mechanisms

4. United Nations Mission in the Middle East

2. Introduction to the Committee

In this session of CALMUN, the academic team decided to provide its delegates with the most unique experience by establishing an exceptional committee. The Fifth Committee is one of the 6 main committees of the General Assembly. By definition, it oversees internal United Nations budgetary affairs such as the allocation of Member States' contributions, program budgets, creation of funding mechanisms, and administration of such resources. It is also responsible for the control of any draft resolution concerning the budget before it is passed to the Plenary.

According to the UN itself, "The Fifth Committee is the Committee of the General Assembly with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters. Based on the reports of the Fifth Committee, the General Assembly considers and approves the budget of the Organization by Chapter IV, Article 17 of the Charter of the United Nations. This function was reaffirmed by the General Assembly in its resolution 45/248 B, Sect. VI. The Assembly also considers and approves financial and budgetary arrangements with specialized agencies and makes recommendations to the agencies concerned."

The first agenda item is regarding the funding of the United Nations' own development goals and opens the debate for financial decisions. Delegates must be innovative and efficient, while also keeping their expectations realistic to find potential funding mechanisms.

The second agenda item is an administrative matter directly involving the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF). UNDOF's founding goal since 1974 is to monitor the ceasefire line and maintain stability in the Middle East, where it still has a great presence. The committee will discuss the successes and failures of UNDOF, and their actions and results while addressing their shortcomings. It is expected of the delegates to write a resolution that focuses on applicability and covers all of the points given.

3. The Financial Implications of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Potential Funding Mechanisms

a. Glossary

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): the Sustainable Development Goals are a universal call to action by the member states of the United Nations with targets to be achieved by the end of 2030.

Decade of Action: the term was created in the Summit of September 2019, and classified the ten years leading up to 2030 as a period of intensified efforts to achieve all SDGs. According to this definition, no efforts to meet the SDG, with none of its components left behind, will be spared.

Financial Implications: the potential economic consequences and impacts that arise from the implementation of the SDGs, both in terms of costs and benefits for various stakeholders, including governments, businesses, and communities.

Funding Mechanisms: the techniques and tactics used to acquire funding for executing the SDGs. This covers a range of financial tools, procedures, and funding sources, including governmental money, private investment, charity, international aid, and creative finance techniques.

Official Development Assistance (ODA): financial aid provided by donor countries or international organizations to support sustainable development projects and help countries in achieving their SDG targets.

Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs): the goal of multilateral development banks (MDBs), which offer financial and technical aid to underdeveloped nations, is to foster economic growth, combat poverty, and support sustainable development efforts. MDBs are distinctive because they are "multilateral" in character and are owned and funded by various nations. To solve development difficulties and realize common development objectives, these

banks work with several international organizations, governments, and private sector organizations on a worldwide scale.

Concessional loans: Loans that have more favorable terms compared to an average loan in the marketplace. Concessional loan terms are often softened through lower interest rates, longer grace periods, or repayment flexibility.

Initiatives: Refers to a new strategy to solve a problem or improve a situation, often set in motion with the hope that it will continue.

Catalyzation: The act of initiating or accelerating something, often to achieve a desired outcome more rapidly or effectively.

b. Introduction to the Agenda Item

In 2015 goals were set by UN GA:5, nevertheless, those goals were not achieved in the first five years of the plan. As a result, in 2020, as mentioned, this decade was established as the "decade of action" to encourage progress. Leaders understand the importance of ensuring that recovery efforts not only strengthen the economy but also promote diversity and environmental sustainability. The significance of the decade of action was emphasized by the Group of Twenty (G20) and the high-level process on "Financing for Development in the Era of

1	NO POVERTY
2	ZERO HUNGER
З	GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
4	QUALITY EDUCATION
5	GENDER EQUALITY
6	CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION
7	AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY
8	DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
9	INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
10	REDUCED INEQUALITIES
11	SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
12	RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
13	CLIMATE ACTION
14	LIFE BELOW WATER
15	LIFE ON LAND
16	PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS
17	PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

COVID-19 and Beyond," which was co-hosted by Canada, Jamaica, and the UN Secretary-General in May 2020. Sustainable development goals (SDGs) offer a comprehensive framework to direct these initiatives. In countries' attempts to accomplish the SDGs, the Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) are devoted allies. They provide cutting-edge finance options that address certain needs and advance adherence to high standards, especially those for social inclusion, environmental sustainability, and sound governance. They have a big impact on sustainable development with the money they offer, both directly and by catalyzing the use of additional public and private resources. To help the poorest nations advance toward the SDGs, several MDBs offer grants and concessional loans. The MDBs additionally make use of their areas of expertise to offer partners technical support and information that they may use to address the issues at the core of the SDGs. Countries and supporting foundations strive to function as a system through collaboration and coordination and advance shared development agendas. However, despite their best efforts, achieving the SDGs remains a challenging goal.

c. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

In the 7th edition of CALMUN, only the first three goals will be discussed during the first agenda *item*.

Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere.

Poverty is the state of being unable to meet basic needs including food, clothing, and shelter. It is directly correlated with well-being and health. Every human on the planet deserves opportunities for survival, and the first Sustainable Development Goal ensures that everyone will meet their basic needs by 2030. The detailed goal targets are listed in the <u>link</u>, and we recommend that every delegate goes over them at least once, and strives to meet these expectations with their resolution.

Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture.

Satiating hunger, and providing enough nutrition to keep our bodies strong, is a strong part of what makes us healthy. And yet, millions -871 million estimated- live in circumstances where they fight with malnutrition and starvation. The United Nations aims to supply every human

with the basic need of food while promoting sustainability in agriculture. The detailed goal targets are listed in the <u>link</u>.

Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.

Without health and well-being, it is almost impossible for humanity to advance and improve, both in societal and individual aspects. Humans can not focus on science, arts, and culture with the constant worry for their well-being and tomorrow. Advancements in healthcare are also essential in securing this target The United Nations aims to ensure healthcare and protect the world from any potential pandemics with united health. The detailed goal targets are listed in the link.

We would like to remind the delegates that although they will be focusing on the financial aspect of these 3 goals, it is best for them and the committee if they make themselves familiar with these specified goals as a whole.

d. Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs)

A Multilateral Development Bank (MDB) is an international financial institution founded with the support of member nations from both developed and developing countries. They originated after World War II to stabilize the international economy and control the aftermath of the war.

MDBs do not seek profits for their shareholders; instead, they prioritize development goals. Through direct funding and assistance for projects and programs in the public and private sectors, as well as by assisting in the mobilization and catalyzation of public and private resources toward SDG-aligned initiatives, the MDBs play a crucial role in supporting nations' efforts to achieve the SDGs. They frequently offer loans at minimal or zero interest rates (also known as concessional loans) or provide grants to support initiatives in infrastructure, energy, education, environmental sustainability, and various other sectors that foster development.

MDBs work cooperatively and play an essential part in the economy, operating on trillions of dollars. There has never been a more critical time to direct public and private finance toward

the SDGs than in the final decade for attaining the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and amid a worldwide public health and economic catastrophe.

MDB	Year founded, headquarter	Policy priority	Shareholders	Top shareholders	Disbursements FY 2019 (US\$ million)				
European Investment Bank (IEB)	1958, Luxembourg, Luxembourg	Innovation and skills, small and medium enterprises (SMEs), infrastructure, environment and climate	28	Germany, France, Italy, UK	56,514.00				
International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)	1944, Washington DC, USA	Extreme poverty and shared prosperity	189	USA, Japan, China, Germany, France, UK	20,182.00				
International Development Association (IDA)	1959, Washington DC, USA	Extreme poverty and shared prosperity	173	USA, Japan, UK, Germany, France	20,000.00				
OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID)	2014, Shanghai, China	Energy, transportation, finance, agriculture, water and sanitation, industry, health, telecommunications and education	13	Saudi Arabia, Venezuela, Kuwait, Nigeria, Iran	1,481.00				
New Development Bank (NDB)	2014, Shanghai, China	Clean energy, transport infrastructure, irrigation, water resource management and sanitation, sustainable urban development, economic cooperation and integration.	5	Brazil, China, India, Russia, South Africa	915.00				
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	1977, Rome, Italy	Rural poverty, rural market participation, environmental sustainability and climate resilience	176	USA, Italy, Germany, Japan, Netherlands	854.80				

International Development Banks

Source: MDB Annual Reports and Financial Statements. Overseas Development Institute, A guide to multilateral banks, 2018

Regional Development Banks

MDB	Year founded, headquarter	Policy priority	Shareholders	Top shareholders	Disbursements FY 2019 (US\$ million)
Asian Development Bank (ADB)	1966, Manila, Philippines	Infrastructure, environment, regional cooperation and integration, finance-sector development and education	67	Japan, USA, China, India,Australia	16,470.00
Inter-American Development Bank (IADB)	1959, Washington DC, USA	Extreme poverty, fiscal policy, state capacity, financial markets, infrastructure, human capital, institutions, knowledge and innovation systems, urban planning and value-chain integration	48	USA, Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Japan	10,574.00
European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)	1991, London, UK	Agribusiness, equity funds, financial institutions, information and communication technology, legal reform, manufacturing and services, municipal infrastructure, natural resources, nuclear safety, power and energy, property, and tourism and transport	67	USA, France, Germany, Italy, Japan	8,470.00
Islamic Development Bank (IsDB)	1975, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia	Quality of life, infrastructure, agriculture and food security, human capital, economic cooperation and integration, Islamic finance development, solidarity and resilience	57	Saudi Arabia, Libya, Iran, United Arab Emirates, Qatar	8,200.00
African Development Bank (AfDB)	1963, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire	Infrastructure, regional integration, private-sector development, governance and accountability, skills and technology	80	Nigeria, USA, Egypt, Japan, South Africa	5,237.00
Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)	2015, Beijing, China	Sustainable infrastructure, cross-country connectivity and private-capital mobilization	54	China, India, Russia, Germany Korea	1,480.00

Source: MDB Annual Reports and Financial Statements. Overseas Development Institute, A guide to multilateral banks, 2018

Table of the largest MDBs

e. Previous Measures Taken

Social Protection Systems: Social protection systems such as social insurance, social assistance, and labor rights help protect the populations that are more vulnerable from falling

into poverty during times of economic shocks or personal crises. These initiatives are often supported by government budgets and international development

Debt Relief Legislation: In response to the debt burden faced by many low-income countries, international initiatives such as the <u>Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC)</u> Initiative and the <u>Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative (MDRI)</u> have been established. It is essential to ensure that debt relief benefits are implemented correctly and reach the intended countries.

<u>Remittances</u>: Remittances represent one of the largest sources of income for people in low-income and developing nations. Facilitating remittance flows from migrants to their families in developing countries is a significant source of income for many households living in poverty. <u>Initiatives</u> aimed at reducing the cost of remittance transfers and improving financial literacy play a great role in reducing the effects of poverty.

f. Recent Updates

i. Goal 1: No Poverty

Between 1990 and 2015, the number of people living in extreme poverty decreased by more than half, yet still, far too many people continue to struggle to meet even the most necessities.

As of 2015, about 736 million people who lack food, clean drinking water, and sanitary facilities, continued to live on less than \$1.90 per day according to the <u>World Bank's Global</u> <u>Monitoring Report on Poverty and Shared Prosperity</u>. Although millions of people have been lifted out of poverty by rapid growth in nations like China and India, development has been uneven. It's also a fact that women are provided with less education, employment, and property ownership in comparison to men and, therefore are more likely to be impoverished.

Other regions, including South Asia and Africa, which include 80% of the individuals living in extreme poverty, have similarly made little progress.

ii. Goal 2: No Hunger

Due to accelerated economic growth and higher agricultural output, the number of individuals who are suffering from undernourishment has decreased by approximately half over the past two decades. Many developing nations that once experienced famine and hunger are now able to achieve food security. Extreme hunger has been largely eradicated in Central and East Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

Unfortunately, food insecurity still poses a threat to many other nations. As of 2017, 821 million people were estimated to be suffering from chronic undernourishment, frequently as a direct result of environmental deterioration, drought, and biodiversity loss. Especially in Africa and South America, undernourishment and extreme hunger appear to be on the rise.

iii. Goal 3: Good Health and Wellbeing

In the fight against several major diseases and causes of mortality, we have achieved enormous strides. Life expectancy has substantially increased, baby and maternal mortality rates have decreased, the HIV/AIDS epidemic has been turned around, and malaria deaths have decreased by 50%.

The 2030 Agenda acknowledges the complexity and interdependence of both good health and sustainable development. It accounts for growing economic and social disparities, increased urbanization, climatic and environmental risks, the ongoing impact of HIV and other infectious diseases, as well as new problems including non-communicable diseases. To achieve SDG 3, which calls for eradicating poverty and decreasing inequality, universal health care is essential. Action is also required to address new global health problems, such as antibiotic resistance, that are not expressly addressed by the SDGs.

f. Points to Cover:

• How can delegates ensure that their proposed solutions are both effective and feasible?

- Are there any alternative ways to gather funds?
- How can the SDGs be funded effectively and efficiently?
- How can accountability and transparency be ensured in the funding of the SDGs?

f. Resources and Further Reading

https://www.undp.org/sustainable-development-goals?gclid=Cj0KCQjwrMKmBhCJARIsAHuEAPR ZiaR6QlEONqQZcNau73sweKw46UN3zwvZc6oOVSo6BCjy-Y9mR3saAtpiEALw_wcB

https://www.un.org/ohrlls/sites/www.un.org.ohrlls/files/mdb.pdf

https://www.un.org/en/ga/fifth/78/resdec78.shtml

https://sdg.iisd.org/commentary/guest-articles/are-we-serious-about-achieving-the-sdgs-a-statisticiansperspective/

https://sdgs.un.org/goals

https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/dda_e.htm

https://www.developmentaid.org/news-stream/post/76903/top-multilateral-development-banks-an-ove rview

https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/international/multilateral-development-banks

2. United Nations Mission in the Middle East

In the 7th edition of CALMUN, two specific operations will be addressed which are the United Nation's Mission in Golan Heights and the United Nation's Peacekeeping Operation in Lebanon.

a. United Nations Mission in Golan Heights

i. Glossary

UNDOF (United Nations Disengagement Observer Force): UNDOF is a United Nations peacekeeping mission established in 1974 to supervise the disengagement of Israeli and Syrian forces in the Golan Heights following the 1973 Yom Kippur War. Its main role is to monitor the ceasefire line and maintain stability in the region.

Golan Heights: a region located in the eastern part of Israel and the southwestern part of Syria. It has been a contentious area due to its strategic significance and historical conflicts between Israel and Syria.

Ceasefire Line: the demarcated boundary established between Israeli and Syrian forces after the 1973 Yom Kippur War, monitored by UNDOF. Its purpose is to prevent military escalation and maintain peace between the two parties.

Disengagement: the process of separating conflicting parties, in this case, Israeli and Syrian forces, to reduce the risk of military confrontation. UNDOF's presence helps ensure the implementation and maintenance of this disengagement.

Observation Posts: designated locations where UNDOF personnel are stationed to monitor and report any movements or activities along the ceasefire line and in the Golan Heights area. These posts contribute to the mission's goal of preventing conflicts and maintaining peace.

Buffer Zone: an area between the Israeli and Syrian forces that is monitored by UNDOF. Its purpose is to create a space where military activities are restricted, reducing the likelihood of hostilities.

Basin: a circular or oval valley or natural depression on the earth's surface, especially one containing water.

ii. Historical Background of the Region

1. Periods B.C.

The Golan Heights, which has been a shelter for various cultures were ruled by ancient societies from 3000 B.C. to 900 B.C. According to the Hebrew Bible, the region became to ruled by Israelites and they established the Kingdom of Israel.

The region came under the control of the Assyrian, Babylonian and Achaemenid Empires after the Israelites. Then the region was captured by Alexander in the 4th century B.C. It came under the rule of the Roman Empire in the 1st century B.C, and then under the rule of the Byzantine Empire.

2. Islamic Period

*After the Levant Region was conquered by Muslims in the Battle of Yarmouk in 640, the Golan Heights was under the control of Islamic empires. The region became under the control of the Rashidun, Umayyad, Abbasid, Shiite Fatimid, and Oghuz Seljuk Dynasties. Although the cities around the Golan Heights came under the control of Christian empires during the Crusades, Saladin conquered the region again. Afterward, the Mamluk State took control of the region.

3. Ottoman Period

With the Ottoman Empire's conquest of the Mamluk State, Turkish communities began to migrate to the Golan Heights and nearby settlements. Towards the end of the 19th century,

although the region was still under Ottoman control, Zionist communities began to migrate to these settlements.

After World War I, the Golan Heights came under the control of Syria, which is a colony of France.

iii. Major Parties Involved

1. UNDOF

According to the UN's page: beginning in early March 1974, the situation in the Israel-Syria sector started to be more unstable. Following the mutual removal of the Israeli and Syrian forces in the Golan, the Security Council adopted resolution 350 (1974) on May 31, 1974, which established the United Nations Pullout Observer. Force (UNDOF). Since that time, UNDOF has remained in the region with 1256 personnel,1070 being troops, to preserve the cease-fire between Israeli and Syrian forces and to keep an eye on the disengagement agreement's execution.

During the Syrian conflict, there were violations of the ceasefire with the escalation of military activity -by the conflicted parties the area of separation patrolled by UNDOF peacekeepers. On 18 December 2020, the Security Council unanimously adopted resolution 2555 (2020), extending until 30 June 2021 UNDOF's mandate of maintaining the ceasefire between Israeli and Syrian troops and supervising the areas of separation and limitation.

2. Israel

Israel took control of the Golan Heights in the Six-Day War in the year of 1967. Golan Heights are crucial for Israel to create a geographic advantage over Syria.

At the same time, Golan Heights are located very close to the Jordan River, which is an important water source for Israel. So it makes the Golan Heights more important for Israel. Although the UN and many governments condemn Israel's occupation of the Golan Heights, Israel does not step back on this issue.

3. Syria

After the Six-Day War, Syria lost control over the Golan Heights, and the Golan Heights became controlled by Israel. After this big loss, Syria tried to take control of the Golan Heights back by using diplomatic and military ways however, they could not take the control back from Israel. In the last decade, the Syrian government has to put the Golan Heights problem in the background due to the civil war in their country. This situation helped the Israeli government to strengthen its sovereignty over the Golan Heights.

iv. Recent Updates

Up until the Syrian Civil War, the conflicted zone was calm. However, the silence was broken due to Quneitra Clashes. Conflict in the Quneitra Governorate between the Syrian Army and rebels started in several of the governorate's cities and villages in early November 2012 and continued until 2014. The fighting immediately got worse and spread into the demilitarized zone between the Syrian-controlled area and the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights, which is under the supervision of the UN.

On 25 March 2019, Donald Trump, the president of the USA at this time, stated that they are recognizing Israel's sovereignty over the Golan Heights.

After the statement of Donald Trump, the UN stated that they weren't going to step back from their first provision. It means that they won't recognize the Golan Heights as the territory of Israel. Meanwhile, the Russian government stated that recognition of Israel over the Golan Heights would possibly trigger tension in the Middle East.

It was partially under control until 21 Philipino personnel of the UNDOF were taken hostage. Israel was briefly informed about the situation in the demilitarized zone. They took immediate action by launching warning shots into Syria.

v. Civil Life In Golan Heights

Golan Heights witnessed a ton of complicated events, as mentioned before there are approximately 30 Jewish settlements and former Arab Settlements existing in the region and social life has to continue.

The buffer zone is protected by Syrian officials. Around the zone, many settlements exist, including the remains of Quneitra. Land mines still present a serious threat to the UNDOF and the civilian populace. The hazard has become more serious by the explosives' disintegration. The Austrian and Polish troops have been clearing minefields under the direction of UNDOF headquarters.

Brides have been allowed to cross the Golan border since 1967, although they are aware that the trip is one-way; the ICRC(International Committee of Red Cross) arranges the weddings. Israel has permitted Druze pilgrims to cross the line of the ceasefire to go to the temple of Abel in Syria ever since 1988. A firm in the Al

Qunaytirah region keeps an eye on the main highways that go into the region. Israel and Syria occasionally allow Arab citizens to cross their borders under the supervision of the ICRC at an unauthorized gate nearby. These persons are pilgrims and University of Damascus students who reside in Israel or the Golan Heights.

There are several trade activities within the region however the status of the Golan Heights and the difficulty of transportation cause obstacles for the residents. As an example in 2005, Syria let "apple" trucks in their borders however even a basic apple trade could not function properly and it was interrupted from 2011 to 2012.



vi. Points to Cover

- What would speed up the mediation process between Israel and Syria to reduce the region's dependence on the UN?
- How can the UN regulate trade operations and social activities in the region more effectively?
- How might the UN prevent another incident similar to Quneitra Clashes?
- What should be the maximum restrictions for UN Peacekeepers in the Middle East region?
- What are the cons and pros of the existence of UNDOF in the region?

vii. Further Reading and Resources

https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/undof

https://www.britannica.com/place/Golan-Heights

https://www3.nd.edu/~dlindley/handouts/UNDOF.htm

https://www.jstor.org/stable/4328864

https://betterworldcampaign.org/mission/golan-heights-undof

http://www.ismor.com/cornwallis/cornwallis_2002/CVII_10_Fetterly.pdf https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/IN/IN11081/3

b. UN's Peacekeeping Operation In Lebanon

i. Glossary

Israel Defense Forces (IDF): the military of Israel responsible for safeguarding the nation, its citizens, and its interests, established directly after Israel's formation in 1948.

Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO): an umbrella organization advocating for Palestinian rights, formed in 1964, aiming to gain self-determination and address the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Lebanese Civil War (1975-1990): a prolonged and devastating conflict that took place in Lebanon from 1975 to 1990, peaking after the Lebanon War or the invasion as the Lebanese refer to it..

Lebanese Armed Forces: the military and defense forces of the Republic of Lebanon. Comprising various branches, the LAF is responsible for safeguarding Lebanon's sovereignty, protecting its borders, and maintaining internal security.

Blue Line: the demarcation line established by the United Nations after the Israeli withdrawal from Southern Lebanon in 2000. It marks the boundary between Lebanon and Israel as recognized by the international community.

Litani River: a significant watercourse in Lebanon, flowing around 140 kilometers from its source in the Beqaa Valley to the Mediterranean Sea. The river has also been a strategic key point in regional conflicts due to its proximity to the Israel-Lebanon border and its potential to impact security and military operations in the area.

ii. Introduction to Agenda Item

The term Israeli- Lebanese Conflict could be used to define long-lasting unrest in the region. Historically the current conflict could be related to the establishment of Israel in the Middle East. The Israeli-Lebanese conflict is made up of several different military activities.



iii. UNIFIL (United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon)

Following Security Council Resolutions 425 and 426, UNIFIL (United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon) was founded in 1978 to guarantee Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon, reestablish world peace and security, and aid the Lebanese Government in regaining its legitimate authority in the region.

The Lebanese Armed Forces

(LAF) are deployed throughout the south of Lebanon, and the UN Security Council adopted resolution 1701 after the war in July-August 2006, enhancing UNIFIL and deciding that in addition to its original mandate, it would, among other things, monitor the cessation of hostilities, accompany and support the LAF as they deploy, and extend its assistance to help ensure humanitarian access to civilian populations and the voluntary and safe return of displaced people.

UNIFIL is located in Southern Lebanon. The Blue Line and the Litani River, which are located in the north and south, respectively, define its operational region. In its 1,060 square kilometers operational area, UNIFIL's headquarters is in the town of Naqoura and includes 55 locations.

The UN Security Council permitted UNIFIL to expand its force size to a maximum of 15,000 soldiers. Until then, UNIFIL's force deployment has stayed within this upper limit and now numbers roughly 10,250 soldiers from 44 nations. This includes around 850 navy personnel and over 9,400 ground troops from the Maritime Task Force.

According to the UN documents the mandate of UNIFIL is listed below:

- Verify the Israeli military's departure from southern Lebanon.
- *Reestablish world peace and security.*
- Assist the Lebanese government in regaining effective control over the region.
 o
 - Following Security Council decision 1701 (2006) of the 11th of August 2006,
 - UNIFIL shall also fulfill the following obligations in addition to its obligations under resolutions 425 and 426:
 - 0
- *Keep an eye on the end of hostilities.*
- As Israel withdraws its military from Lebanon, assist and support the Lebanese armed forces as they deploy throughout the South, particularly along the Blue Line.
- Work with the governments of Israel and Lebanon to coordinate the initiatives mentioned in the sentence above.
- extend its aid to ensure that humanitarian aid may reach civilians and that displaced people can return home voluntarily and safely.
- Help the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) construct, between the Blue Line and the Litani River, a zone devoid of armed individuals, property, and weapons except from those used by the Lebanese government and UNIFIL forces stationed there.
- As requested, assist the government of Lebanon in safeguarding its borders and other entry points to stop the importation of weapons or other related supplies into Lebanon without its permission.

iv. Past Military Conflicts and Hezbollah

There have been several crashes that navigated the path of the conflict. 4 crucial events will be listed in the study guide: the Israeli Invasion of 1978, the 1982 Lebanon War, the Lebanese Civil War, and the 2006 Lebanon War.

The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) gathered the help of Palestinian refugees who had been driven from their homes or fled after the establishment of Israel in 1948. The PLO leadership and its Fatah brigade entered Southern Lebanon following their removal from Jordan in 1970–1971 for inciting a rebellion, which increased chaos both within Lebanon and beyond the border. The Lebanese Civil War, which lasted from 1975 to 1990, was caused by demographic conflicts surrounding the Lebanese National Pact. The Lebanese Civil War did not affect the bilateral relations between Israel and Lebanon indirectly by causing instability in the country hence deficiency in authority over third-party groups.

Behind the 1978 Invasion of Lebanon, there was a huge ground laying for Israel, the event known as the "Coastal Road Massacre" committed by PLO itself. Dalal al-Mughrabi was in charge of the eleven PLO terrorists who used a civilian Israeli bus as a means of entry into Israel from Lebanon. The bus was heading close to Tel Aviv on a seaside highway. The casualties were devastating: the death of 35 civilians, including 13 children, and the injuries of 71 others. In response, IDF decided to launch an attack on Southern Lebanon which was assumed to be rathouses of PLO forces. This ignited the establishment of UNIFIL.

The Lebanon War began when the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) invaded southern Lebanon on June 6, 1982. The invasion occurred after a series of engagements between the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) operating in southern Lebanon that caused civilians to be killed on both sides of the border. After gunmen from Abu Nidal's group attempted to kill Shlomo Argov, Israel's ambassador to the United Kingdom, the military operation was started. The mandate of UNIFIL had to change due to this invasion. It is intriguing that UNIFIL neither managed to improve the Lebanese authority in the region nor mediate peace in the region.

2006 Lebanon War, the confrontation between Israel and Hezbollah that lasted from July 12 to August 14, 2006, as a result of Israeli soldiers invading Lebanon to put an end to Hezbollah strikes on Israeli settlements.

Lebanese Shi'i clerics established a militia known as Hezbollah when Israel invaded Lebanon in 1982 during the country's civil war. The militia was originally named as Izb Allah (Arabic for "Party of God") but is now more commonly known as Hezbollah. The Israelis were virtually driven from their buffer zone in southern Lebanon by its suicide bombers. There were calls for retaliation after inaccurate but scary rocket assaults on Israeli settlements. The last straw, however, was when Hezbollah ambushed an Israeli patrol on July 12, 2006, murdering three soldiers and detaining two more (who most likely passed away in the ambush). Israeli forces progressed forces to demolish Hezbollah sites in southern Lebanon and placed a significant naval blockade on the country. They also targeted Hezbollah-related institutions and homes with airstrikes. However, the number of missile launchers that Hezbollah used to fire its rocket attacks rose. The Hezbollah warriors were adamant about showing that Israeli technology couldn't compete with them.

Israeli forces were never able to completely drive Hezbollah out of the town of Bint Jubayl due to extremely strong and frequent hand-to-hand fighting in that area. With its cluster munitions, the Israeli Air Force severely damaged much of Lebanon's infrastructure, making sections of southern Lebanon uninhabitable. In the end, an Israeli departure was agreed upon, with UN peacekeepers stationed to stop additional missile strikes, but Hezbollah remained unconquered. The conflict ended with 120 casualties in the IDF and over 1000 casualties by Hezbollah.

Since then Hezbollah has been the main discussion related to UNIFIL. It has been the main concern of the last two US presidents. They have been insisting on renewal of the mandate to let the renewal of the operation term since they are not satisfied with the results and it is understandable looking at the situation. UNIFIL failed to stop third-party activities between the Israel-Lebanon border even though there is a UN settlement with 10000 men. They could not identify every single threat to the operation yet... The operation does not use all it is allowed to and does not operate as efficiently as it could. It is our delegate's responsibility to figure out how to do so.

v. Points To Cover

- Why can the UN not stop conflicts from arising for 40+ years since its establishment and how could it?
- How could the UN participate in the fight against terrorism while also remaining unsided?
- What kind of diplomatic measures could be taken to bring peace to the region indefinitely?

vi. Resources & Further Readings

https://unifil.unmissions.org/faqs

https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/how-avoid-another-lost-year-unif

il

https://www.idf.il/en/mini-sites/wars-and-operations/operation-litani/

https://unifil.unmissions.org/

<u>https://honestreporting.com/1982-lebanon-war-operation-peace-for-the-galilee/?gclid</u> =Cj0KCQjwoeemBhCfARIsADR2QCt0toPoFvIFDgrWj7u5yB7ylx7LmokpOA3jtcDEsB1M nmutppEzB4AaAiTrEALw_wcB

https://www.britannica.com/place/Israel/War-in-Lebanon