



Background Guide

Security Council

1 | Addressing the March 23 campaign and pursuing peace on the Eastern border of the Democratic Republic of the Congo

SDGs: 3. Good Health and Well-being; 4. Quality Education; 16. Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

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Committee Introduction

The United Nations Security Council is one of six main organs in the United Nations, tasked specifically with the maintenance of international security. This means that the UNSC is responsible for the resolution of international tension, intervention in the case of armed conflict, as well as reaching minimising casualties in the case of armed or otherwise violent conflict.

The UNSC consists of 15 member states. 5 of these members are permanent members, referred to as P5 nations (permanent 5 nations). These nations were chosen for their outstanding role in the resolution of the second world war as well as their likely future contributions to maintaining international security. These P5 nations are China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom and the United States. Each of the P5 nations possess a right unique to the UNSC, called the 'veto power'. This essentially allows a P5 nation to reject any operative clause on a resolution regardless of the results of the vote, causing it to fail automatically. The exercising of veto power is typically succeeded by a P5 conference, in which the P5 nations leave the committee room to discuss the veto in question—any P5 nations in support of the operative clause may try to convince the vetoing nation to withdraw their veto. Upon the termination of the P5 conference, a re-vote is held. Veto power is exercised by casting a negative vote during the voting procedure—that is, if any P5 nation casts a negative vote, it will automatically be considered a veto. Veto power cannot be exercised in procedural votes. It is worth noting that operative clauses may still pass without the vote of a P5 nation if they choose to abstain from the vote.

The remaining 10 members of the UNSC are temporary, and have 2-year tenures with 5 members being replaced each year. The temporary nations do not possess veto power, and behave largely like delegates in a GA committee.

The UNSC, due to the grave nature of the agendas it often deals with, is equipped by the UN charter with unparalleled power. It has its own armed peacekeeping force called the 'Blue Helmets'. Their primary role is not active combat but the protection of civilians in a region and the monitoring and guarding of disputed regions, although they may use force under initial hostile fire. Besides this, the UNSC also has the right to use punitive economic measures such as trade embargoes and trade sanctions. It is the duty of the UNSC delegates to minimise human suffering and casualties without the use of force, and to do everything within the bounds of reasonability to do so, but should the use of force be necessitated by the situation, delegates are encouraged to take strong measures that will most reasonably sustain peace and security.

Agenda Introduction

The resurgence of the March 23 Movement (M23), a rebel group based in the North Kivu province of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), has posed a new wave of threat to the security and stability of the region. Primarily composed of the ex-fighters of the National Congress for the Defence of the People (CNDP), M23 launched its initial campaign in 2012, yet was defeated by the Congolese army in the following year. However, in recent years since 2021, the group has re-emerged in the region, launching surprise attacks across the country and displacing hundreds and thousands of civilians, thereby undermining decade-long peace efforts around the Great Lakes region.

The eastern North Kivu region of DRC is standing at the center of the newly emerging conflict, marked by the presence of over 100 armed groups, prevalent corruption, and longstanding ethnic tensions. Foreign intervention that backs up different rebel groups, particularly neighboring countries such as Rwanda backing up CNDP, have further escalated the military tensions and thwarted inter-governmental cooperation to restore the peace and security of the region. Meanwhile, United Nations peacekeeping forces under MONUSCO continue to encounter criticism with regards to their effectiveness and combat capability while the regional Congolese army struggles to regain territorial control.

In light of such circumstances, this agenda calls upon the Security Council to address not only the immediate threat and on-going humanitarian crisis posed by the resurgence of M23 but also the longstanding structural inefficiencies that triggered the everlasting military tensions across the region. Given the constant foreign intervention and complex conflict dynamics, the agenda seeks to explore both short and long term multilateral response to the tensions at hand. This emphasises the need for international cooperation, diplomatic dialogue and initiatives for the regional development in order to enforce immediate ceasefires, and permanent disarmament.

Letter from the Chairs

Dear Delegates,

We are delighted to welcome you to GECMUN XII's United Nations Security Council! It is our greatest pleasure and honour to be serving you as your chairs for this committee.

This year, you will be navigating the intricacies of the March 23rd rising, addressing both internal and external issues. It will be your responsibility to minimise the number of casualties, balance the rights and interests of the many parties involved, and make moral decisions based on current events. The many camps and parties involved, both directly or by interest, will open up a large range of possibilities and perspectives. We look forward enormously to watching how you reach a solution through discourse and negotiation.

We would also like to reassure you that we, as your chairs, will be with you every step of the way. Whether you are a first-time SC delegate only just coming to terms with veto power, or an experienced guardian of international security, please feel free to reach out to us about any and all questions and concerns that arise during your preparations for this conference.

Thank you for joining us for this iteration of GECMUN, and let's make this iteration of GECMUN the best it can be!

Best regards,

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United Nations Security Council, GECMUN XII

Key Terms

March 23 Movement (M23)

A pro-democratic rebel force active primarily in the Congo, backed by Rwandan forces. Its primary objective lies in the protection of the Tutsi ethnic group, and is alleged for serving as a proxy force for the Rwandan government. The Rwandan government, while almost certainly backing the M23 movement, has denied allegations of M23 being a proxy military force.

FARDC

The armed forces of the DRC (Forces armées de la République démocratique du Congo). FARDC is the national military of the Congo, and is the main belligerent opposing the M23. Many members of the M23 are previous members of the FARDC who have rebelled or defected in favour of the rebel group.

North Kivu

The main geographic region where M23 is most active. It is positioned on the Eastern Congolese Border, within Congo, and borders both Uganda and Rwanda. Its capital, Goma, was captured by M23 in 2012. It harbors a large number of Tutsis.

Tutsi

A minority ethnic group present within the Congo. Tutsi individuals constitute the majority of the M23 forces, and the M23 claim that Tutsis face discrimination and violence by the current Congolese government.

Rwanda

A country that borders Congo to the East. Rwanda has provided military backing for the M23 movement, effectively leading to a war between Congolese and Rwandan forces.

Eastern Congolese Border

The Eastern border of the Democratic Republic of Congo. It is heavily disputed by several states and organisations, most notably Rwanda and M23. It is rich in mineral resources, and is currently heavily damaged due to armed conflict.

Historical Background

The conflict in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) stems from the Rwandan Genocide of 1994 which involved the influx of 1.2 million Rwandan refugees into eastern zaire (now congo), including members of the former genocidal regime, Interahwamwe. The sudden influx of genocidal actors led to humanitarian camps in eastern zaire being transformed into operational bases from which cross border raids and armed incursions were launched into Rwanda. This tension resulted in two successive wars (the First Congo War 1996~1997 and Second Congo War 1998~2003) both often dubbed “Africa’s World War”. A total of 25 armed groups took part in the wars and factions came from nine different African nations. The aftermath of the wars was that the eastern region of DRC, particularly south and north Kivu was left in a power vacuum. This led to political instability that gave ground to the formation of a rebel group in 2006: the CNDP (Congrès national pour la défense du peuple).

Led by Laurent Nkunda, the CNDP is a rebel group based in North Kivu, and in 2009 they signed the March 23rd Agreement with the Congolese government, one of the terms was which that they integrate into the FARDC (Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo). However post integration, Ex-CNDP soldiers expressed dissatisfaction about the lack of protection for Tutsi civilians in eastern Congo as well as delayed salaries and poor living conditions ultimately defecting from the FARDC and forming the Mouvement du 23 Mars, the rebel group M23.

Since then, M23 has caused multiple rebellions one of which was launching a major offensive and capturing Goma - a city of over 1 million and MONUSCO headquarters - which was met with little to no resistance from the FARDC troops who soon withdrew.

The M23 capturing of Goma was met with condemnation by the African Union, the United Nations, ICGLR and the SADC. In March 2013 the UN Security council adopted UNSC Resolution 2098 in response to M23’s seizure of Goma and created the Force Intervention Brigade (FIB), a specialized offensive arm within MONUSCO. In 2013 in an attempt to extricate M23 forces, a joint FARDC-FIB campaign targeting M23 strongholds in Rutshuru, Runyoni and Chanzu was launched. This led to a unilateral ceasefire declared by the M23 followed by its effective destruction involving the flight of hundreds of M23 fighters, including commander Sultani Makenga to Ugandan and Rwanda. However tensions in eastern DRC still remain present with the M23 re-emerging in 2021 and the DRC government failing to implement the much anticipated formal disarmament, demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) program.

Current State of Affairs

In early 2025 January, the region Goma was seized by the M23, while the next month Bukavu was seized as well. By February 2025 over 7.8 million were displaced entirely from these regions. In March 2025, M23 launched the Walikale offensive which involved capturing key towns west of Goma and withdrawing temporarily afterwards to appear open to negotiations. In response to these attacks the United Nations Security Council passed Resolution 2773 on February 21, urging Rwanda to cease support, demanding M23 withdrawal and urging restoration of Congolese State authorities in occupied areas. The resolution also authorised the United Nations Organization Stabilisation Mission in the DRC (MONUSCO) to expand its mission of protection to include civilians as well.

M23 overtake of regions of Goma has led to significant extraction of minerals such as coltan from mines, which were later smuggled to Rwanda and devastated Congolese State Revenue. On July 27, 2025 governments of the DRC and Rwanda signed a bilateral agreement in Washington DC under the mediation of the United States and African Union observers, the consents of the agreement being mutual non aggression and the need to reintegrate armed groups into Congolese society through disarmament. This agreement was foundational to the Doha Declaration of Principles on July 19th 2025 which was hosted under Qatar leadership and held between DRC government and M23 leadership. The Doha Declaration of Principles laid the basis for permanent ceasefire and a projected timeline for rebel held territory reintegration. Both parties are projected to negotiate a peace accord by August 18, 2025, however M23's continued occupation of Bukavu and Goma still remains to be an issue untouched upon.

Another issue is that regional actors such as Burundi and Uganda have been excluded in the Doha talks despite having been under M23 influence. Uganda for instance has deployed a sector of its militia near its border to protect civilians from spill over violence, while Burundi military have a history of clashing with M23 affiliated militia in border areas. Their lack of inclusion in the Doha talks, coupled with how the talks failed to address the ongoing M23 occupation of Bukavu and Goma demonstrate how sustainable peace is yet to be achieved.

Stances of Parties

Algeria

Algeria acknowledges the importance of the African union's leadership in relieving the tensions around the DRC. Algeria has been actively contributing to peacekeeping missions across Africa, including the African-led International Support Mission to the Central African Republic (MISCA). Along with such commitments, Algeria supports the peace process in the DRC under the framework of the African Union and the United Nations. Algeria advocates for regional dialogue, especially with neighboring countries like Rwanda and Uganda, to ensure sustainable peace and stability.

Brazil

Brazil has participated in several UN peacekeeping operations and supports the United Nations' approach to addressing the situation in the DRC. Brazil is particularly concerned with the humanitarian impact of the conflict and has contributed to the provision of aid through various international organizations. In 2013, Brazil ratified the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) and has been working toward ensuring responsible arms transfers to avoid fueling conflicts. Brazil's foreign policy emphasizes the importance of diplomacy, dialogue, and respect for international law in resolving conflicts like the one in the DRC.

Burundi

Sharing a border with the DRC, Burundi's main concern revolves around the stability of the region. The Burundian government supports efforts to find a peaceful solution to the DRC conflict, particularly through regional cooperation under the African Union (AU). Burundi has been involved in peacekeeping missions in neighboring countries, including Somalia, and has participated in regional dialogues aimed at reducing tensions along the DRC's eastern border. While Burundi has not yet ratified the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), it has committed to engaging in regional peace initiatives, particularly those led by the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR).

China

As one of permanent members of the UN Security Council, China advocates non-interventionist policy that emphasizes diplomacy in resolving conflicts. With their economic ties to the African continent as part of their belt-and-road initiative, China holds an extensive interest in maintaining peace and security in the DRC. In 2021, China pledged to invest in peace and development projects in the DRC, underscoring its commitment to supporting the country's economic growth. China has supported UN peacekeeping operations in the region, although it prefers a more hands-off approach, calling for negotiations between the DRC government and armed groups. Moreover, China firmly opposes sanctions and any form of military interventions by foreign stakeholders, advocating for sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Denmark

Denmark is inclined towards a reaction that seeks to respond to the humanitarian aspect of the DCR crisis with priority given to the protection of civilians, particularly women and children, and the delivery of justice. Denmark has been outspoken on means for accountability and supported a series of aid programs aimed at alleviation of suffering through displaced populations. In 2020, Denmark contributed €4.2 million to humanitarian aid in the DRC, underscoring its commitment to alleviating the suffering of displaced populations. Moreover, the Danish government is particularly concerned about human rights violations and sees the robust UN presence in the region as a key to maintaining peace in the region.

France

France has been actively taken part in peace efforts in the DRC. As a permanent member of the UN Security Council, France advocates the UN Organization Stabilization Mission in the DRC (MONUSCO) and emphasises a robust regional peace process that can lay a framework for a long-term stability. France prioritises the complete disarmament of armed groups in eastern DRC and underscores the importance of addressing the illegal exploitation of resources that intensifies the military tensions in the region. In 2022, France pledged €10 million to humanitarian assistance in the DRC and has actively engaged in diplomatic efforts with regional powers to ensure that peace talks are inclusive and sustainable.

Germany

Germany has been advocating peacebuilding efforts in the DRC. As a member of the United Nations and the European Union, Germany is committed to addressing the root causes of the DRC conflict, particularly governance issues and human rights violations. Germany supports the work of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the DRC (MONUSCO) and has contributed troops and funding to peacekeeping efforts. Germany is also a major donor to humanitarian efforts, providing over €100 million in assistance to the DRC in 2021. Germany ratified the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) in 2014 and advocates for stricter arms controls to prevent the proliferation of weapons to armed groups in the DRC.

Greece

Greece has been supporting the humanitarian initiatives in conflict zones, which includes the DRC. Greece acknowledges the devastating impact of the March 23 Campaign and advocates a multi-faceted peace process through the disarmament of armed groups. Greece is a signatory to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) and emphasizes the need for international cooperation in regulating arms flows to prevent the proliferation of weapons in the region. Greece has contributed to multiple UN peacekeeping missions and itunderscores the inclusion of every stakeholders, including marginalized communities in the DRC

Guyana

Guyana supports multi-faceted solution that emphasises the role of the United Nations and the African Union for the peacebuilding and conflict resolution in the DRC. Guyana advocates for the involvement of regional stakeholders to resolve tensions in eastern DRC, taking part in the

effort in laying dialogue between the Congolese government and armed groups. Guyana has contributed to peacekeeping operations in other conflict zones and believes in addressing the root causes of the conflict.

India

India emphasises the involvement of the United Nations and the African Union. India has been a long-time contributor to UN peacekeeping operations, including those in Africa, and supports MONUSCO in its mission to stabilize the DRC. India ratified the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) in 2014 and has been actively involved in promoting international norms on arms control. Additionally, India has called for greater efforts to address the humanitarian crisis in the DRC, particularly the protection of civilians and displaced persons.

Japan

Japan has contributed to peacekeeping operations through the United Nations and has been a significant donor to humanitarian aid efforts in the region. Japan ratified the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) in 2014 and is a strong advocate for its implementation to control the flow of arms to conflict zones. Japan has also supported the DRC's development efforts, providing assistance for infrastructure development and capacity building to support long-term peace. Japan's foreign policy emphasizes the importance of diplomacy, development, and humanitarian aid as tools to resolve conflicts and achieve peace.

Jordan

As a key contributor to peacekeeping operations in the DRC, Jordan supports efforts to stabilize the region and ensure the protection of civilians. Jordan has called for an inclusive peace process that involves all stakeholders in the DRC, including armed groups, the government, and civil society. Jordan ratified the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) in 2014 and advocates for its implementation to prevent the illicit flow of arms to rebel groups. Jordan's foreign policy stresses the importance of regional cooperation and international support for peacebuilding.

Kenya

Kenya is an active participant in peace and security efforts across Africa and has been involved in several regional peacekeeping operations, including in Somalia and South Sudan. Kenya has a vested interest in the stability of the DRC, given its proximity and regional security concerns. Kenya supports the African Union's leadership in addressing the conflict and advocates for a comprehensive peace process that addresses both security and humanitarian concerns. Kenya ratified the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) in 2014 and has worked to ensure the regulation of arms to prevent them from fueling conflict. In 2021, Kenya was elected to serve as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council, where it continues to advocate for peace efforts in the DRC.

Norway

Norway has contributed to peacekeeping efforts in the DRC and supports the work of the United

Nations and African Union in resolving the conflict. In 2021, Norway pledged NOK 100 million to humanitarian assistance in the DRC. Norway ratified the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) in 2014 and is a vocal supporter of international efforts to control the trade in conventional weapons. Norway's foreign policy emphasizes the importance of multilateral diplomacy, development assistance, and the protection of civilians in conflict zones.

Pakistan

Pakistan supports a comprehensive and inclusive peace process in the DRC, advocating for dialogue between the Congolese government and armed groups, including the M23 rebels. Pakistan is a contributing member of UN peacekeeping missions, and its armed forces have been involved in peacekeeping efforts in various African countries, including the DRC. Pakistan has emphasized the importance of strengthening the DRC's security institutions to prevent further violence and to ensure long-term stability. In 2021, Pakistan voted in favor of a resolution calling for continued international support for peace efforts in the DRC.

Panama

Panama supports a multi-lateral resolution to the conflict in the DRC. Panama believes in the importance of collective actions between regional and international actors, particularly through the United Nations, to support the DRC's stability. Panama has been involved in peacekeeping operations and humanitarian efforts in other regions, and its stance on the DRC crisis emphasizes a balanced approach of diplomacy, humanitarian aid, and peacebuilding initiatives. Panama calls for increased international aid to support displaced populations and assist in post-conflict recovery.

Republic of Korea

Republic of Korea with its own experience of undergoing rehabilitation after war, is committed to the value of comprehensive, peace-based strategy in addressing the crisis in the DRC. The Republic of Korea supports the peacekeeping mission of the United Nations and is pressing for the need of an inclusive peace process that serves all the citizens of the DRC. South Korea has made a huge contribution to peacebuilding and humanitarian activities globally and is a proponent of greater regional coordination to bring in lasting stability to the DRC. In 2022, South Korea pledged \$2 million in humanitarian aid to the DRC and continues to support the development of the country through diplomatic and economic cooperation.

Russian Federation

As a permanent member of the UN Security Council, Russia has supported the UN's peacekeeping efforts in the DRC but firmly opposes any external military intervention. Russia ratified the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) in 2014 and has expressed concerns over the arms trade, particularly the role of Western countries in supplying arms to the region. Russia's stance is that the African Union should take the lead in resolving regional conflicts, aligning with its broader foreign policy of promoting African-led solutions to African problems. Russia has also focused on enhancing its economic and security ties with African nations, including the DRC, through

initiatives like the Russia-Africa Summit and trade deals, particularly in arms and natural resources. However, Russia remains cautious about the involvement of NATO and Western influence in Africa.

Sierra Leone

Having recovered from a civil war, Sierra Leone has contributed to various UN peacekeeping missions, including MONUSCO in the DRC, and advocates for a comprehensive approach that addresses the root causes of conflict, such as governance and socio-economic instability. Sierra Leone ratified the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) in 2014, emphasizing its commitment to controlling the illicit flow of weapons that fuel conflicts. In addition, Sierra Leone calls for regional cooperation through the African Union to mediate peace talks and promote the inclusion of civil society in peace processes. Sierra Leone also stresses the importance of humanitarian assistance, having played an active role in regional efforts to provide aid to displaced persons from the DRC.

Slovenia

Slovenia supports the United Nations' efforts to stabilize the DRC and is a strong proponent of multilateral diplomacy in resolving the conflict. Slovenia has contributed to peacekeeping missions in the past and calls for a comprehensive peace process that addresses the humanitarian needs of the DRC's civilian population. Slovenia has also supported sanctions against rebel groups and foreign actors contributing to the conflict. Slovenia advocates for stronger international mechanisms to ensure the protection of human rights and the accountability of those responsible for violence.

Somalia

Somalia supports the peace efforts of the United Nations and the African Union in addressing the conflict in the DRC. Somalia, having faced its own challenges in achieving peace, emphasizes the importance of dialogue, reconciliation, and regional cooperation in resolving the conflict. Somalia advocates for the protection of civilians, the reintegration of armed groups into society, and the importance of providing humanitarian aid to displaced persons.

South Africa

South Africa has contributed troops to UN peacekeeping missions in the DRC and supports the use of African-led solutions to address the conflict. South Africa ratified the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) in 2013 and has been involved in promoting international norms on arms control. The South African government has also called for a peace process that addresses the humanitarian crisis, including the protection of displaced persons and the reintegration of armed groups into society.

Sudan

Sharing a border with the DRC, Sudan has supported peace negotiations under the African Union and the United Nations and emphasizes the importance of diplomatic dialogue to resolve the

conflict. However, Sudan's internal instability has affected its ability to fully engage in regional peace efforts. Sudan has not yet ratified the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) but has been involved in regional discussions on the regulation of arms in Africa, particularly in relation to cross-border smuggling and the proliferation of weapons to armed groups.

Syria

Syria has been embroiled in its own civil war since 2011, and its foreign policy is largely focused on its internal security and political struggles. Syria has limited direct involvement in the DRC conflict but supports diplomatic efforts to address regional instability. Syria has not ratified the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) and has been known to rely on external arms supplies, including from Russia, for its own conflict. The Syrian government has supported the broader principle of non-interference in the DRC's sovereignty but has called for regional cooperation in resolving African conflicts.

Turkiye

Turkey supports peace initiatives in the DRC, with an emphasis on diplomacy and multilateral cooperation. Turkey is a signatory to the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) and has actively participated in efforts to control the flow of arms to conflict zones. While Turkey has not directly engaged in peacekeeping in the DRC, it has provided humanitarian aid to the region and supports efforts to address the root causes of the conflict, such as poverty and governance issues.

Uganda

As a neighboring country to the DRC, Uganda has supported the DRC government in its efforts to stabilize the eastern border, particularly through military operations targeting rebel groups. Uganda's government has also been involved in peace talks between the Congolese government and rebel factions. Uganda ratified the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) in 2014 and has been active in regional efforts to prevent the illegal trade in arms, which fuels conflict in the DRC. Uganda calls for a regional approach to addressing the instability along the DRC's eastern border.

United Kingdom

The United Kingdom as a permanent member of the UN Security Council plays a vital role in international peace efforts in Africa. The UK has consistently supported UN peacekeeping efforts in the DRC, including through its contributions to MONUSCO. The UK has advocated for a robust response to human rights violations and the illegal exploitation of resources in the DRC. In 2021, the UK provided £40 million in humanitarian aid to the DRC and has supported sanctions against armed groups. As a permanent member of the UN Security Council, the UK has been involved in drafting resolutions aimed at addressing the crisis and supporting a peaceful resolution.

United States of America

As a permanent member of the UN Security Council, the United States advocates promoting long-term peace and stability in the DRC, acknowledging the country's strategic importance in

Africa. The U.S. has provided significant support to the DRC in the form of humanitarian aid, development assistance, and peacekeeping contributions. In 2021, the United States provided \$100 million in humanitarian aid to the DRC and has supported sanctions against groups exacerbating the conflict. The U.S. also emphasizes the importance of holding those responsible for human rights violations accountable and advocates for a more robust UN peacekeeping mission in the region. The U.S. supports the DRC government in its efforts to achieve long-term peace and stability.

Possible Solutions

Humanitarian intervention

As with any armed conflict at risk of escalation or causation of severe humanitarian harm, the UNSC may choose to intervene using its military force, the blue helmets. This is often considered a drastic course of action, but equally efficient and quick to bring about substantial effect. The main concern in deciding whether to deploy the blue helmets is the endurance that the benefit in the resolution of the conflict outweighs the cost, both in terms of the damage Blue Helmets or the civilians may suffer and the violation of the receiving state's sovereignty. It is worth noting that humanitarian intervention should only be used as a last resort if none of the more peaceful measures are deemed to have the efficacy required by the situation.

Evacuation and refugee settlement programmes

Another approach that focuses specifically on the humanitarian aspect of the issue would be to engage countries, especially countries that are either developed or are in the immediate proximity of the Congo, such that refugees, displaced persons and individuals that are otherwise under threat can be taken to safety and assisted in their resettlement in a more stable and secure location. While this does not address the root cause of the issue, it is an effective solutions that answers to the urgent need for a solution to the humanitarian question being posed by the Congolese situation today. A key factor to consider when taking this route is that such programmes are taxing to many countries economically, and for some, the in terms of public support. Incentives to compensate countries for the effort they are making are essential for the effective, sustainable enforcement of these policies.

Diplomatic action and Economic sanctions

Given the nature of this conflict, taking action in countries other than the Congo could, in a partially speculative light, have substantial effect on the events within the Congo. An example of this would be to address, diplomatically, a country that is suspected to be backing one of the belligerents in the Congo. While certain countries have denied direct involvement with the events within the Congo, external investigations have provided delegates with evidence that could justify action beyond speculation. It is up to the delegates to decide what is morally acceptable to do, and where diplomacy must be employed to achieve a softer solution.

Questions to Consider

1. As the representative of your nation and its needs,
 - a. Do you have any direct involvement with the Congolese condition?
 - i. Do you support a particular party within the Congolese conflict?
 - ii. Are resources that you are interested in at stake?
 - iii. Is your own country's security at stake depending on the results?
 - b. How secure is your own nation...
 - i. Economically?
 - ii. Militarily?
 - iii. Politically?
 - c. How does your answer to the previous question affect your ability to involve yourself in the current situation?
2. As a member of the international community,
 - a. Do you feel that there is a specific party deserving of support or condemnation?
 - b. How urgent, in light of the other global issues currently at hand, is this agenda?
 - c. What can the international community do to help the Congo and the Congolese people?
 - d. What does the international community have the right to do?
 - i. To what extent is the involvement of the Blue Helmets against (or for) the M23 movement justified?
 - ii. Should activity be limited to the preservation of human rights, or is there a political goal to address as well?
 - iii. How much *diplomatic action* is justified? How much more proactive can, or should, delegates be in diplomatic action?

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