



SRMUN Atlanta 2014

Revitalizing “An Agenda for Peace”: Preventative Diplomacy, Conflict Resolution, and the Making of Peace in Our Time Movement

November 20-22, 2014

Dear Delegates,

I would like to welcome you to the Southern Regional Model United Nations Conference (SRMUN) Atlanta and the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE). It is a privilege for me to serve as the director of ECE at SRMUN Atlanta 2014. I will be serving with my esteemed Assistant Director, Alexis Unger, who is equally thrilled to be a part of this year's conference and working with the delegates of the ECE. This is my fourth year with SRMUN and I look forward to working with each of you in committee and helping you make the most of this experience. Working on SRMUN staff is a rewarding experience and we hope we can share with all of you our love and passion for the United Nations.

The Economic Commission for Europe is one of the five regional economic commissions of the Economic and Social Council in the United Nations and is focused on supporting regional economic advancement and building relationships through economics. The ECE was established in 1946 by the Economic and Social Council to help assist in the economic rebuilding of Europe following World War II. Today, the ECE focuses primarily on the advancement of sustainable economic policies and practices amongst Member States and regional participants; pulling expertise from multiple facets and spheres, the ECE is crucial in furthering economics plans of the United Nations.

We have chosen the following topics to discuss at this year's conference because of the importance they play in advancing economic relationships throughout the world:

- I. The Role of Economic Policy in the Prevention of Conflict
- II. Expanding Sustainable Energy Policies and Regulations

Each delegation is required to submit a position paper which covers both of the topics mentioned above. The papers should be no longer than two pages, singled spaced, as outlined on the SRMUN website. The purpose of the position paper is to discuss your countries position on the two topics and persuade your fellow delegates to follow similar courses of actions laid out in your paper while in committee. These position papers are incredibly important to your success in committee and should provide insight into your countries position on economic policy and on sustainable energy practices.

Delegates are encouraged to use the paper as a means of stating what your country hopes to achieve in committee, and outline the best course of action for all Member States. Having a clear position outlined in the paper will serve as the foundation for your success in committee, and should thus portray accurate positions relating to our country. More information about position papers can be found on the SRMUN website (www.srmun.org). **All position papers MUST be submitted by October 31st, 11:59pm EST to via the online submission link on the SRMUN website.**

I look forward to serving as the director for the Economic Commission for Europe during the 2014 Southern Regional Model United Nations Atlanta Conference. I wish you luck as you prepare for the conference and eagerly anticipate working with each of you at the conference in November. Please feel free to contact Fawn, Alexis or myself should you have any questions during your preparation for the conference.

Victoria Vaught
Director
ece_atlanta@srmun.org

Alexis Unger
Assistant Director
ece_atlanta@srmun.org

Fawn Apgar
Director-General
dg_atlanta@srmun.org

The History of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) was first established to encourage economic reconstruction post-World War II, following the recommendation of the Temporary Sub-Commission on the Economic Reconstruction of Devastated Areas in July 1946 during their meeting in London. Following the recommendation, the United Nations General Assembly formally presented their request for the formation of the commission to the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in December 1946. On 28 March 1947, during their fourth session, ECOSOC complied with the request and approved the establishment of the ECE as a subsidiary body of the UN with Swedish economist Karl Gunnar Myrdal as the first chair. From the beginning, the ECE strives to maintain open lines of communication and foster strong economic relationships between the countries of Europe and the world.

The ECE was “initially set up on an experimental basis [to facilitate] solutions to economic problems arising from the reconstruction of countries destroyed or weakened by the war,”¹ but in 1951, the Commission decided to shift from a narrow focus on reconstruction to building and maintaining economic cooperation as a means of encouraging peaceful resolutions.² The ECE continued their progression by refocusing its ability to foster economic cooperation in peacetime, expanding into the areas of: environmental sustainability, energy, land and housing management, aging and population, forestry and timber, statistics, trade, and transportation.³ The collaborative foundation established by the ECE allowed for the creation of other non-UN bodies such as the European Economic Assistance Committee, the European Coal Commission, and the European Central Inland Transport Organization.⁴

Building upon their comprehensive scope of activity, the ECE is comprised of individuals from a broad spectrum including economists, scientists, urban planners, and others who bring to the commission their expertise through a blended approach for developing economic policy. The ECE helps promote economic prosperity and sustainability through providing technical proficiencies through Sectoral Committees such as the Inland Transport, Trade, European Statisticians, Sustainable Energy, and Environmental Policy.⁵ As former ECE Executive Secretary, Marek Belka noted, economics is not just confined to mathematics and analytical research; it can also be the “key to sustainable peace and to preventing countries from falling back into conflict.”⁶

The ECE underwent further changes in response to the growing difference between Member States following World War II; shifting from being the only open line of economic communication and collaboration in Europe to a facilitator of economic harmonization once reconstruction was completed.⁷ In the early nineties, following the dissolution of the former Soviet Union, the ECE’s membership base dramatically expanded, “[extending] its activities to central and eastern European countries and to the central Asian republics which desired to be members of both the ECE and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).”⁸ Since the 2011 Meeting of the Parties, the ECE has set out to conduct a “workshop on implementation of the Convention, Protocol and Bucharest Agreement” in Southeastern Europe, and conduct workshops on “climate change, biodiversity, [and]

¹ “Historical events in the European integration process (1945–2009),” CVCE, <http://www.cvce.eu/collections/unit-content/-/unit/en/02bb76df-d066-4c08-a58a-d4686a3e68ff/000baad1-5122-4d65-a72d-b55342ed4b7b> (accessed February 15, 2014).

² Ibid.

³ “Mission,” UNECE: <http://www.unece.org/termsofreferenceandrulesofprocedureoftheunece.html> (accessed August 22, 2014).

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ “Governance and Organizational Structures,” United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, http://www.unece.org/oes/nutshell/governing_bodies.html (accessed February 15, 2014).

⁶ “Putting Economic Governance at the Heart of Peacebuilding,” United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, <http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/publications/oes/Putting.Economic.Governance.Heart.Peacebuilding.pdf> (accessed February 8, 2014).

⁷ “History,” United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, <http://www.unece.org/oes/history/history.html> (accessed February 8, 2014).

⁸ Ibid. 7

desertification”⁹ in Georgia, Ukraine, and Belarus to further facilitate collaboration between Europe and other Member States on various environmental treaties.

The ECE budget comes from the contributions of Member States and is currently reported to be approximately USD 30 million. In addition to the contributions from Member States, the ECE also receives over USD 9 million from the UN Development Fund and extra-budgetary funds per year. The European Union has been instrumental in providing funding for the ECE activities, with an annual pledge of approximately USD 70 thousand.¹⁰ The secretariat manages this budget and prepares an annual report for Member States, encompassing the information from the biannual reports as well as an overview of the previous developments during the last year and how they can meet future needs and demands.¹¹

Often serving as a regulatory body of European countries to investigate and study technological and economic problems and development, the ECE carries out its mandate through conventions, protocols, and resolutions. The ECE’s most impactful resolutions include the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, and the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution. These environmental measures, among others, have enabled the ECE region to lead global efforts against climate change and stand at the forefront of global and multilateral agreements such as the Kyoto Protocol.

The ECE works closely with all Member States and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) seeking to enact change. As an example of the ECE’s cooperative nature, the theme for the Education for Sustainable Development agenda is “Learning from each other”; encouraging the sharing of stories and ideas from different Member States involved in the ECE. The theme has sought to build cohesion and cooperation from the experiences of a multiplicity of stakeholders, including governments, academicians, and other community sources as the committee works educate Member States about sustainable development policy framework and best practice.¹² As a second testament to ECE’s cooperative spirit, the ECE Water Convention has helped provide framework within the justice system as well as helping to provide technical assistance and policy advice for Member States and brought in a collaborative relationship with the International Year of Water Cooperation.¹³

Fostering and promoting a spirit of cooperation has allowed the ECE to branch out of the traditionally held views of economic policy and allowed for Member States to see the impact economic cooperation has on building peace. Throughout the changes of the 20th century, the ECE was able to redefine and reinterpret itself to meet the needs of its current membership and through the entire UN system.¹⁴ They have used their history and collective expertise to educate others on the “experience of their implementation” of economic policies.¹⁵

The current Member States of the ECE include: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland,

⁹ “Subregional cooperation and capacity-building,” UNECE, <http://www.unece.org/env/eia/activities/activityeiasubregion.html> (accessed February 15, 2014).

¹⁰ “Pan-European Programme,” The Graduate Institute Geneva, <http://graduateinstitute.ch/fr/home/research/centresandprogrammes/globalhealth/global-health-governance/role-of-switzerland/directory/unece.html> (accessed February 15, 2014).

¹¹ “Budget, financial arrangements and financial assistance,” Decision I/10, <http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2011/eia/decision.V.10-I.10.e.pdf> (accessed February 15, 2014).

¹² “Good Practices in the UNECE Region,” UNESCO Education Sector, <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0015/001533/153319e.pdf> (accessed February 8, 2014).

¹³ “The Water Convention,” United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/water_cooperation_2013/water_convention.shtml (accessed February 15, 2014).

¹⁴ Ibid. 3

¹⁵ “United Nations Economic Commission for Europe,” Princeton, http://www.princeton.edu/~achaney/tmve/wiki100k/docs/United_Nations_Economic_Commission_for_Europe.html (accessed February 8, 2014).

Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, the United States, and Uzbekistan.

I: The Role of Economic Policy in Prevention of Conflict

“If poverty and economic instability are so often the root causes of war, then getting the economics right is key to sustainable peace and to preventing countries from falling back into conflict. Effective governing institutions are also critical to building a lasting peace.”¹⁶

—Marek Belka, former UNECE Executive Secretary

Introduction

Carrying the scars of two world wars, Europe was faced with the daunting task of rebuilding not only physically, but also economically. With much of their industrial base damaged or demolished, European Member States were eager to move forward. As the United Nations (UN) was in its infancy, the charter specifically noted the need for ensuring mechanisms for economic stability in an effort at maintaining peace. Article 55 of the UN Charter calls for the United Nations to promote “solutions of international economic, social, health, and related problems; and international cultural and education cooperation...”¹⁷ Stemming from this effort was the creation of the five regional economic commissions falling under the auspice of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). The Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) was initially established in 1947 by ECOSOC as a measure to help foster and increase economic integration as peace building measure throughout Europe and today functions as a regional body helping to further peace through economic endeavors and agreements.

Underpinning the work of the UN, the ECE focal point has shifted from one of rebuilding to one of deepening and strengthening economic efforts at maintaining peace. Increasingly economics is playing a greater role in the prevention of conflict through strengthening trade relationships as well as through market-based measures of mutually beneficial relationships. The ECE does not function as a political body, but rather as an economic minded committee helping to establish peace through economic policy, multilateral agreements, and other economic measures amongst Member States. Their independence from a strictly political realm allows the ECE to bring together a myriad of other actors, including economists, scientists, and civilians to the table for discussions regarding using economic means of furthering peace. Through the ECE, rebuilding and post-conflict development efforts can shift from one of peacekeeping to one of peacebuilding and conflict prevention. Bolstered by the efforts of not only the UN but also the European Union (EU), the ECE is able to take a prominent role in helping the UN build peace through economic measures on a regional basis.

Building upon their unique history, the ECE is positioned within the UN system to utilize their role as an economic advisory base to impact the peace process. Increasingly, the ECE is being called upon to participate in the efforts at non-traditional measure of building peace, chiefly through the economic ties which can help bridge seemingly insurmountable gaps at the regional level. Branching out into areas such as Economic Cooperation and Integration, Population, Sustainable Energy, Trade, and Transport, the ECE is helping sustain regional cooperation through not only economic measures, but also through opening lines of communication and strengthening trade relationships. Focusing on a regional level, the ECE is able to adapt more quickly to changes in the market as well as those Member States within the ECE reach. More and more the UN is calling upon the regional commissions in order for their goals and plans to be more fully implemented across all Member States as the UN and the global community move closer and closer to the 2015 deadline for the Millennium Development Goals.

The History of Peace and Economics

According to the Institute for Economics and Peace, in 2012 the cost of conflicts represented eleven percent of the Gross World Product and totaled USD 9.46 trillion dollars.¹⁸ Following World War I world leaders joined together

¹⁶ Wachs, Brinda, and Geoffrey Hamilton, “Is there a role for the United Nations Commission for Europe in conflict prevention and peacebuilding?” http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/oes/nutshell/2009/10_PreventionAndPeacebuilding.pdf (accessed June 1, 2014)

¹⁷ *Charter of the United Nations*. The United Nations. June, 26, 1945 <http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/chapter9.shtml>

¹⁸ “The Global Cost of Violence,” Vision of Humanity, February 28, 2014. <http://www.visionofhumanity.org/#/page/news/851> (accessed June 15, 2014).

in 1919 through the Treaty of Versailles in an effort at achieving the goal of securing international cooperation for peace and security. Establishing the League of Nations and the International Labor Organization, the treaty became one of the first efforts in the 20th century to make tentative connections between economics and peace.¹⁹ Though the League of Nations did not prevent World War II, it helped lay the foundational ground work needed for the UN, which would place a greater emphasis on helping to put peace outside of a purely political context and into one which acknowledged the interplay between peace, politics, economics, and social factors.²⁰

During the initial phases of the UN and crafting the charter, Member States recognized more peaceful solutions to resolving conflicts was needed to offset the costly impacts throughout multiple sectors, including the economic, social, political, and environmental. While economics and economic policy was not expressly written into the charter, it is aimed at giving each Member State equal opportunities at participating and recognizes the individual rights of the Member States and their residents at being protected from further conflict situations. Building upon those concepts, the Economic and Social Council and the subsequent subsidiary bodies focus on mitigating factors which could potentially lead to conflict situations. As the global community moves into new and uncharted territory, the concept of peace building has changed and shifted in acknowledging economics as a key factor in helping build a global community connected to peace through economics. With advanced weaponry, including nuclear and biological weaponry, changing the face of conflict, Member States acknowledged there needed to be more emphasis placed on peace and peace building. Though the term is relatively new, the concept of peace building is not. Stretching back through generations, treaties and alliances sought to bring peace and order to conflict.

Peacebuilding for the UN takes on a variety of different actions, including those on the economic sphere. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) is helping carry out a large amount of the UN work in peacebuilding through economics. During the early 1960s, questions regarding the role and protection of developing Member States, UNCTAD was the result of the collective efforts aimed at answering the role of developing Member States in international trade.²¹ From the first meeting in 1964 until the early 1980s, UNCTAD focused on acting as a measure of opening dialogue surrounding questions in relation to the “new international economic order” and the discussion of policy suggestions for development.²² By 1968, UNCTAD helped developing economies gain stronger footholds in markets through the Generalized System of Preferences and assisting the Group of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) with their economic development.²³ Pushing forward into the 1980s UNCTAD shifted focus and was charged with helping to change perceptions of economics and stepped into the realm of “trade liberalization and privatization of state enterprises.”²⁴ Fiscal and macroeconomic management emerged as measures to open dialogues in an effort at stabilizing Member States in post conflict situations.

UNCTAD is not the only arm within the UN system focused on using economics as a measure of securing peace. Since 2005, the Peacebuilding Commission has served as a vital role in the UN effort at building peace. Established through two resolutions, A/Res/60/80²⁵ and S/RES/1645 (2005)²⁶ the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) is tasked with bringing together the collective efforts of the UN bodies, including the General Assembly, Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), and the Security Council. The PBC efforts comprise both political and non-political efforts, including those surrounding helping to establish stronger economic efforts aimed at rebuilding stronger institutions to assist with the rebuilding efforts in post-conflict situations.²⁷ Individual Member States belonging to

¹⁹ “History” The United Nations, <http://www.un.org/en/aboutun/history/index.shtml> (accessed July 1, 2014).

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ “A Brief History of UNCTAD” The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, <http://unctad.org/en/Pages/About%20UNCTAD/A-Brief-History-of-UNCTAD.aspx> (accessed June 28, 2014).

²² Ibid.

²³ Ibid.

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ A/RES/60/180. *The Peacebuilding Commission*. United Nations General Assembly December 30, 2005. http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/60/180

²⁶ S/RES/1645(2005). Adopted by the Security Council at its 533th meeting, on 20 December 2005. The Security Council. December 20, 2005. http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/1645%20282005%29

²⁷ “Mandate of the Peacebuilding Commission,” United Nations Peacebuilding Commission. <http://www.un.org/en/peacebuilding/mandate.shtml> (accessed July 6, 2014).

the ECE have worked together with the PBC to help bolster their efforts through contributions to the Peacebuilding Fund. According to the 2012 Annual Report, contributions to the fund exceeded USD 250 million, with large contributions coming from the United Kingdom, Sweden, Netherlands, Norway, Canada, Japan, Germany, Spain, Finland, and Ireland.²⁸ A vital part of the PBC effort is carried out through economic measures, including stimulation of the economy, regeneration of employment, and helping to establish sustainable livelihoods for individuals²⁹. Continued efforts at strengthening peacebuilding efforts through economic measures are increased through relationships with the World Bank, and the African Development Bank.³⁰

Development, Capacity, and the ECE

Strengthening trade relationships is a strong building block towards peace and strengthened relationships for all parties and helps to lead to further development amongst Member States. Development and capacity building are key factors in helping to break down barriers in lopsided trade relationships. Understanding the interconnectivity of peace and development, the UN placed emphasis on creating and enhancing current partnerships for development efforts. Millennium Development Goal Eight strives to ‘Develop a Global Partnership for Development’ and places financial and structural development front and center on the global and even regional stage. Target 1 specifically calls for breaking down traditional barriers in trade through establishing a more open and rule based trading system.³¹ Helping propel the UN goal forward at the global level is the United Nations Development Fund (UNDP) and the Capacity Development Group.³² Over the course of the last thirty years, rapid changes in the technology field has impacted and reshaped previous business models. Older, more traditional methods of business are no longer sufficient at meeting current needs and demands. Member States lacking both know how and capital for making needed changes are quickly finding themselves left behind in market access, creating an ever widening gap between the ‘haves’ and the ‘have nots’. The focus of the UNDPs Capacity Development Group is helping build collaborative relationships between Member States in order for fostering further development plans.³³ Building stronger networks for information sharing in real time, online based networks, and highlighting successful programs are three tools being utilized currently by the UNDP in helping build up Member States ability to adapt and change with a rapidly evolving market.³⁴

As a regional economic body, the ECE does not only deal in trade amongst ECE Member States, but also on a global scale. To help focus on this portion of the ECE mandate, the Committee on Trade (CT) was established. Part of the Committee on Trade’s focus is working towards assisting on meeting the Target 1 in helping to shape and form the global trade policy discussion.³⁵ Being an active participant in UNCTAD and UNDP activities, the ECE has taken a role in furthering capacity development through economic means. During the sixth session of the Committee on Trade in February 2014, the CT put forth a comprehensive report of their efforts in cooperation and support of other organizations. Detailed in the report are the undertakings of the ECE in helping to meet Target 1. As a part of the United Nations Inter-Agency cluster on Trade and Productive Capacity the ECE provides support in advancing the initiatives such as the Delivering as One and the United Nations Development Group.³⁶ As a member, the ECE is helping provide capacity building assistance in areas such as supply, exports, trade related rules and regulations,

²⁸ 2012 Annual Report. United Nations Peacebuilding Commission. New York and Geneva: United Nations. 2012.

<http://www.un.org/en/peacebuilding/pbso/pdf/2012PBSO-AnnualReport-Final.pdf>

²⁹ Ibid.

³⁰ Ibid.

³¹ “A global partnership for development” The United Nations Development Program, http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/mdgoverview/mdg_goals/mdg8.html?page=2 (accessed June 2, 2014).

³² “Capacity Building,” The United Nations Development Program, <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/ourwork/capacitybuilding/overview.html> (accessed June 2, 2014).

³³ “Fast Fact: Capacity Development,” The United Nations Development Program, http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/results/fast_facts/ff_capacity_development/ (accessed June 2, 2014)

³⁴ Ibid.

³⁵ “Trade” United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, <http://www.unece.org/tradewelcome/trade-home.html> (accessed April 15, 2014).

³⁶ “United Nations Inter-Agency Cluster,” The United Nations Committee for Trade and Development http://unctad.org/en/Pages/TC/TC_United-Nations-Inter-Agency-Cluster.aspx (accessed June 14, 2014).

dispute resolution, and negotiation.³⁷ Further support is provided for research and analysis of economic based efforts for capacity development and building. The ECE is also a central force in the United Nations Development Account project on Global Supply Chains. Centered on removing trade barriers and increasing trade partnerships, the project is devoted to ameliorating the high cost of trade through encouraging cost reductions and simplification of trade rules and regulations.³⁸

Capacity building and further trade development is only one part of the puzzle. A key factor in helping increase economic development and extend peace through economics is a stable economic environment. Transitional economies are ones which present both challenges and possibilities for Member States and peace economics development. Following the break-up of the former Soviet Union, economies throughout Eastern Europe and Western Asia experiences changes as they shifted from a central economy to a market economy.³⁹ Transition from the central to the market was not then and is not today an easy process, but one in which considerable growth and development occurs. According to a 2000 report from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) there are four main factors within a transitional economy, including liberalization, macroeconomic stabilization, restructuring and privatization, and legal and institutional reforms.⁴⁰ Of these four factors, liberation and macroeconomic stabilization can be obtained on a relatively short time span, but restructuring and reforming is a longer, more calculated process within the existing legal and political environment. Transitional economies though offer the opportunity for more discussion and open the door for further cooperation amongst various sectors and a deeper integration of not only sustainable economic practices, but also allowing for further integration of economics into the political framework.

Economic Cooperation and Integration

Within the ECE system the agenda of economic expansion and integration is carried out by the Economic Cooperation and Integration Division (ECI). The ECI serves as an arm of the ECE driven by the economic needs of Member States through their established program of work. The program of work includes overarching goals of promoting and facilitation the sharing of knowledge, supporting entrepreneurial endeavors, bolstering regulatory policies and governance, and increasing public-private partnerships. A vast majority of the work is carried out by the Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration. Established after the Reform Process in December 2005, the Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration (CECI) is responsible for the “policy, financial and regulatory environment” throughout the ECE; focused intently on transitional economies, the CECI fosters an economic environment promoting growth and innovation.⁴¹ First meeting in September 2006, the CECI established its program of work focusing on: Innovation and Competitiveness Policies, Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Develop-private partnerships, Financing for Innovative Development, Intellectual Property Rights, and Public-Private Partnerships.⁴²

Recently, the major focus for the CECI has been in establishing and developing public-private partnerships. Through the work of the CECI regular meetings a conferences are held for discussing opportunities and best practices with building further partnerships between the public and private sectors.⁴³ Under the guidance of the ECE secretariat, a roster of experts is maintained of those individuals with experience in public-private partnerships referred to as the Team of Specialists.⁴⁴ Divided into three categories, the Team of Specialist (TOS) meet once a

³⁷ ECE/Trade/C/2014/9. “High-level segment: “Increasing the participation of transition economies in international trade.” United Nations Economic Commission for Europe. November 7, 2013.

http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trade/ct/ct_2014/ECE-TRADE-C-2014-01E_Agenda.pdf

³⁸ “Strengthening the capacity of developing and transition economies to link global supply chains through the reduction of trade obstacles,” The United Nations Development Account, <http://www.un.org/esa/devaccount/projects/2010/10-11AO.html> (accessed July 6, 2014).

³⁹ “Transition Economies: An IMF Perspective on Progress and Prospects,” The International Monetary Fund, <https://www.imf.org/external/np/exr/ib/2000/110300.htm#I> (accessed July 6, 2014).

⁴⁰ Ibid.

⁴¹ “Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration (CECI) Introduction,” The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, http://www.unece.org/ceci/introduction_ceci.html (accessed April 15, 2014).

⁴² Ibid.

⁴³ “Public-Private Partnerships” The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, <http://www.unece.org/?id=921> (accessed April 15, 2014).

⁴⁴ Ibid.

year at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, Switzerland. During the fifth session in February 2013, the TOS joined together with 38 Member States, 15 intergovernmental organization, and over 100 private companies discussing previous work during the fourth session and plans for the future year. Topics ranged from a feasibility study for needed renovations for the Palais des Nations, partnership plans for health centers in the Philippines, and building specialists centers throughout Azerbaijan, France, German, Republic of Korea, the Netherlands, the Russian Federation, and Qatar.⁴⁵ TOS meetings are not limited to ECE Member States, but instead are open to all UN Member States in order to further share the best practices in building partnerships between the public and private sectors. Tethered together by economic bonds, the deepening of cooperation between the public and private gives Member States more incentives to maintain open lines of communication.

Trade Development and Standardization

Developing out of greater cooperation and communication are new outlets for trade and development within the UN and ECE systems. Over the course of the last thirty years, trade has developed into a major facet of the ECE system, with the ECE participating as one of the five regional bodies acting as a regional effort to developing new mechanisms for supporting peace. The Committee on Trade (CT) is responsible for furthering the ECE commitment to expanding economic relationships between ECE Member States and bringing great cooperation amongst other Member States. While the majority of the work within the CT is making policy recommendations and developing standards for all ECE Member States, they are also involved in establishing harmonization of technical regulations and are involved in the agricultural and e-business areas as well.⁴⁶ Great emphasis within the CT is placed on sustainable practices and providing support for Member States through economic transitions.⁴⁷

Within the CT there are multiple areas of focus in relation to trade, including facilitating trade and e-businesses, agriculture, regulations, and standardization.⁴⁸ As technology increase and business are conducting more business through electronic means, the ECE answered with change with the United Nations Center for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT) charged with reporting on improving worldwide coordination and cooperation in e-commerce to the Committee on Trade and the ECE Executive Committee.⁴⁹ The UN/CEFACT aims to break down barriers and constraints to trade and development and promotes best practices in trade and development amongst Member States.⁵⁰ It is also through the UN/CEFACT the ECE interfaces with international trade organizations including, the World Trade Organization (WTO), the World Customs Organization (WCO), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).⁵¹ UN/CEFACT work is built on three pillars: process, information, and technology and how those three pillars are utilized in world trade and development.⁵² Also falling within their purview is the developing strategies and standards for internet based business, developing a “Core Component Library, containing syntax-neutral and technology-independent building blocks,” and “XML schemas providing a series of coherent, consistent, and normalized syntax” for standard web development and e-commerce activities.⁵³

The two remaining working parties within the CT are Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies and Working Party on Agricultural Quality. Both working parties are forum style in order

⁴⁵ ECE/CECI/PPP/2013/2. “Report of the Team of Specialist on Public-Private Partnerships on its fifth session.” United Nations Economic Commission for Europe. March 7, 2013.

http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/ceci/documents/2013/PPP/ECE_CECI_PPP_2013_2_Final.pdf

⁴⁶ “Trade Welcome: About Us” The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, <http://www.unece.org/tradewelcome/tradectwelcome/about-us.html> (accessed April 15, 2014).

⁴⁷ Ibid.

⁴⁸ Ibid.

⁴⁹ “Trade: About” The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, <http://www.unece.org/cefact/about.html> (accessed April 15, 2014).

⁵⁰ Ibid.

⁵¹ Ibid.

⁵² Ibid.

⁵³ Ibid.

to encourage open dialogue between policy makers and regulators.⁵⁴ Working Party on Agricultural Quality or WP 7 develops clear and concise guidance regarding production, importing, and exporting agricultural based products throughout Member States within the ECE. Work is broken into four categories: fresh fruits and vegetables, dry and dry produce, seed potatoes, and meat.⁵⁵ Remaining true to the ECE history, individuals from the agricultural community are invited to participate in the consistent discussions regarding standards development.⁵⁶

CASE STUDY: The European Union

A hallmark of cooperation across Europe is the European Union. From humble beginnings in 1951 as the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC), the ECSC brought together Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands as the first tentative steps towards economic based peacebuilding.⁵⁷ Joining together their coal and steel industries under one management umbrella, the six original Member States removed the capability of utilizing their coal and steel industries as machines of war.⁵⁸ Based on a plan from French foreign minister Robert Schuman, the Schuman Declaration, signed by the original six members in 1951, were the first steps towards utilizing economics as a measure of peacebuilding. Schuman encouraged those in attendance to sign agree not on multiple economic fronts, but instead using one common business as a stepping stone to building further agreements and multilateral agreements amongst Member States.⁵⁹ Under the plan France and Germany would agree their coal and steel industry would be governed by a common High Authority and would make provision for further Member States across Europe to join if they so wished and would serve as their first concrete efforts towards building peace throughout Europe.⁶⁰

For six years the ECSC stood as the only successful effort in helping to bring together the original six in regular communication. Failure of other forays into joint participation in a defense community, the ECSC refocused priority back to economies by centering their interests on the physical rebuilding of European cities and industries. Meeting in 1956, the committee moved forward with establishing a common market and an atomic energy community.⁶¹ Following the signing of the Treaty of Rome in 1957, the European Economic Community (EEC) created the common market amongst those Member States. The main objective of the new EEC was two-fold, first as a transformative measure on trade and trade relations and second as a clear move towards expanding current efforts towards building a stronger and more unified Europe.⁶² The Treaty of Rome echoed the sentiments of the Charter of the United Nations, building within it the desire for strengthening peacebuilding amongst all Member States.

Taking the steps towards economic integration, but did not come in one sudden phase. Full impact of the common market was established through three stages transpiring over the course of twelve years. Each phase was assigned specific actions which occur concurrently with one another leading towards the full implementation of the common market.⁶³ The cornerstones of the common market are the four freedoms: free movement of persons, services, goods, and capital.⁶⁴ Establishing the four freedoms and not only the expansion but the deepening of the common market throughout first the European Community and then the European Union has brought about an increasing change directed at how economics can increase peacebuilding opportunities.

⁵⁴ “Working Parting on Agricultural Quality Standards,” The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, <http://www.unece.org/trade/agr/welcome.html> (accessed June 28, 2014).

⁵⁵ Ibid.

⁵⁶ Ibid.

⁵⁷ “History” The European Union, http://europa.eu/about-eu/eu-history/1945-1959/index_en.htm (accessed June 28, 2014).

⁵⁸ Ibid.

⁵⁹ “Schuman Declaration,” The European Union, http://europa.eu/about-eu/basic-information/symbols/europe-day/schuman-declaration/index_en.htm (accessed June 28, 2014).

⁶⁰ Ibid.

⁶¹ “Treaty establishing the European Community, ECE Treaty” The European Union, http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/institutional_affairs/treaties/treaties_eec_en.htm (accessed June 28, 2014).

⁶² Ibid.

⁶³ Ibid.

⁶⁴ Ibid.

Bringing economic based peace throughout the EU has not been an easy process and is one consistently undergoing change. As the EU has expanded over the last twenty years and more Member States join the Eurozone, economic based peace efforts are at times tested by shifts and changes in individual Member States economies. Prior to the global financial crisis, Greece began borrowing and spending against their current ability leading to a stimulus package on 110bn in 2010.⁶⁵ Once the crisis expanded their precarious economic state came to light and resulted in their need for another influx of capital provided by the Eurozone. One of the conditions of the continued support was the introduction of austerity measures, which included privatization of business, raising of taxes, and the dismissal of some civil servants.⁶⁶ Despite the assertion of previous governments, the austerity measures were not carried out, leaving Greece in the position of still needing further support and still responsible for putting in place the requested measures. Greece eventually passed the measures, but to widespread disapproval across Greece and throughout the upper echelons of the EU.⁶⁷ During the entire process multiple riots occurred throughout Greece, causing widespread panic throughout the country and strained their relationships with not only those in the Eurozone, but further straining their relationships with neighboring Member States, including Turkey.⁶⁸ Three years later, Greece is slowly experiencing a rebound in their economy and in their relationships within the Eurozone, but not without carrying the impact of the crisis with them.⁶⁹

Breaking down traditionally expensive customs and establishing common economic policies, the European Union is one such example of not only strengthening peacebuilding in post conflict situations, but in how economies in transition can implement policies and measures aimed at furthering peace through regular and routine communication and examination of existing policies. Today the EU continues to utilize sanctions, most recently against Russia following the breakdown in the Ukraine. The full impact of the economic measures are still largely unknown, but the depth and breadth of the economic sanctions can bring about changes without resulting in further violence.⁷⁰

Conclusion

While strides have been made in the last twenty years, the work of the ECE as a regional commission continues to remain relevant. Peace economics is a relatively new terminology, but the utilization of economics as a measure of peace are not new. Building relationships based on peace has a long held tradition with Member States building strategic alliances based on beneficial trade relationships. Routine assessments of existing policies is creating an atmosphere responsive to consistent changes in economic service delivery. Utilization of organizations such as the European Union and expanding the efforts of multiple UN programs, the ECE is consistently evolving and changing to meet the needs of Member States and support regional economic development and transition. Economic sanctions have long been seen as a measure of brining Member States into line, but they have not always been successful over long terms. With an ever expanding global economy, the regional commissions, including the ECE, are faced with finding newer and more responsive economic measures in order to continue to shape peace throughout the region.

Committee Directive

In recent years the focus of building strong economic policies for peace has turned to the private sector and building relationships between the public and the private. While the UN does not regulate private businesses, the efforts of the regional commissions, including the ECE, has turned towards building stronger and mutually beneficial relationships by breaking down barriers to trade. Delegates should look to these efforts and how strengthening them can help lead for further initiatives for peace. Initiatives should look to establishing favorable policies at local and global levels and encouraging Member States to examine current policies with negative impacts. Delegates should not limit their focus only to the traditional realm of economics either. The regional commissions are known for

⁶⁵ "Greece profile" BBC News <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-17372520> 10 June 2014

⁶⁶ "What could happen next if Greece leave the eurozone?" BBC News <http://www.bbc.com/news/business-18074674> 18 June 2012

⁶⁷ "Eurozone ministers are losing patience with Greece," BBC News <http://www.bbc.com/news/business-25032785> 21 November 2013

⁶⁸ "A chronology of key events," BBC News <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-17373216> 10 June 2014

⁶⁹ Ibid.

⁷⁰ "EU widens Russia sanctions to target economy," BBC News <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-28551391> 29 July 2014

branching out and pulling in knowledge from across multiple spectrums. Delegates should look into initiatives which have economic ramifications, including using green technologies for building. Delegates should also look to other regional economic commissions and their activities throughout the world and if those activities can be mirrored in ECE programs and initiatives. Delegates should also explore if there are other options than economic sanctions to help bring peace. Sanctions have long been used to varying degrees of success. Delegates should explore if there are other options available to help bring economic based peace.

II. Expanding Sustainable Energy Policies and Regulations

Introduction

Generally, the term “energy crisis” poses three questions: “Will we run out?”, “How secure is our access?”, and “How does climate change affect us?”⁷¹ Fossil fuels and other non-renewable energy sources are fading fast and questions are arising regarding their long term viability. Though individual Member States may feel varying degrees of burden from resource depletion, the international community must strive together to bring these issues to the forefront. The modern world is at the beginnings of expertise in green technology development, and has experimented with using economic ideas to both increase this innovation, and to create monitoring mechanisms to ensure the success and safety of sustainable energy sources. One example of the economic impact of environmental issues involves the reduction of air quality due to sulfuric acid from People’s Republic of China affecting juyho ice trees in Japan.⁷² The pollution created from China’s rapidly developing economy are harming these juyho ice trees, commonly known as “Snow Monsters.” As a popular tourist destination in Japan, harm to them has negative effects on the tourism sector of the Japanese economy. Travel and tourism takes up seven percent of Japan’s national GDP,⁷³ so it is not an immaterial harm to the economic well-being of Japan. Europe is not exempt to these types of effects either; the European Environment Agency reports that, “A significant proportion of Europe’s population lives in areas, especially cities, where exceedances of air quality standards occur: ozone, nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter (PM) pollution pose serious health risks.”⁷⁴ These health risks within highly industrialized areas can be mitigated by the usage of renewable, clean energy sources. These sources are often more expensive than other nonrenewable alternatives in terms of accounting cost due to renewable energy research being a more recent initiative due to advances in technology over the last two decades. Member States such as Denmark and Germany have some of the highest energy prices but are standing at the brink of renewable energy generation and innovation.⁷⁵

Economically speaking, in order to negate the damaging effects of ignoring the issue of the depletion of non-renewable energy resources, companies, industries, and national governments must be incentivized to use these clean energy sources. Encouraging these types of policies and practices is not only beneficial for environmental integrity but for the economic benefit to the globe as a whole. Beyond health risks, at the UNECE Public-Private Roundtable on Green Economy and UNESCO Future Forum in Paris, Mr. Ján Kubiš pointed out that global warming and resource shortages also contribute to “reduced human well-being and increasing social inequality.”⁷⁶ The key to solving this multifaceted issue lies in innovation, global cooperation through regulations and accountability, and the application of the principles of economics. One way global regulations and accountability can be put in place is through the practice of green treaties. Green treaties unite the globe on topics that aim to

⁷¹ “Proposal- The Energy Crisis and Climate Change,” Global Economic Symposium, <http://www.global-economic-symposium.org/knowledgebase/the-global-environment/the-energy-crisis-and-climate-change/proposals/the-energy-crisis-and-climate-change> (accessed July 22, 2014).

⁷² Kyoko Hasegawa, “Chinese pollution quietly takes its toll on Japan,” Taipei Times, April 5, 2008. <http://www.taipeitimes.com/News/editorials/archives/2008/04/05/2003408392> (accessed July 22, 2014).

⁷³ “Revitalizing Japan’s Tourism Sector,” United Nations Department of Public Information, <http://www.undpi.am/node/29> (accessed July 22, 2014).

⁷⁴ “Air Pollution,” European Environment Agency, <http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/air/intro> (accessed July 22, 2014).

⁷⁵ M.J. “Why is Renewable Energy So Expensive?,” The Economist Explains, January 5, 2014.

⁷⁶ Jan Kubiš, “Statement at UNECE Public-Private Roundtable on Green Economy and UNESCO Future Forum, May 24, 2011. http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/press/execsec/2011/24_May_Paris_UNECE_Public-Private_Roundtable_on_Green_Economy.pdf (accessed July 22, 2014).

positively affect the environment by placing requirements that must be met within a noted time period. Most famously, the Kyoto Protocol committed its Parties to internationally-binding emission reduction targets,⁷⁷ strengthened by compliance, registry systems, and reporting. The difficulty in the implementation of these Green Treaties lies in keeping Member States held to their promises. Fiona Harvey notes in her article about the world's greatest powers putting off a green treaty to replace Kyoto at its expiration, "Although the world's major economies made pledges to limit their emissions... there is little sign these are having an effect."⁷⁸ Green treaties provide frameworks that help to deepen ties, and required innovations have brought us through recent progress; however, we must completely renovate our ideas of what it means to innovate in terms of sustainable energy and positively affecting the environment.

The UNECE's has lead the way on five environmental treaties. They have encouraged the achievement of Millennium Development Goal 7 to integrate sustainability into government to improve the environment.⁷⁹ The UNECE has also contributed to the local success of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).⁸⁰ European Member States are leading the field of green technology and have made great strides in environmentally-focused fiscal reform; however, they must work together further to form collaborative and economically beneficial goals to sustain the integrity of the environment for future generations. The goal of this committee session of the UNECE is to maintain and improve upon green ecology but mediate such that productive industry and human development can flourish.

History

Before the industrial revolution, mankind turned to animal and human musculature for half of the energy sources to create products, farm, and travel, amongst other activities. But after the industrial revolution, energy evolved to include fossil fuels, most notably coal, in the steam-powered engines of the day.⁸¹ Today, oil, natural gas, and other higher-energy content sources are ubiquitous. They are the most cost-efficient sources of energy because of their commonality, and thus companies and industries use them in producing cheap goods and services. But the reality is the use of nonrenewable energy harms the environment through increasing occurrences of acid rain and smog, contaminating water, and aiding in the endangerment of animals and ecosystems.⁸²

The demand for fossil fuels remains high, meanwhile, they are becoming more difficult to find, and due to the Law of Supply and Demand, the tag price is raising, especially in respect to oil.⁸³ When oil was being discovered regularly, it was, "treated more like a renewable resource"⁸⁴ but now the economy is seeing oil as it truly is: a limited resource. When the supply, or even the expectation of supply, decreases, price can shift upward.⁸⁵ If the price increases at the level of the industry standard oil barrels, the price increases trickle down to the level of the individual after being debated on the futures market.⁸⁶ At the individual level, drivers pay for gas at the pump, companies produce oil-based products, and a high price of gas affects consumer behavior of travel frequency and

⁷⁷ "Kyoto Protocol," United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, http://unfccc.int/kyoto_protocol/items/2830.php (accessed July 22, 2014).

⁷⁸ Fiona Harvey, "Rich nations 'give up' on new climate treaty until 2020," The Guardian, November 20 2011. <http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2011/nov/20/rich-nations-give-up-climate-treaty> (accessed July 22, 2014).

⁷⁹ "UNECE's response to the climate challenge," UNECE, http://www.unece.org/climatechange/unece_response.html (accessed July 22, 2014).

⁸⁰ Ibid.

⁸¹ "Evolution of Energy Sources," Hofstra University, <http://people.hofstra.edu/geotrans/eng/ch8en/conc8en/evolenergy.html> (accessed July 22, 2014).

⁸² Maryruth Belsey Priebe, "Environmental Impacts from Non-Renewable Energy," ecolife, <http://www.ecolife.com/blog/energy/environment-and-non-renewable-energy.html> (accessed July 22, 2014).

⁸³ Hal Finney, "The Future of Oil Prices: Nonrenewable Resource Pricing," Overcoming Bias, June 8, 2008. <http://www.overcomingbias.com/2008/06/the-future-of-o.html#sthash.nt6pU7mi.dpuf> (accessed July 20, 2014).

⁸⁴ Ibid.

⁸⁵ Jodi Beggs, "Shifting the Demand Curve," About.com, <http://economics.about.com/od/demand-and-the-demand-curve/ss/Shifting-The-Demand-Curve.ht> (accessed July 22, 2014).

⁸⁶ Gregory Gethard, "How Does Crude Oil Affect Gas Prices?," Investopedia, <http://www.investopedia.com/articles/economics/08/crude-and-gas-prices.asp> (accessed July 22, 2014).

supplier behavior of shipping.⁸⁷ The key to the treatment of environmental issues, for many corporations and ultimately Member States' governments, lies in the difference between accounting and economic costs. Computing accounting costs comes from the sum of the explicit bottom line numerical costs of an entity. These costs of defined monetary values are used to calculate net income and net costs at companies and other entities.⁸⁸ Economic costs, in contrast, take into consideration the implicit costs of an action. In this case, the implicit cost of forgoing spending extra cash on environmental protection is the degradation of our environment for years to come. The difficulty then lies in accurately portraying these environmental costs. The ripple effect of the prices increases mentioned above result in companies' checkbooks more accurately reflecting the price of using nonrenewable energy sources. Dr. Charles L. Schultze explains in his remarks at the 25th Anniversary Forum of Resources for the Future, "Improving the environment in the broader sense of the term is costly, drawing on resources that could have been used elsewhere. The costs must be paid. But the gains, in the form of environmental improvements, are not captured in our national income and other accounting data generally... If we choose wisely... welfare is improved."⁸⁹ We can improve the welfare of the European Union from an environmental and economic standpoint if we accurately and transparently display these economic costs, especially in light of the increasing accounting price of nonrenewable energy sources.

The world has already taken preliminary steps into alternative power sources. The European Commission published its first Renewable Energy Progress Report in March of 2013 with figures that indicate that "the EU as a whole is on its trajectory towards the 2020 targets with a renewable energy share of 12.7 [percent]."⁹⁰ According to the United States Department of Energy, "Wind generation increased by about 20 [percent] from 2008 to 2009, and has more than tripled since 2004."⁹¹ Still, wind power still provides less than one percent of the world's energy, and coal, a nonrenewable and far less clean energy source dominates the industry. Member States must look into the long-term and understand that making investments in sustainable energy policies and regulations in the short term will benefit the European Union and ultimately the globe both through economic and accounting costs realizations. Sustainable energy can solve environmental problems and create a positive peace, but Member States must be incentivized to choose sustainable alternatives through economic policy that accurately displays costs and that brings Member States together to solve these issues.

Current Challenges and Recent Progress

The current situation is a precarious balance between a focus on sustainability and maintenance of social and industrial development. Member States are having relative success in improving the environment, but usually just for industrial, personal, and financial reasons, "What progress has been made has come largely from cost efficiencies adopted by businesses and consumers primarily for financial reasons — the switch from coal to cheaper natural gas for electricity generation, ... and the cumulative effect of years of increasing efficiency in buildings, vehicles, appliances and manufacturing around the globe."⁹² This somewhat unfortunate fact does imply that making issues seem personal and financial to businesses will result in a change of their behaviors when it comes to energy use and the environment. Member States use lower-cost and non-sustainable energy that is more readily available when they seek to develop their industries and their nations for the good of their citizens; however, they are not accurately representing the costs of these nonrenewable resources. The mentality is: develop with traditional energy sources now, and then transition into cleaner sources once the development stage is complete, in the model that developed Member States today have always used. This model is flawed; the Economic and Social

⁸⁷ Ibid.

⁸⁸ Aaron Marquis, "The Differences Between Accounting Costs and Economic Costs," Houston Chronicle, <http://smallbusiness.chron.com/differences-between-accounting-costs-economic-costs-26153.html> (accessed July 22, 2014).

⁸⁹ Charles L. Schultze, "Environment and the Economy: Managing the Relationship," Challenge, March 1, 1978.

⁹⁰ "Renewable Energy Progress Reports," European Commission, http://ec.europa.eu/energy/renewables/reports/reports_en.htm (accessed July 22, 2014).

⁹¹ "How much of the world's electricity supply is generated from wind and who are the leading generators?," U.S. Energy Information Administration, August 30, 2011. http://www.eia.gov/energy_in_brief/article/wind_power.cfm (accessed July 22, 2014).

⁹² Stephen Castle, "Europe, Facing Economic Pain, May Ease Climate Rules," The New York Times, January 22, 2014. http://www.nytimes.com/2014/01/23/business/international/european-union-lowers-ambitions-on-renewable-energy.html?_r=1 (accessed July 22, 2014).

Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) Green Growth Initiative, a policy focus group, has theorized that, “it is crucial to change development approaches from ‘grow first, clean up later’ to a more responsible long-term attitude... by encouraging economic growth with an emphasis on environmental and social concerns.”⁹³

The Green Growth Initiative and ESCAP have altered tax policy to levy taxes on extraction of natural resources or production of air pollution. They have also looked into subsidy reform that eliminates unsustainable development. This has had a positive effect by signaling to consumers the real price of production. Beyond this, they have aimed to promote a conducive environment for investing in sustainable energy.⁹⁴ In Europe, governments have reformed their fiscal systems to place taxes on substances and activities that are harming the environment like carbon dioxide, but making up for this raise by reducing other taxes, such as those waged on payroll.⁹⁵ In 1995, The Netherlands produced a report that studied income and indirect/green taxes. This study concluded that increasing “negative” incentives as well as “positive” ones doubles the incentive, resulting in easing the financing of investment. Sweden’s 1995 report concludes that introducing environmental taxes can be met by cutting those that most impact employment in the service sector.⁹⁶ Since the UNFCCC, the European region has led the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. “Fifty-four of the 56 member States of UNECE are Parties to the Convention.”⁹⁷ The European Union has an emission trading system already in place. The UNECE’s Energy Efficiency 2000, and now the Energy Efficiency 21 have reduced investment risk in financing energy efficiency projects, and have helped nations joining the EU meet the environmental standards required by renovating their energy sectors.⁹⁸ Positive steps are being taken toward increasing sustainable energy through policy and economic initiatives; however, Member States have a long way to go.

Even in developed Member States of the European Union, “High energy costs, declining industrial competitiveness and a recognition that the economy is unlikely to rebound strongly any time soon are leading policy makers to begin easing up in their drive for more aggressive climate regulation.”⁹⁹ Europe has done away with national targets, and is instead giving overall targets. While this does make sure that all countries are equal, many Member States are not coming from equal footing. Decreasing emissions in a well-off economy by the required percentage may be easier than for those that are developing. The British government, in fact, has praised the overall European goal of producing 27 percent of Europe’s energy from renewables by 2030. This overall goal may leave Member States to decide for themselves who will take the brunt of sustainable energy creation.¹⁰⁰ Due to the bystander effect, defined as “the greater the number of people present, the less likely people are to help”¹⁰¹ this overall European goal is left with a vagueness of responsibility.

Using Economics to Internalize Negative Environmental Effects

Many Member States have already tried their hand at bringing basic microeconomics into environmental policy. Emissions Trade is a method by which units of carbon emissions and other land use and innovation elements are quantified into credits that can be traded for money. This allows entities that have more capability to reduce their emissions to take on the brunt of that duty, while being paid more to do so by those that are less capable. In the Kyoto protocol, “allowed emissions are divided into assigned amount units” and if a country has more green ability

⁹³ “About Green Growth,” Green Growth UN ESCAP, <http://www.greengrowth.org/?q=static-page/sat-10012011-1104/about-green-growth> (accessed July 22, 2014).

⁹⁴ “Green Growth Paths,” Green Growth UN ESCAP, <http://www.greengrowth.org/?q=green-growth-paths> (accessed July 22, 2014).

⁹⁵ “EFR and Canada’s Environment,” Green Budget Coalition, <http://www.greenbudget.ca/efr.html> (accessed July 22, 2014).

⁹⁶ Kai Schlegelmilch, ed., *Green Budget Reform* (Germany: Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg, 1999).

⁹⁷ “UNECE’s response to the climate challenge,” UNECE, http://www.unece.org/climatechange/unece_response.html (accessed July 22, 2014).

⁹⁸ “EE 21 History,” EE 21, <http://www.ee-21.net/en/programme-history> (accessed July 22, 2014).

⁹⁹ Stephen Castle, “Europe, Facing Economic Pain, May Ease Climate Rules,” *The New York Times*, January 22, 2014. http://www.nytimes.com/2014/01/23/business/international/european-union-lowers-ambitions-on-renewable-energy.html?_r=1 (accessed July 22, 2014).

¹⁰⁰ Ibid.

¹⁰¹ Kendra Cherry, “The Bystander Effect,” About.com, <http://psychology.about.com/od/socialpsychology/a/bystandereffect.htm> (accessed July 22, 2014).

to spare, they can “sell this excess capacity to countries that are over their targets.”¹⁰² Though this credit system is often referred to as the “carbon market,” the Kyoto Protocol also considers removal units on the basis of land use and forestry, clean development projects, and joint implementation projects to be credits.¹⁰³ Kyoto Protocol’s foray into using emission reduction units in harmony with joint implementation projects results in Member States working together toward the common goal of sustainable energy development.¹⁰⁴ These credit systems monetize the energy sector, which in perfect economic models would help to incentivize good decision making. Some governments offer tax incentives as well to businesses that focus on environmental innovation or that switch to sustainable energy sources.¹⁰⁵ Governments can both incentivize and dis-incentivize by strategically placing tax breaks on renewable energy investment and placing extra taxes on environmentally disadvantageous investments.¹⁰⁶ The key to doing this is to find the comparative advantages of various sustainable energy sources within regions. A small business in the Sudanese desert is best equipped to provide wind or solar power; whereas the rolling plains of Denmark are best for wind. In addition to this, research on the development of green power sources should aim to “capture the “social return” of providing cleaner power to underserved areas, not to receive a purely financial return on the investment.”¹⁰⁷

Internalizing negative externalities involves the taking into consideration of the “huge financial cost of dealing with the impacts of climate change and [money spent] every year on oil and gas imports.”¹⁰⁸ Reforming governments’ fiscal systems to internalize these negative effects of using nonrenewable energy sources supports the environment by making it “non-cost effective to operate in an environmentally unsustainable manner.”¹⁰⁹ In Canada, the Pilot Emission Removals, Reductions and Learnings (PERRL) fiscal reform was formed with USD 15 million from the Canadian Federal Government through Action Plan 2000. With PERRL, the federal government “buys the rights to verified greenhouse gas emission reductions from eligible projects for a fixed price per tonne.”¹¹⁰ PERRL aims to assist in future policy development based on the results of the initiative, and to teach Canadian government how to administer greenhouse gas emission reductions and “provide financial incentives to encourage action.”¹¹¹ In PERRL’s first auction round, bidders such as André Simard & associés Ltée and the City of Guelph purchased emission reductions, leading to 900,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide.¹¹² In the third auction round, USD 2.5 million was provided to carbon sink enhancement projects.¹¹³ PERRL involved the provincial and territorial levels of government, as well as NGO partners to strengthen the fiscal reform initiative.

Another method of using economics for the environment is through encouraging green consumerism. Green consumerism has put public pressure on companies to be aware of the environment because it can give them a competitive advantage in the marketplace because consumers are going out of their way to find companies with high environmental standards. In the European Blue Flag campaign, beachgoers seek out beaches and marinas that meet

¹⁰² “International Emissions Trading,” United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, http://unfccc.int/kyoto_protocol/mechanisms/emissions_trading/items/2731.php (accessed July 22, 2014).

¹⁰³ Ibid.

¹⁰⁴ Ibid.

¹⁰⁵ “What are renewable portfolio standards (RPS) and how do they affect renewable electricity generation?,” U.S. Energy Information Administration, January 25, 2013. http://www.eia.gov/energy_in_brief/article/renewable_portfolio_standards.cfm (accessed July 22, 2014).

¹⁰⁶ “EFR and Canada’s Environment,” Green Budget Coalition, <http://www.greenbudget.ca/efr.html> (accessed July 22, 2014).

¹⁰⁷ Bradford S. Gentry and Jennifer J. Ronk, “International Investment Agreements and Investments in Renewable Energy,” Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, http://environment.research.yale.edu/documents/downloads/0-9/11-03-Gentry_Ronk.pdf (accessed July 22, 2014).

¹⁰⁸ Stephen Castle, “Europe, Facing Economic Pain, May Ease Climate Rules,” The New York Times, January 22, 2014. http://www.nytimes.com/2014/01/23/business/international/european-union-lowers-ambitions-on-renewable-energy.html?_r=1 (accessed July 22, 2014).

¹⁰⁹ “EFR and Canada’s Environment,” Green Budget Coalition, <http://www.greenbudget.ca/efr.html> (accessed July 22, 2014).

¹¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹¹ “Pilot Emission Removals, Reductions, and Learnings,” Environment Canada, http://www.ec.gc.ca/media_archive/press/2002/021017_b_e.htm (accessed July 22, 2014).

¹¹² Ibid.

¹¹³ “Canadian government buys greenhouse gas emission cuts,” Rodale Institute, March 8, 2004. http://www.newfarm.org/international/news/030104/0314/ca_climate.shtml (accessed July 22, 2014).

these high standards.¹¹⁴ Though this public accountability for companies is positive step, governments must add increasing pressure to make sure that companies are internalizing the harm they are doing. Friends of the Earth campaigner Brook Riley, a NGO who coordinates with the UNECE on their post-2020 climate and energy framework, points out that the president of the European Commission, José Manuel Barroso has fallen for the “industry spin that there must be a trade-off between climate action and economic recovery.”¹¹⁵ The Environment, Housing, and Land Management Division of UNECE’s Dieter Hesse explains that it is not impossible to reach goals of international competitiveness and sustainable development. Hesse suggests that “an effective integration of environmental policies into national economic development strategies” incentivizes both the development and the diffusion of innovative and environmentally-friendly products.¹¹⁶

Improving Existing Regulations

The Economist calls nuclear power, “a controversial option.”¹¹⁷ Nuclear power, being one of the most cost-effective alternative energy sources¹¹⁸, is seen as dangerous to those that have witnessed the events of Ukraine’s Chernobyl accident and Japan’s Fukushima. In addition to this, there is the acute fear of the development of nuclear weapons, which would inhibit a positive peace. All energy sources, contrary to popular belief, involve risk. Coal mining releases methane that creates an unsafe working environment for all miners present.¹¹⁹ Oil spills can lead to stinging eyes, skin problems, and even respiratory symptoms for those cleaning up.¹²⁰ In the case study featured in “Risk Management in Regulatory Frameworks: Towards a Better Management of Risks,” the UNECE explains that regulatory frameworks must complement each other. Policymakers, international bodies, market surveillance authorities, businesses, and legislators must all be aiming toward a common goal of avoiding risk in a responsible manner. An example of when regulatory frameworks were absent is the Haitian earthquake. A more severe earthquake hit Chile, but their “building codes and risk-based building rules had been regularly updated and enforced since their adoption in 1931.”¹²¹ The same event that left Haiti in chaos was mitigated in a physical and economic sense in Chile with preparedness and innovative technologies being applied to risk management.

The UNECE’s Methane to Markets Partnership has aimed to create a Best Practices guide for methane use during coal mining to lower the negative accidents that can occur.¹²² The International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association’s Global Initiative has encouraged collaboration in developing oil spill preparedness measures. The UNECE has integrated protocols about civil liability for damage caused to water because of industrial accidents to their Convention on Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International lakes¹²³. Similarly, nuclear power and other nonrenewable energy sources would need to be regulated collaboratively with all Member States to encourage safety. In addition to handling concerns of safety, existing

¹¹⁴ “Some Examples of Green Consumerism,” The Global Development Research Center, http://www.gdrc.org/sustbiz/green/doc-cons_examples.html (accessed July 22, 2014).

¹¹⁵ “Energy savings will help resolve the economic crisis,” EurActiv, May 4, 2013. <http://www.euractiv.com/energy-efficiency/energy-savings-help-resolve-econ-analysis-518914> (accessed July 22, 2014).

¹¹⁶ Dieter Hesse, “Environmental Policy and International Competitiveness in a Globalizing World,” Economic Commission for Europe, 2007. <http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/publications/environment/other/ece.cep.146.e.pdf> (accessed July 22, 2014).

¹¹⁷ M.J. “Why is Renewable Energy So Expensive?,” The Economist Explains, January 5, 2014.

¹¹⁸ “World Energy Needs and Nuclear Power,” World Nuclear Association, May 2014. <http://www.world-nuclear.org/info/Current-and-Future-Generation/World-Energy-Needs-and-Nuclear-Power/> (accessed July 22, 2014).

¹¹⁹ “Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines,” Economic Commission for Europe Methane to Markets Partnership, 2010. http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/cmm/pub/BestPractGuide_MethDrain_es31.pdf (accessed July 22, 2014).

¹²⁰ Richard Knox, “How Will The Gulf Oil Spill Affect Human Health?,” June 23, 2010. <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=128008826> (accessed July 22, 2014).

¹²¹ “Risk Management in Regulatory Frameworks,” UNECE, 2012. http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trade/Publications/WP6_ECE_TRADE_390.pdf (accessed July 22, 2014).

¹²² “Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines,” Economic Commission for Europe Methane to Markets Partnership, 2010. http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/cmm/pub/BestPractGuide_MethDrain_es31.pdf (accessed July 22, 2014).

¹²³ “Industrial Accidents,” UNECE, <http://www.unece.org/env/teia.html> (accessed July 22, 2014).

regulations must be renovated in order to more accurately record, and present, the success or failure, of the economic policies, and innovative changes made to improve the environment. UNECE's Environmental Performance Reviews have assessed nations' progress toward environmental and economic targets, and in doing so have encouraged cross-governmental sharing of ideas on policy,¹²⁴ but greater accountability is needed. ESCAP "has identified the need to develop a new set of eco-efficiency Indicators ...to measure and compare the eco-efficiency of economic growth of different countries and to identify policy measures to improve this."¹²⁵ Whether legislation is monitored through annual reviews, or tested on a myriad of indicators, the UNECE must ensure that these changes are effective, and that no one Member State is benefitting at the harm of another, through increasing the transparency of these regulations, fiscal reforms, and other innovative solutions. It is important that innovative measures to improve the environment are paired with both regulatory and measuring mechanisms to ensure safety and accountability.

Green Treaties and Peace Economics

One example of sustainable policy through multilateral green treaties is the 1979 ECE Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution. It has fostered legally-binding control of emissions and monitoring of these controls' implementation and Member States' compliance.¹²⁶ Part of increasing sustainable energy on a global scale is providing examples for the world to follow. The European Community has been a "critical mass" leading in the signing of Sustainable Energy Trade Agreements such as the Agreement on Trade in Civil Aircraft.¹²⁷ Individual Member States provide unique solutions to energy problems; and thus can also help lead the globe in their unique abilities like Germany's solar power success. International bodies are in the unique position to set the stage for development of sustainable energy; their platform leads as an example to the rest of the world. Additionally, the UNECE, UN, ECOSOC, and other international bodies have created a format to discuss sustainable energy through international monetary policy and a global renovation of what it means to regulate and incentivize innovative and environmentally-friendly energy sources.

Green treaties provide frameworks for environmental protection and cooperation and also foster mutual understanding and promote general cooperation leading to a successful application of principles of economic governance to conflict prevention. Though these treaties may be, in the short term, focusing on environmental benefits, the payoff will be in the cooperation and collaborative spirit, tying together Member States into a global community. When green treaties are multilateral and take into consideration regional aspects to effectiveness, they promote preventative diplomacy to mitigate conflict. The UNECE has pushed for sustainable energy to deepen strong ties to foster peaceful solution to energy source concerns through The Working Party on Gas, and the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Supply and Use of Gas.¹²⁸ Dieter Hesse explains that, "International cooperation and co-ordination in the design of environmental policies, notably as regards transboundary pollution, can also reduce asymmetric competitiveness effects across countries,"¹²⁹ thusly facilitating positive development economically throughout the world.

In order to be effective, treaties must be designed so that Member States follow the terms of the agreement.¹³⁰ Member States are more likely to adhere to the rules of a treaty when the incentives to free ride are reversed. Clean

¹²⁴ "What is an EPR?," UNECE, <http://www.unece.org/env/epr/eprdefinition.html> (accessed July 22, 2014).

¹²⁵ "Green Growth Paths," Green Growth UN ESCAP, <http://www.greengrowth.org/?q=green-growth-paths> (accessed July 22, 2014).

¹²⁶ Lars Nordburg, "Can UNECE Initiatives Pave the Way for Regional and Global Action?," UNECE Expert Opinions, 2013. <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=34210> (accessed July 22, 2014).

¹²⁷ "Plurilateral agreement on trade in civil aircraft," World Trade Organization, http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/civair_e/civair_e.htm (accessed July 22, 2014).

¹²⁸ ECE/ENERGY/WP.3/2013/1.Rev.1. *Working Party on Gas Annotated Provisional Agenda*. United Nations Economic Commission for Europe. January 7, 2013.

¹²⁹ Dieter Hesse, "Environmental Policy and International Competitiveness in a Globalizing World," Economic Commission for Europe, 2007. <http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/publications/environment/other/ece.cep.146.e.pdf> (accessed July 22, 2014).

¹³⁰ Frances Cairncross, "What Makes Environmental Treaties Work," *Conservation*, July 29, 2008. <http://conservationmagazine.org/2008/07/what-makes-environmental-treaties-work/> (accessed July 20, 2014).

air, uncontaminated water, and beautiful ecosystems are environmental, and thus public, goods that every Member State can benefit from. The expensive nature of sustainable energy incentivizes that others “make the sacrifices required to make the benefit available for all to enjoy.”¹³¹ The Treaty Effectiveness Initiative, a research and lobbying group, seeks to promote success of treaties by using its research skills to build a resource of understanding on the ways to optimize and enforce multilateral treaties. The initiative hopes to “promote solutions to improve transparency and comparability of data on treaty expenditures, activities, and performance.”¹³² Each treaty is different and must be met with historical knowledge of other treaties, but a sense of innovation toward tackling the issue at hand. Cairncross explains, “Many people assumed that Montreal’s success [on their chlorofluorocarbon reduction treaty] could be replicated for other treaties, such as those on biodiversity or greenhouse gases. They were wrong... international environmental problems do not come with one-size-fits-all solutions. They also lacked a sense of history.”¹³³ An effective treaty will go above and beyond in protecting the environment, and create incentives for Member states to participate and comply with the requirements.¹³⁴

The UNECE, in addition to the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution, has created four more environmental treaties, including, Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents, and Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters.¹³⁵ All of these conventions pave the way for the European community to improve the environment using multilateral treaties; however, much work is left to be done to ensure that future treaties are innovative, transparent, and take into consideration the results and history of the green treaties of the past.

Increasing Innovation

Classic methods of research and development, especially when it comes to sustainable energy is through niche strategy such as biofuels. Constantini and Crespi challenge that, “promoting biofuels may orient technological change in specific directions and negatively affect the evolution of technologies in other branches of the energy sector.”¹³⁶ Beyond the biofuel niche, there exists negative effects if researchers focus on one direction, and ignore the preservation of diversity, which is necessary to effective transition. Increasing innovation must be done through transition policy that aims to create an entirely new approach to scientific knowledge retrieval and usage. Companies and governments must be inspired to make large changes versus small ones. An entire overhaul of the way that we think of energy is necessary for success. Strategic actions can improve innovation, like avoiding lobbyist intervention by increasing innovation as soon as possible, saving the research for later when effects are observed.¹³⁷ Nations can also strategically restrict imports that do not follow environmental standards, forcing the market for green technologies to expand to meet the demand.¹³⁸

Innovative technologies may be expensive now, but due to the principle of Economies of Scale, increased production and technological improvements will lead to a lower cost of research, creation, and implementation. The Economies of Scale principle is defined as, “The cost advantage that arises with increased output of a product.”¹³⁹

¹³¹ Ibid.

¹³² Treaty Effectiveness Initiative, <http://treatyeffectiveness.org/> (accessed July 22, 2014).

¹³³ Frances Cairncross, “What Makes Environmental Treaties Work,” *Conservation*, July 29, 2008. <http://conservationmagazine.org/2008/07/what-makes-environmental-treaties-work/> (accessed July 20, 2014).

¹³⁴ Ibid.

¹³⁵ “Environment,” UNECE, <http://www.unece.org/leginstr/env.html> (accessed July 22, 2014).

¹³⁶ Valeria Constantini and Francesco Crespi, “Public Policies for a Sustainable Energy Sector,” Department of Economics, 2009. http://www.iefef.unibocconi.it/wps/allegatiCTP/15_WP_Momigliano.pdf (accessed July 22, 2014).

¹³⁷ Kai Schlegelmilch, ed., *Green Budget Reform* (Germany: Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg, 1999).

¹³⁸ Frances Cairncross, “What Makes Environmental Treaties Work,” *Conservation*, July 29, 2008. <http://conservationmagazine.org/2008/07/what-makes-environmental-treaties-work/> (accessed July 20, 2014).

¹³⁹ “Economies of Scale,” Investopedia, <http://www.investopedia.com/terms/e/economiesofscale.asp> (accessed July 20, 2014).

For example, “solar electricity is likely to fall in price due to technological improvements.”¹⁴⁰ When one thinks of the success of electric cars, one must take into consideration the great overhaul that would have to occur in converting gas stations to charge up stations and getting the public used to the idea of plugging in their vehicle. These things would become easier overtime as the ubiquity of the technology arose. This is a difficult cycle to begin, though it would take off quickly once it did. In the case of solar electricity, improvements in production, due to technology advancement, have kept up with demand, keeping the price relatively stable.¹⁴¹ But once many different companies get involved, the economic forces of competition and Economies of Scale will drive the price down even further.¹⁴²

Conclusion

A positive peace encourages that things not just be at equilibrium, but also be changing for the better. At current day, most of the time that energy is used, the environment is harmed in some way. Sustainable energy would seek to improve the globe’s welfare through each use. Promoting sustainable energy requires that Member States come to collaborative conclusions about the best practices in doing so. In turn, Member States may find more spirit of compromise in areas other than just environmental sustainability. Researching to find innovative solutions has the power to inspire businesses to be better to their customers and to the supply chains that they interact with. Perhaps the solutions that are found help improve health and strategic efficiency. But these solutions must have the support of international bodies, national governments, industry leaders, and the public. Announcing long-term changes in the fiscal system that will promote sustainability must ensure that the public is on board.¹⁴³ The public must stand behind a common goal like the “Third Industrial Revolution: The Green Economy Transition.” Innovative solutions without support will lack the stamina to continue into the future. “Sustainable energy” implies energy that is scientifically sustainable through its property of being renewable. It also implies that the energy is sustainable in the long term, through governments’ successful facilitation of the responsible use of energy and consideration of the environment.

Committee Directive

As the committee works to improve the environment through economic means, it will be pertinent to focus on maintaining transparency, especially when it comes to the sensitivity of regulations of nuclear power. The committee must exemplify that equal, yet applicable standards are being created to ensure that one Member State or region is not disproportionately benefitting from sustainable energy or alternatively, bearing the burden of its costs to implement. In doing so, you will be directly dealing with combatting the Western adage of “grow now, clean up later” in developing Member States.

The committee must aim to empower support from the entire global community, all levels of government and levels and subsectors of business, as well as the general public to ensure that changes are sustainable. How will the committee make sure that the change monitored for measurable success? Will this be done through the classic environmental performance reviews, or through more innovative means? But most importantly, what social return and benefits will there be to Europe and to the world that arise directly from the innovative solutions created during committee? Delegates, you will be striving to create a better, more peaceful world through specifically expanding sustainable energy policy as an economic body.

¹⁴⁰ Hal Finney, “The Future of Oil Prices: Nonrenewable Resource Pricing,” *Overcoming Bias*, June 8, 2008. <http://www.overcomingbias.com/2008/06/the-future-of-o.html#sthash.nt6pU7mi.dpuf> (accessed July 20, 2014).

¹⁴¹ Ibid.

¹⁴² “Competition,” *Amos Web Encyclopedic Webpedia*, http://www.amosweb.com/cgi-bin/awb_nav.pl?s=wpd&c=dsp&k=competition (accessed July 20, 2014).

¹⁴³ Kai Schlegelmilch, ed., *Green Budget Reform* (Germany: Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg, 1999).

Technical Appendix Guide (TAG)

Topic I: The Role of Economic Policy in Prevention of Conflict

George T. Abed, "Governance Issues and Transition Economies." The International Monetary Fund, May 1998.
<http://www.imf.org/external/np/eu2/kyrgyz/>

This article provides an overview of basic governing issues faced by transition economies. It can help provide a good base for delegates to read through and understand some of the challenges faced with shaping economic policy during times of transition and how to provide greater assistance for those Member States faced with making the transition. The article will also help give insight into previously used methods and what did not work with those approaches.

Jurgen Brauer, and John Tepper Marlin. "Defining Peace Industries and calculating the potential size of a peace gross world product by country and economic sector." Institute for Economics and Peace Sydney Australia. 2009
<http://economicsandpeace.org/research/understanding-peace/economic-impact-of-peace-and-conflict>

This publication will help delegates understand the overall impact of peacebuilding throughout the world and how peace industries can help elevate economic advantages. The article provides a feasibility study of Member States and breaks down their potential for peacebuilding efforts. A review of conflict on economic activities is also included and can provide a good starting point for research.

Jurgen Brauer and Raul Caruso. "Peace economist and peace economies." Munic Personal RePEc Archive. November 2011
<http://mpira.ub.uni-muenchen.de/34927/>

This article will give a good basic understanding of peace economics. It helps break down the information and shows how economics can be used for peacebuilding efforts. Delegates can use this as a way of beginning research and how their individual Member States are utilizing economics measures to build peace.

"Designing New Trade Policies in the transition economies," Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, Paris, France. 1997

<http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?doclanguage=en&cote=ocde/gd%2897%29199>

Trade and developing trade policies can be difficult during transition. This article helps give delegates a base for building their understanding regarding those difficulties and how to craft resolutions to help overcome barriers in building trade relationships during times of transitions. The article also gives information on other organizations assisting in transition.

Stanley Fischer and Ratna Sahay. "Transition Economies: The Role of Institutions and Initial Conditions." The International Monetary Fund. April 2004
<https://www.imf.org/external/np/res/seminars/2004/calvo/pdf/fische.pdf>
This article will help provide further information regarding the experience of transition following the dissolution of the former Soviet Union. The article helps breakdown the experiences of multiple Member States and how they faced the difficulties. It also helps provide other information regarding policies used during the transition and their impact on decisions.

"Global peace index 2014." Institute for Economics and Peace. New York, Sydney, and Oxford. June 2014
<http://www.visionofhumanity.org/sites/default/files/2014%20Global%20Peace%20Index%20REPORT.pdf>

This report from the Institute for Economics and Peace is the 8th publication ranking Member States based on their level of peace. This report can help give a delegate a look at the levels of peace in their country as a means of measuring the impact of peace on their economic stability. It can also provide a beginning point for building peacebuilding activities which have been successful in other Member States.

"Operations of the Cluster at the national and regional levels," United Nations Cluster on Trade and Productive Capacity. United Nations, New York and Geneva, May 2014.

http://unctad.org/Sections/un_ceb/docs/ceb_2014_01_operations_en.pdf

This document is a comprehensive list of activities undertaken by the Cluster and who is involved in the activities. Delegates can use the activities as potential activities to undertake in other areas and gain insight into the operation of the Cluster and their work. Delegates should use this as a beginning point for research and to gain ideas for potential resolutions.

Codrina Rada and Lance Taylor. "Developing and Transition Economies in the Late 20th Century: Diverging Growth Rates, Economic Structures, and Sources of Demand." Department of Economic and Social Affairs. New York and Geneva. September 2006 http://www.un.org/esa/desa/papers/2006/wp34_2006.pdf

This article will help give delegates an understanding of how transitional and developing economies are faring from the last 1990s and into the new millennium. It will help provide greater perspective in regards to the changes in markets and service delivery based on the rise of technology. Delegates can also use this as a resource for building their understanding of the difference between a transitional and developing economy.

"Trade and Development Report, 2013." United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. United Nations New York and Geneva. 2013 http://unctad.org/en/PublicationsLibrary/tdr2013_en.pdf

This report will give delegates an insight into the current state of trade and development throughout Member States. Understanding the current states and how global trade has developed following the global economic crisis can give insight into how to draft resolutions responsive to changing economic situations. Delegates can also find information regarding their respective assignments and use it as a base for building their actions.

Paul Wachtel, "Current Account Balances and External Debt in Transition Economies: Lessons for Central Asia." The International Monetary Fund. New York: New York. June 1998.

<http://www.imf.org/external/np/eu2/kyrgyz/pdf/pw.pdf>

Though written in the 1990s, this article can provide a historical perspective of economic transition. It can help serve as a means of understanding what makes an economy successful in making the transition and the utilization of external relationships with other economies.

Topic II: Expanding Sustainable Energy Policies and Regulations

Bradford S. Gentry and Jennifer J. Ronk, "International Investment Agreements and Investments in Renewable Energy," Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies,

http://environment.research.yale.edu/documents/downloads/0-9/11-03-Gentry_Ronk.pdf This source specifically examines multilateral treaties that focus on investment in sustainable manners. It also shows how potential disputes can be dealt with, which is important to include in order to strengthen existing treaties and to set up future treaties to succeed. These investment treaties directly involve economics and international trade.

"Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context," UNECE, 1991.

http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/eia/documents/legaltexts/Espoo_Convention_authentic_ENG.pdf

(accessed July 28, 2014). This Convention, though outdated, will give examples of how to ensure that environmental effects both pre and post-legislation are being recorded and monitored. Monitoring mechanisms will help to show if treaties, innovation, legislation, and fiscal environmentalism are working. In international disputes, conventions such as this one can explain the steps needed to reach a new compromise.

"Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes," UNECE, 2013.

http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2013/wat/ECE_MP.WAT_41.pdf (accessed July 28, 2014).

This modern amended version of a UNECE convention specifically looks at bodies of water, and their owners. It discusses the legality of international ownership, but also expresses ways of monitoring and preventing ecological harm to the ecosystems of the watercourses. It also gives an example of research and development goals in improving environmentally-sound technologies and phasing out substances with a negative transboundary environmental impact.

"The Great Energy Challenge," National Geographic,

<http://environment.nationalgeographic.com/environment/energy/great-energy-challenge/> (accessed July 28, 2014).

This is a myriad of sources from National Geographic including news about energy, basic information about energy, and interactive polls and quizzes to see how you stack up. It also showcases different professionals' points of view

through the blog. This site may serve as an example for getting the public motivated to participate in improving the environment- through interactive activities such as the light bulb calculator or the changing arctic map.

Larry Susskind, “Why don’t green treaties work?” February 18, 2008.

<http://www.theguardian.com/science/audio/2008/feb/18/randerson.susskind> (accessed July 28, 2014). This podcast will go over the pros and cons of green treaties, giving a sobering point of view to you as you begin working as a member of the UNECE. We must be aware of the failures of the past in order to create better methods going forward. It also shows how the public interacts with the global effort for sustainable development, and how national leadership can improve that relationship.

Laurence Norman, “EU Confirms Approval of Germany's New Renewable Energy Law,” The Wall Street Journal, July 23, 2014. <http://online.wsj.com/articles/eu-confirms-approval-of-germanys-new-renewable-energy-law-1406124288> (accessed July 28, 2014). This article will show an example of one of the UNECE’s Member States actions in discerning between alternative sources of energy, balancing risk and reward. It shows how the Economic Commission has taken recent actions since the writing of the background guide. It will serve as an example for the methods that the UNECE uses especially when it comes to interaction with the media.

Robin Hahnel, *Green Economics: Confronting the Ecological Crisis* (New York: M.E. Sharpe, Inc., 2011). This book explains environmental policy, sustainable development, and climate change from an economics point of view. It brings up pros and cons on green treaties, and frames the “new paradigm” of using economics to shift toward a more sustainable environment. This source will additionally give you cases to examine as advice or forewarnings.

Valeria Constantini and Massimiliano Mazzanti, ed., *The Dynamics of Environmental and Economic System* (Dordrecht: Springer, 2013). This source allows you to get an idea for specific economic models in improving the environment. Beyond this, it aims to assess current environmental improvement measures, which is key in creating environmental improvements in the future. The various cases contained therein will show you the positives and negatives in the past actions of the UNECE and other international and national bodies attempting to make similar improvements to the ones you will be making in committee.

Yves Berthelot and Paul Rayment, “Looking Back and Peering Forward,” UNECE, http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/publications/oes/LookingBackPeeringForward_1947-2007.pdf (accessed July 28, 2014). This is an in-depth history of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and is a good starting point in figuring out what powers you will have in the committee simulation. This history includes specific occurrences that have helped to shape the culture and the character of the Commission as a whole to aide you in portraying your part as accurately as possible. This history also acts as a spring board, paving the way of the Commission into the future.