

SRMUN Charlotte 2015
Preserving Fundamental Human Rights:
Our Responsibility to Protect
April 9-11, 2015
Charlotte, NC
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Dear Delegates,

Welcome to SRMUN Charlotte 2015 and the Heads of State Council of the League of Arab States. My name is Samantha O'Brien and it is my honor to serve as your director for the Heads of State Council (HOS). This is my second term serving on SRMUN staff, having previously served as the Assistant Director for UN-Habitat at SRMUN Atlanta 2014. I am also pleased to introduce Erika Davidson as the Assistant Director for HOS in her first role on SRMUN Staff. We are both extremely excited to be a part of the HOS committee at its first appearance at a SRMUN conference. Erika and I are looking forward to hearing all of your perspectives, ideas and innovative solutions to the topics proposed for this new and dynamic committee.

The Heads of State Council was created alongside the League of Arab States (LAS) in order to allow the Kings, Presidents, Prime Ministers, and the other Heads of State within the League the opportunity to have direct dialogue regarding the state of the Arab community. The Heads of State may be called at the request of a Member State when matters of national or regional security need to be addressed. This is the first time this committee will be simulated at SRMUN and it will function differently than any previous LAS committee. Delegations within the HOS will represent a specific Head of State and their respective Special Advisor, as opposed to a Member State of the LAS. *Please refer to the HOS Addendum on the following page for more information.* I am exceedingly pleased to be directing this new committee that has the opportunity to bring about diverse debate. Erika and I incorporated the conference theme of "Preserving Fundamental Human Rights: Our Responsibility to Protect," and developed topics we feel will remain true to the theme and create debate that will shape ideas about the Arab region. The topics for the HOS committee will be:

- I. A Unified Front: Preventing the Rise of Terrorist Organizations;
- II. Addressing the Syrian Refugee Crisis.

Each delegation within the Heads of State Council will be required to submit a position paper discussing both topics. Position papers should be single-spaced and must not exceed two pages in length. Delegates should use these papers as an opportunity to persuade other delegates that their solutions to the proposed topics will be the most viable courses of action. Each delegation will use these papers not only to show their Member State's history with the topics but, specifically, the Head of State's specific courses of action in the past and their proposed solutions to each issue.

A strong position paper is a delegation's foundation for their positions in committee and should also show each delegate's research into both topics and their understanding of the topic's severity within the Arab community. Additional information regarding position papers can be found at www.srmun.org. **All position papers MUST be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on Friday, 20 March 2015, via the online submission system on the SRMUN website.**

I would like to remind all delegations that the HOS is a double delegation committee in which one delegate will represent the character of a specific Head of State and the other (if applicable) will represent the Special Advisor to the Head of State; delegates will *NOT* be representing a Member State. I am looking forward to meeting all of you, hearing your perspectives on the topics, and understanding the solutions you all have developed for these topics. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Erika, myself, or Director General, Devin McRae.

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Addendum to the Heads of State Council

Differences from the Traditional League of Arab States Model

The Heads of State Council at SRMUN Charlotte 2015 will operate differently than any prior League of Arab States committee simulated at SRMUN. Previous LAS simulations at SRMUN involved double delegations that collectively represented an assigned Member State. The HOS will also be comprised of double delegations, but rather than representing a Member State, delegates will have the unique opportunity to encompass the role of a specific President, King, or Prime Minister, as well as a Special Advisor to the Head of State. It is also important to note that, unlike the LAS, the HOS most often assembles during times of crises which threatens the peace and security of the region. Delegates should anticipate the potential of a crisis scenario in which the Heads of States must immediately develop a strategy to address the situation at hand. All other rules of procedure and voting rights will mirror the Charter of the League of Arab States.

Roles of Participants

There are two potential roles within the HOS committee: the specific Head of State (i.e. President, King, or Prime Minister) and the Special Advisor to said Head of State. For example, as opposed to both delegates representing the Member State of Algeria, one delegate will represent Algerian President, Abdelaziz Bouteflika, and the second delegate will represent the Special Advisor to President Bouteflika.

Please note, both roles within the HOS will be of equal importance; however, delegates *WILL NOT* be permitted to alternate roles during the conference. Only one delegate will encompass the character of the assigned Head of State, the other will represent the Special Advisor to the Head of State. The delegate representing the Head of State will respond to roll call during the first committee session of the conference. Thereafter, the role of each delegate will be recognized based on the first roll call taken for the extent of the conference (i.e. the delegate representing the Head of State will be the one to respond to roll call during the first session with either *Present* or *Present and Voting*; that delegate will be henceforth recognized as the Head of State for the remainder of the conference).

Both the Head of State and the Special Advisor will have equal opportunity to present speeches, make motions, participate in caucusing, and draft resolutions throughout the duration of the conference. Only one member of the delegation will be recognized to speak on behalf of the Head of State at any given time during formal debate, however, both are warranted to do so. During substantive voting procedures, only the delegate representing the Head of State is permitted to vote.

Preparation

Extensive research and preparation for the HOS committee is crucial, regardless of the role. Both delegates should be well versed on past and present policies that may influence the decision making processes of their assigned Head of State. While research on the Member State of the assigned Head of State is necessary, it is more significant to understand the history and rationale of the actual individual rather than the policies of his/her predecessors. Delegates must be prepared to speak with the authority of the office they represent in order to preserve and protect the safety and sovereignty of their Member State; this should also be reflected within position papers.

The History of the Heads of State Council of the League of Arab States

On 7 October 1944, in Alexandria, Egypt, six Arab countries: Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia and Syria, founded a joint Arab Organization.¹ The idea of Arab unity was first suggested by the British government in 1942 with the intention to stand against the Axis powers during World War II. The League of Arab States (LAS) came into fruition in March 1945, near the end of the war.² The official doctrine governing the League is the Alexandria Protocol, a binding document outlining the duties of the LAS. Within the protocol, the LAS is tasked with the responsibility of strengthening the relations between Arab States and to coordinate political, economic, and foreign policies. The League continues to aim towards these goals without disturbing the sovereignty of its Member States; however, under the parameters of the Alexandria Protocol, the league also promises collective protection in the event of aggression against its' Member States.³

The Heads of State (HOS) Council is comprised of the political leaders of each Member State of the League of Arab States. On 29 May 1946, the Kings and Heads of State of the aforementioned Member States, met for the first time at which point they "declared their intention to conduct 'consultations, cooperation and work in unity and harmony for the welfare of the Arab World.'"⁴ The first meeting of the Arab Heads of State resulted in the formulation of the League of Arab States. A subsequent meeting led to the drafting the Charter of the League of Arab States and the signing of the Alexandria Protocol. They have since met to discuss threats to peace and security within the borders of their states.⁵ In 1964, during the Second Arab Summit conference, the Council declared that the Heads of State would meet once a year, each September, unless they were called upon to immediately discuss the security of the Arab League.⁶ The HOS also convenes special sessions at the request of two Member States when it is determined that the security of one or both states has been breached, as stated in the Charter of the Arab League.⁷ In such cases, the body convenes to discuss peace, security, and stability of Member States and the international trade relations amongst the League of Arab States. Unlike other international and intergovernmental bodies, HOS is comprised of the Kings, Presidents, and Prime Ministers themselves, rather than representatives of state policy.⁸

Scheduled meetings of the HOS have set agendas; however, most meetings of the Heads of State are called during times of crisis to discuss matters that threaten the national security of a Member State. Due to the sensitive nature of the meetings, limited information regarding previous meetings is made available to the public, although the decisions that have been made have had impact on the League. Decisions made by the Heads of State are binding and all states voting in the affirmative must adhere to the decisions in order to retain their voting status in the Arab League.⁹ Although unanimous decisions by the Council are binding, a majority vote decides if the Council will take any action. The Heads of State each share an equal vote in the Council. If a unanimous decision is not upheld by a Member State, then it is subject to a number of punishments within the League, including loss of voting rights. Majority decisions are not binding; however, Member States all are encouraged to follow all decision, in good faith with The League.¹⁰

In November 2011, the Arab League moved to suspend Syria's membership after the government defied an agreement to stop the violent repression of demonstrators, and further threatened economic and political sanctions if Syria did not comply. Despite those threats, the government of Syria continued to disregard the peace agreement and

¹ "Arab League," The Columbia Encyclopedia 6th ed, 2012.

² "Profile: Arab League." Overview Section. BBC Worldwide. 9 March 2011.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/country_profiles/1550797.stm

³ *The Alexandria Protocol*. Pan-Arab Preliminary Conference. 8 October 1944

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ "About the League of Arab States," <http://www.museumwnf.org/league-of-arab-states/?page=LAS-highlights-in-history.php>.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ "Charter of the Arab League" Section XI. Arab League Online 9 July 2014. <http://www.arableagueonline.org/charter-arab-league/>

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ "About the League of Arab States," <http://www.museumwnf.org/league-of-arab-states/?page=LAS-history.php>.

¹⁰ Ibid.

a vote was approved to suspend Syria's membership from the League.¹¹ As a founding Member State of the League, and a long history of support, the suspension of Syria's voting rights displayed the Heads of State and the League's unwillingness to allow unnecessary violence within its borders. The HOS have undertaken other challenges not just within the League, but within the global community as well. On 5 October 2005, the First Summit of Heads of State of South American Countries and Heads of State of Arab Countries were held in Brasilia to promote relations between the two regions.¹² The HOS are not interested in just the cooperation within their own Member States, but rather, a global cooperation in which the Arab community may thrive.¹³

The following Heads of States of the League of Arab States will be offered at SRMUN Charlotte 2015:

President Abdelaziz Bouteflika, ALGERIA; King Hamad bin Isa al Khalifa, BAHRAIN; President Ikihilou Dhoirine, COMOROS; President Ismail Omar Dullen, DJIBOUTI; President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, EGYPT; President Fuad Masum, IRAQ; King Abdullah II, JORDAN; Emir Sabah al-Sabah KUWAIT; Prime Minister Tammam Salam, LEBANON; Prime Minister Abdullah al-Thani, LIBYA; President Mohamed Ould Abdel Aziz, MAURITANIA; King Mohammed VI, MOROCCO; Sultan Qaboos bin Said al Said, OMAN; Mahmoud Abbas, PALESTINE; Emir Tamin bin Haman Al Thani, QATAR; King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz, SAUDI ARABIA; President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, SOMALIA; President Omar al Bashir, SUDAN; **President Bashar al-Assad, SYRIA; President Moncef Marzouki, TUNISIA; President Khalifa bin Zayed al Nahyanand, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES; and President Abd Rabbug Mahsur Hadi, YEMEN.

**The delegation of President Bashar al-Assad and his Special Advisor will serve in an observer capacity; this delegation will not have substantive voting rights.

I. A Unified Front: Combating the Rise of Terrorist Organizations

Introduction

Following the Alexandria Protocol and the formation of the League of Arab States, Member States in the League have strived to create a unified region in which citizens are safe from both external and internal threat. Since the 1980s, the Arab region has seen a rise of extremist organizations that utilize terrorist activities to achieve the organization's goals by inciting fear into people in order to gain power and control over a region, government or others. On 22 April 1998, Arab League members assembled for the Arab Convention for the Suppression of Terrorism and defined terrorism to be:

*"Any act or threat of violence, whatever its motives or purposes, that occurs in the advancement of an individual or collective criminal agenda and seeking to sow panic among people, causing fear by harming them, or placing their lives, liberty or security in danger, or seeking to cause damage to the environment or to public or private installations or property or to occupying or seizing them, or seeking to jeopardize national resources."*¹⁴

The League has since used this definition to identify terrorist organizations within the Arab region. This convention was the first publicized meeting in which the Member States first admitted the dangers of the rising terror organizations and vowed to combat their gaining power.¹⁵ The convention outlined methods in which Member States of the Arab League would work together to suppress terrorism within the Arab region, while simultaneously protecting their citizens and autonomy.¹⁶ While the Arab League has witnessed the inception of dozens of terrorist organizations, a select few have flourished and gained substantial followings. These organizations threaten the

¹¹ ["Arab League Votes to Suspend Syria Over Crackdown"](#). *NYTimes.com*. 12 November 2011.

¹² "Highlights in the LAS History," <http://www.museumwnf.org/league-of-arab-states/?page=LAS-highlights-in-history.php>.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ *Arab Convention for the Suppression of Terrorism*. The League of Arab States. 22 April 1998.

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ Ibid.

stability of not only Member States in the Arab League, but also relationships with the global community, due to their attacks on foreign soil.

Significant Terrorist Organizations

Al Qaeda was birthed in 1989 to oppose any government that did not exist under Islamic law with leverage of violence and force.¹⁷ It was the hope of this organization to convert the international community to live under Islamic extremist views and have all governments exist in the same manner. Founded by Usama bin Ladin and Muhammed Atef, the early years of the organization maintained offices in Afghanistan, Pakistan and the United States.¹⁸ Al Qaeda is a large organization that exists not only as a singular operation, but as an umbrella organization that has influences in smaller terrorist or jihadist groups within the Arab community. Such entities include the Egyptian Islamic Jihad, the Islamic Group, and other smaller organizations wishing to gain power in several Arab League Member States including Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Algeria, Lebanon, among others.¹⁹ Al Qaeda utilizes its influence over such groups to complete splinter missions and to expand its resources in order to achieve optimum impact.²⁰

Al Qaeda has been responsible for many attacks on foreign soil, which will be discussed further, but has also interrupted routine society within Arab States' via frequent attacks on Arab soil. Attacks within the Arab League's borders have caused economic calamities as well as problems with social order. In February 2006, Al Qaeda bombed Saudi Arabia, and the world's largest petroleum processing facility in order to protest its disapproval for the Saudi ruling family.²¹ Further attacks on Arab soil include car bombs in Saudi Arabia, several bombings in Pakistan in 2002, and a fuel tank explosion in Tunisia in April 2002.²² These actions have caused heightened tensions between the Arab World and the West.

Another organization that has caused the Arab League strife is the Taliban. The Taliban is a smaller sect than Al Qaeda but with very similar fundamentals. The Taliban wishes to create a Sunni Muslim government in Afghanistan, the location where they are headquartered, with intentions to expand such an infrastructure throughout Arab States.²³ The Taliban caused waves within the international community and the Arab region upon their refusal to relinquish Usama bin Ladin to the United Nations following the 1998 U.S. Embassy bombings in Kenya and Tanzania.²⁴ The Taliban is also responsible for the "premeditated murder of former President of Afghanistan Najibullah following their capture of Kapul on 26 September 1996."²⁵ A few less publicized attacks include recent suicide bombings in Kabul, one of which resulted in the death of five and at least 30 injured.²⁶ Suicide bombings have been increasing in numbers since United States' forces began occupying Afghanistan in the wake of 11 September 2001.

Investigations into these two large organizations have shown extensive collaboration between the two. This cooperation can specifically be seen in post 11 September 2001 research into each organization.²⁷ The association of these terrorist organizations causes even further apprehension to the Heads of State of the League of Arab States.

¹⁷Frontline: "Background: Al Qaeda," *Inside the Terror Network*.

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/network/alqaeda/indictment.html>.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Jayshree Bajoria and Greg Bruno, "al-Qaeda" *Council on Foreign Relations*. <http://www.cfr.org/terrorist-organizations-and-networks/al-qaeda-k-al-qaida-al-qaida/p9126#p8>.

²² Ibid.

²³ Dave Johns, "Who are the Taliban?," *Frontline World*, <http://www.pbs.org/frontlineworld/stories/afghanistan604/who.html>.

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ Simon Franzen, "United in Terrorism" *The Institute for Middle Eastern Democracy*, <http://instmed.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Al-Qaeda-and-the-Taliban.pdf>.

²⁶ "Taliban," *The New York Times*, <http://topics.nytimes.com/top/reference/timestopics/organizations/t/taliban/index.html>.

²⁷ Simon Franzen, "United in Terrorism" *The Institute for Middle Eastern Democracy*, <http://instmed.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Al-Qaeda-and-the-Taliban.pdf>.

With these organizations working with each other, as well as further outside sources, it is difficult to control these forces and combat their rising powers in the region.

Al Qaeda and the Taliban are just two examples of terrorist organizations that have risen in the Arab world that strike fear into citizens worldwide and cause major complications of the Heads of State Council. There are dozens more organizations that cause havoc in the Arab region, many of which can also be linked under the umbrella of these two organizations; the most recent to gain power is the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS), which is continuing to grow and will have to be addressed by the Heads of State.

Combating Funding

Since the 1980s, the Arab League has identified the dangers that these organizations create and have agreed as a League that they must combat the rise of such threats in order to protect their autonomy from outside forces, as well as protect its citizens from terror.²⁸ In conjunction with the Convention for the Suppression of Terrorism, the League has denounced many organizations, such as Al Qaeda, the Taliban and ISIS and has attempted to halt these organizations from gaining further power.

One of the many difficult challenges Arab leaders face in combating the rise of these organizations is the amount of funding they receive. Terrorist organizations receive immense donations to their cause through charities, among other resources. A 2002 Council on Foreign Relations study confirmed that Al Qaeda received most of its resources from private charities within Arab Member State borders.²⁹ The privatization of such charities prohibits the authorities from being able to regulate the amount of money being funneled into the organizations, especially if the charity's mission statement differs from its intent. With charity being such an important aspect in Islam, the idea of raising money in such a way is ideal to the organizations.

“One of the pillars of Islam, zakat, is the compulsory giving of a set proportion of one's wealth to charity. While most of these charities in the Muslim world exist to help the poor and spread the message of Islam, they have also been used, particularly in wealthy Middle Eastern nations, to finance jihad.”³⁰

These organizations gain funding not just from charities, but also from illegal activities that are also difficult to monitor or regulate. For example, both the Taliban and Al Qaeda are funded greatly by Afghanistan's poppy crops, which they have synthesized into “86 percent of the world's opium supply.”³¹ With illegal drug trade and other illicit activities thriving, it is difficult to approximate how much money is being funneled in and which organizations are gaining these resources. Aside from contributions from “charity” organizations, many terrorist groups operate under legal businesses that generate a large amount of revenue and possess legitimate bank accounts in which illegally gained finances can be protected. The two are woven together because, “The terrorist financier will want to disguise the illegal end of the funds, while trying to maximize the revenues for the organization sponsored. It may be necessary to disguise the source of the funds, as well, either because such funds have an illegal origin, or because the organization wants to preserve the continuity of the legitimate financing.”³²

Member States have actively been trying to combat the funding that is funneled into terrorist organizations in order to halt their activities; Kuwait is one such Member State. In 2013, Kuwait passed a law that “criminalized terror-financing, including prison sentences up to 15 years and financial penalties. The law also provides the authorities

²⁸ Arab Convention for the Suppression of Terrorism. The League of Arab States. 22 April 1998

²⁹ “Tracking Down Terrorist Financing”, Council on Foreign Relations, 2006 April 4. <http://www.cfr.org/terrorist-financing/tracking-down-terrorist-financing/p10356>

³⁰ Ibid.

³¹ Ibid.

³² Terrorist Financing: Definition and Methods, <http://www.fidis.net/resources/fidis-deliverables/identity-of-identity/int-d2200/doc/27/>.

with greater powers to freeze assets and funds” to stop cash flow to these organizations.³³ On 9 December 1999, the United Nations passed the “International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism,” which was signed by every Member State in the League of Arab States, except Libya and Palestine, whom did not have voting rights at the time.³⁴ This treaty was to encourage international cooperation in the prosecution of anyone found to be funding terror organizations and to share knowledge on ways to identify terror funding.³⁵

Terrorism and the West

The rise of Islamic Extremist organizations has created tensions in the Arab world’s relationship with western powers. While the Heads of State and the LAS wish to maintain their sovereignty and autonomy from the West, the tensions created by terrorist organizations headquartered in Arab States create distrust among global leaders. Terrorist organizations have committed acts of terror on the soil of many western powers, most notably 11 September 2001 on the World Trade Organization in New York, New York. On the morning of 11 September 2001, Al Qaeda suicide bombers hijacked four commercial flights and successfully crashed two planes into the World Trade Center and a third into the pentagon. The combined death tolls on these attacks were over 3,000 and initiated the United States’ War on Terror, which greatly impacted the Arab world’s relationship with western powers. Prior to this date, Al Qaeda had a history with provoking the United States of America. Following the U.S. involvement in the Gulf War, Al Qaeda stated vehement disagreement with the government of the United States. They regarded the U.S. government and the support of others as “infidel” for not adhering to Islamic extremism and greatly opposed Saudi Arabian and Egyptian political and trade ties to these “infidels.”³⁶ Many attacks were demonstrated against the United States to display Al Qaeda’s mistrust in the West including the 1998 bombings of U.S. embassies in Nairobi, Kenya, and Tanzania and a 2002 attack on a French tanker off the coast of Yemen.³⁷ They have also claimed responsibility for the March 2004 bomb attacks on Madrid commuter trains, which killed nearly 200 people and left more than 1,800 injured, as well as the July 2005 bombings of London’s transportation system.

Since these attacks, United States armed forces, in conjunction with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and other military powers, have entered into armed combat in Afghanistan and Iraq to combat terrorist organizations. These wars have had mounting death tolls and have disturbed peace throughout the international community. The Heads of State in the League of Arab States have all seen and felt the effects of these wars.

Case Study: ISIS

Beginning in October 2006, Al Qaeda terrorists in Iraq began to splinter from their origins to create a new, more focused organization, the Islamic State in Iraq (ISI) with the singular goal of uniting Iraq under a Sunni Islamic government.³⁸ In April 2010, a joint U.S.-Iraqi mission successfully eliminated the two original leaders of ISI, Abu Omar al-Baghdadi and Abu Ayyub al-Masri, thus the leadership role of the organization was passed to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.³⁹ It was under his leadership that ISI merged with a similar organization in Syria, thus forming the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIS) on 8 April 2013.⁴⁰

Following the merger of the two organizations into one, ISIS saw a quick rise to power that has threatened peace and security in the Arab community. Since their accrue of power, ISIS has been responsible for hundreds of murders, often including the recording of their atrocities and posting them on the internet for the global community to watch. In Iraq, where the violence is significantly lower than in Syria, it is estimated that 5,400 people have been

³³ Simeon Kerr, “Kuwait Clamps Down on Terror Financing,” *Financial Times*, 14 September 2014.

<http://www.ft.com/intl/cms/s/0/1cd94792-3812-11e4-b69d-00144feabdc0.html#axzz3L2nyprRF>.

³⁴ *International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism*, The United Nations, 9 December 1999.

³⁵ Ibid.

³⁶ Frontline: “Background: Al Qaeda,” *Inside the Terror Network*.

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/network/alqaeda/indictment.html>.

³⁷ Ibid.

³⁸ CNN: “ISIS Fast Facts,” <http://www.cnn.com/2014/08/08/world/isis-fast-facts/>.

³⁹ Ibid.

⁴⁰ Ibid.

killed in terrorist attacks in 2014; it is believed that 75-95 percent of those attacks were the responsibility of ISIS forces.⁴¹

This Islamic organization has been deemed too extremist, even for other terrorist organizations to claim any relation to. Al Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri stated, “Al Qaeda announces it is not linked to [ISIS], as it was not informed of its creation [and] did not accept it. ISIS is not a branch of Al Qaeda, has no links to it, and the [Al Qaeda] group is not responsible for its acts.”⁴² The United Nations released a report in October 2014 stating that including injuries, the total casualty count year to date was 26,000.⁴³ The organization is also responsible for selling hundreds of women into sex slavery across Iraq and Syria.⁴⁴

The gross human rights violations and mass murders against innocent civilians have caught the attention of the Arab Heads of State and the global community. On 7 September 2014, the Arab League foreign ministers met to discuss the rising threat of ISIS within the borders of the Arab world. At this meeting, Arab leaders condemned the creation and the actions of the ISIS organization and agreed to take all necessary measures to confront ISIS militants and cooperate with all national, regional, and international efforts to combat militant groups.⁴⁵ The United Nations has also met to discuss the rising threat of ISIS. On 18 October 24, the UN Security Council, “urged the international community, in accordance with international law, to further strengthen and expand support for the government of Iraq, including Iraqi Security Forces, in the fight against ISIS and associated armed groups.”⁴⁶

A coalition of 22 States including Australia, Bahrain, Belgium, Britain, Canada, Denmark, Egypt, France, Germany, Iraq, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates and the United States began talks on 14 October 2014 to determine the necessary actions to be taken by the international community in order to combat the continuing rise of ISIS power.⁴⁷ The coalition rose to 60 States, all of whom are aware of the dangers of such an unpredictable organization and all mutually agreed that action must be taken to stop the gross human rights violations and mass murders being committed by ISIS.

Conclusion

Terrorist organizations have grown in size, number and significance in the Arab community and around the world over the past thirty years. By committing human rights atrocities, murder and bombings on Arab soil, and globally, they have caused detriment to not only the Arab leaders but also to the Arab League’s relationship with the western world. The largest organizations, such as Al Qaeda, the Taliban and ISIS, are difficult to combat not only due to their size, but due to their access to large amounts of money and supplies. The first steps necessary in combating the rise of terrorism will be to combat the funding these organizations receive. The Heads of State must work together, and in coherence with the global community to combat these organizations from gaining further power and to prevent additional terrorist organizations from forming.

Committee Directive

Since the early 1980s, terrorist organizations have risen to power in different parts of the Arab world. Some have fizzled out while others have gained immense power. At what point do these organizations reach a level of threat

⁴¹ NPR: “ISIS: An Islamist Group Too Extreme Even for Al-Qaeda,” <http://www.npr.org/blogs/thetwo-way/2014/06/13/321665375/isis-an-islamist-group-too-extreme-even-for-al-qaida>.

⁴² Ibid.

⁴³ NY Times: “5,500 Iraqis Killed Since Islamic State Began Its Military Drive, U.N. Says,” <http://www.nytimes.com/2014/10/03/world/middleeast/un-reports-at-least-26000-civilian-casualties-in-iraq-conflict-this-year.html>.

⁴⁴ Ibid.

⁴⁵ Al Arabiya: “Arabs Vow All Needed Measures Against ISIS,” <http://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/middle-east/2014/09/07/Arab-League-moves-against-ISIS.html>.

⁴⁶ Al Arabiya: “U.N. Security Council Urges Stronger Campaign Against ISIS,” <http://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/2014/10/18/UN-Security-Council-urges-stronger-campaign-against-ISIS.html>.

⁴⁷ Gulf News: “Coalition Commanders Seek Plan to Counter Daesh Advance,” <http://gulfnews.com/news/region/iraq/coalition-commanders-seek-plan-to-counter-daesh-advance-1.1398681>.

that deems interference from the Heads of State of the League of Arab States? How have these organizations impacted the Arab League's relationship with the rest of the global community? What can the Heads of State do to combat the limitless funding given to these organizations? As a committee, you will discuss past and present threats, decide which threats could have been handled differently in the past, and ultimately make a decision on how to address ISIS, among other terrorist organizations, within the Arab community. The HOS committee should also examine the underlying factors that contribute to the establishment of such terrorist organizations and what can specifically be done to prevent such an uprising.

II. Addressing the Syrian Refugee Crisis

*"The Council considers that the lasting and just solution of the problem of the refugees would be their repatriation and the safeguarding of all their rights to their properties, lives and liberty, and that these should be guaranteed by the United Nations."*⁴⁸

-Resolution 231 of the Arab League of 17 March 1949

Introduction

In March 2011, the Syrian government, led by President Bashar al-Assad, was threatened by pro-democracy forces who demanded an end to the authoritarian practices of the Assad regime, in place since 1971.⁴⁹ Violence erupted when police and military attempted to suppress demonstrations. When the demonstrations continued following Assad's 30 March speech to Syrian protesters, Assad appealed to the wishes of demonstrators and ended the emergency law and dissolved Syria's Supreme State Security Court, which was in place to give due process to those who were accused of challenging the government.⁵⁰ Despite these actions, protests continued and the violence against ensued by the military.⁵¹ After attacks on their cities, thousands of residents fled across the Turkish border, into Lebanon and surrounding Member States.⁵² Since 2011 the number of refugees is estimated at over 9 million, whom are taking refuge in neighboring countries or within Syria itself.⁵³ According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), "over 3 million have fled to Syria's immediate neighbors Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq;" an additional 6.5 million are displaced within Syria.⁵⁴

The 1994 Arab Convention on Regulating Status of Refugees in the Arab Countries defines a refugee as someone who:

"is outside the country of his nationality or outside his habitual place of residence in case of not having a nationality and owing to well-grounded fear of being persecuted on account of his race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, unable or unwilling to avail himself of the protection of or return to such country. Any person who unwillingly takes refuge in a country other than his country of origin or his habitual place of residence because of sustained aggression against, occupation and foreign domination of such country or because of the occurrence of natural disasters or grave events resulting in

⁴⁸ "The Arab League: Sessions of the Arab League," Jewish Virtual Library, <http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Peace/legsess.html> (accessed October 4, 2014)

⁴⁹ "Bashar al-Assad," Encyclopedia Britannica, January 15, 2014

⁵⁰ "Syrian Civil War," Encyclopedia Britannica, April 11, 2014 <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/1781371/Syrian-Civil-War> (accessed September 20, 2014)

⁵¹ *Ibid*

⁵² "Syrian Refugees: The Loss of a Nation," *The Economist*, October 23, 2014 <http://www.economist.com/news/middle-east-and-africa/21627729-thousands-syrian-refugees-are-risk-having-no-recognised-nationality-loss-nation> (accessed October 14, 2014)

⁵³ "Syrian Refugees," *Syrian Refugees*, Migration Policy Centre, January 2013, <http://syrianrefugees.eu/> (accessed December 31, 2014)

⁵⁴ *Ibid*

*major disruption of public order in the whole country or any part thereof.*⁵⁵

Considering the breadth of the above definition and the millions of civilians it applies to, several organizations have pledged aid to the people of Syria. The European Union (EU) intervened and imposed sanctions, including travel bans and asset freezes on specific government officials thought responsible for the violence against protesters.⁵⁶ The Syrian refugee crisis is no longer a domestic situation, but has expanded into an international emergency that requires the coordination of all Arab leaders.

Arab Refugee Response

The HOS has partnered the League of Arab States with the UNHCR on issues relating to refugees in the Middle East, including the “Arabs-Hand-in-Hand-With-Iraqis” campaign for the Iraqi refugees.⁵⁷ The Arab League continued their support of UN policies with Resolution 194 (III) of the United Nations General Assembly, which declares the rights of refugees to return to their homes with restitution for damages or compensation in the event that they do not return.⁵⁸ In regards to the Palestinian refugee crisis, the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine (UNCCP) organized the Lausanne Conference to decide the outcome of the Arab refugees.⁵⁹ The Conference was a chance for the Arab League to assert their individual and combined interests. King Abdallah of Jordan shared his personal interest in negotiating with Israel, “[the] agreement would achieve territorial gain for Jordan, specifically dealing with the West Bank.”⁶⁰ The leader of Syria, Husni Zāim, proposed a plan to Israel separately, to assist in the refugee crisis in return for land, which was refused.⁶² By September 1949, the League had abandoned its efforts to find a solution based on Resolution 194.⁶⁴ The Economic Survey Mission (ESM), comprised of UN and LAS observers, was formed by the UNCCP to report back to the Conference after failed attempts of finding a solution based on Resolution 194.⁶⁵ Through reports by the ESM, the necessity for the Public Works Programs was realized, allowing idle refugees to work and thus relieve the cost of aid.⁶⁷ In a report from

⁵⁵ League of Arab States, *Arab Convention on Regulating Status of Refugees in the Arab Countries*, 1994, <http://www.refworld.org/docid/4dd5123f2.html> [accessed 31 December 2014]

⁵⁶ Syrian Civil War,” Encyclopedia Britannica, April 11, 2014 <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/1781371/Syrian-Civil-War> (accessed September 20, 2014)

⁵⁷ “Arab League to Launch Fund-Raising Campaign for Iraqi Refugees,” *UNHCR*, <http://www.unhcr.org/478638074.html> (accessed November 12, 2014)

⁵⁸ “Resolution 194,” *UNRWA* <http://www.unrwa.org/content/resolution-194> (accessed November 12, 2014)

⁵⁹ Jalal Al Hussein, “The Arab States and the Refugee Issue: A Retrospective View,” *Open Archive in Information Sciences and Communication*, archivesic.ccsd.cnrs.fr/.../The_Arab_States_and_the_Refugee_Issue.doc (accessed November 30, 2014)

⁶⁰ *Ibid*

⁶¹ FRUS, “The Minister in Lebanon (Pinkerton) to the Secretary of State” (from Ethridge), Top Secret, NIACT (meaning Night Action), Beirut, March 28, 1949, pp. 876, 878

⁶² Anthony Turton, *The Political Aspects of Institutional Developments in the Water Sector: South Africa and its International River Basins: Chapter 2*, http://www.transboundarywaters.orst.edu/publications/related_research/Turton/Turton-Ch2.pdf (accessed December 1, 2014)

⁶³ Trotter, J, *Hydropolitics in the West Bank and Gaza Strip*, Jerusalem: PASSIA Publication, 1999.

⁶⁴ Jalal Al Hussein, “The Arab States and the Refugee Issue: A Retrospective View,” *Open Archive in Information Sciences and Communication*, archivesic.ccsd.cnrs.fr/.../The_Arab_States_and_the_Refugee_Issue.doc (accessed November 30, 2014)

⁶⁵ *Ibid*.

⁶⁶ Müjge Küçükkeleş, “SETA Policy Brief No. 56: Arab League’s Syrian Policy,” SETA, April 2012, http://setadc.org/pdfs/SETA_Policy_Brief_No_56_Arab_Leagues_Syrian_Policy.pdf (accessed November 14, 2014)

⁶⁷ A/1106. *First Interim Report of UN Survey Mission for Middle East*. UNCCP. November 16, 1949.

Conciliation Commission member, Mark F. Ethridge, to the US Secretary of State, Ethridge declared Israel's lack of cooperation as being the primary factor in the failing of the Lausanne Conference.⁶⁸

The HOS followed a similar pattern of the Lausanne Conference of 1949 when addressing the refugee situation in Syria in early 2011. President al-Assad reluctantly allowed the Peace Plan, an observer mission headed by the LAS that allowed Arab observers to enter the country.⁶⁹ The Plan also initiated talks between the government and opposing forces, called for the end of violence, and demanded the withdrawal of Syrian troops from cities and release of the prisoners.⁷⁰ On 28 January 2012, the Arab League announced an indefinite suspension of its mission, citing "a harsh new government crackdown made it too dangerous to proceed and was resulting in the deaths of innocent people across the country"⁷¹ With the unsuccessful results, the HOS then voted to impose sanctions against Syria, despite Article 8 of the League's Charter, which reads:

*"Every member State of the League shall respect the form of government obtaining in the other States of the League, and shall recognize the form of government obtaining as one of the rights of those States, and shall pledge itself not to take any action tending to change that form.."*⁷²⁷³

The Assad regime has received global pressure from foreign powers, as well as the Arab community since the pro-democratic Arab Spring protests began.⁷⁴ In addition to the economic sanctions and travel bans, Syria has also been suspended from LAS by a majority vote.⁷⁵ On 14 November 2011, King Abdullah of Jordan was the first Arab Head of State to call for Assad to step down.⁷⁶

Arab Impact

It is projected by the UNHCR that by the end of 2014, Lebanon will be housing around 1.5 million Syrian refugees.⁷⁷ Lebanon has been forced to close its borders due to economic turmoil, unable to support the refugees of a dispute for which it is not responsible for.⁷⁸ Jordan has a history of supporting refugees and preventing humanitarian

⁶⁸ "Correspondence from Conciliation Commission member Mark F. Ethridge to the State Department," FRUS 1949 <http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/cgi-bin/FRUS/FRUS-idx?type=goto&id=FRUS.FRUS1949v06&isize=M&submit=Go+to+page&page=1036>

⁶⁹ "League of Arab States Observer Mission to Syria: Report of the Head of the League of Arab States Observer Mission to Syria for the period from 24 December 2011 to 18 January 2012," *Columbia University*, January 27, 2012 http://www.columbia.edu/~hauben/Report_of_Arab_League_Observer_Mission.pdf, (accessed November 14, 2014)

⁷⁰ Müjge Küçükkeleş, "SETA Policy Brief No. 56: Arab League's Syrian Policy," SETA, April 2012, http://setadc.org/pdfs/SETA_Policy_Brief_No_56_Arab_Leagues_Syrian_Policy.pdf (accessed November 14, 2014)

⁷¹ Nada Bakri and Kareem Fahim, "Arab League Monitors Suspend Syria Mission," *The Bulletin*, January 29, 2012 <http://www.bendbulletin.com/csp/mediapool/sites/BendBulletin/News/story.csp?cid=1351514&sid=497&fid=151> (accessed December 4, 2014)

⁷² "Pact of the League of Arab States, March 22, 1945," Yale University, http://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/arableag.asp (accessed November 4, 2014)

⁷³ "Isolating Syria, Arab League Imposes Broad Sanctions," *The New York Times*, November 27, 2011 http://www.nytimes.com/2011/11/28/world/middleeast/arab-league-prepares-to-vote-on-syrian-sanctions.html?pagewanted=all&_r=0 (accessed October 5, 2014)

⁷⁴ "Arab Spring: A Research & Study Guide," Cornell University, http://guides.library.cornell.edu/arab_spring (accessed October 10, 2014)

⁷⁵ Neil MacFarquhar, "Arab League Votes to Suspend Syria Over Crackdown," *New York Times*, November 12, 2011, <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/11/13/world/middleeast/arab-league-votes-to-suspend-syria-over-its-crackdown-on-protesters.html?pagewanted=all>

⁷⁶ Müjge Küçükkeleş, "SETA Policy Brief No. 56: Arab League's Syrian Policy," SETA, April 2012, http://setadc.org/pdfs/SETA_Policy_Brief_No_56_Arab_Leagues_Syrian_Policy.pdf (accessed November 14, 2014)

⁷⁷ "Lebanon: 2015 UNHCR Country Operations Profile," UNHCR, <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49e486676.html>,

⁷⁸ *Ibid*

disasters.⁷⁹ King Abdullah opened Jordan's borders to Syrian refugees as well as made health care and education available, at the cost of the state.⁸⁰ As a result, the job market has been devastated and unemployment is at an all-time high.⁸¹ Numerous other Member States are being affected similarly. The international community has provided monetary aid in many outlets, including the World Bank Group's Multi-Donor Trust Fund to aid Lebanon and several other Member States housing refugees.⁸² The World Bank Group President said that "The plan to rebuild must include good governance, inclusive growth, sustainability, and quality education and health care." He argued that "the seeds of transparency, citizen involvement, and the demand for more jobs have been planted throughout the region."⁸³

Case Study: Libya

Libya's Civil War can be traced back to the Arab Spring of 2012; the widespread pro-democratic protests resulting in the overthrowing of many countries leaders, including the leader of Libya, Muammar Gaddafi.⁸⁴ Violence broke out between those loyal to Gaddafi and pro-democratic protesters. The protests increased in violence and spread across the country, beginning in February 2011 when security forces fired on the crowd in Benghazi, whom had been protesting.⁸⁵ Protests began in response to the arrest of human rights lawyer Fethi Tarbel.⁸⁶ The protesters called for Gaddafi to step down and for the release of political prisoners. Rebels responded to the violent attacks in Benghazi by forming their own government, the National Transitional Council.⁸⁷

In response, the LAS and the Global Community stepped forward in an attempt to prevent full-scale civil war. The UN Security Council passed sanctions against Libya's leader Muammar Gaddafi, freezing his assets and enacting a travel ban and arms embargo.⁸⁸ The International Criminal Court (ICC) also acted in attempt to prevent further violence.⁸⁹ The United States, the European Union (EU), and a number of other countries also imposed sanctions.⁹⁰ On 28 February 2011, the United States announced that it had frozen at least USD 30 billion in Libyan assets.⁹¹ Soon thereafter, France granted the National Transitional Council official recognition as Libya's government.⁹² The Arab League passed a resolution on 13 March 2011, endorsing a no-fly zone over Libya to be enacted by the United

⁷⁹ International Labour Organization, "The Impact of the Syrian Refugee Crisis on the Labour Market in Jordan: A Preliminary Analysis," http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---arabstates/---ro-beirut/documents/publication/wcms_242021.pdf

⁸⁰ *Ibid*

⁸¹ *Ibid*

⁸² "International Community Should 'Prepare for Peace' in Syria and Throughout Region — World Bank Group President," The World Bank, June 3, 2014, <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2014/06/03/international-community-should-prepare-for-peace-in-syria-and-throughout-region> (accessed November 4, 2014)

⁸³ *Ibid*

⁸⁴ Richard Spencer, "Libya: civil war breaks out as Gaddafi mounts rearguard fight," *The Daily Telegraph*, 23 February 2011, <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/africaandindianocean/libya/8344034/Libya-civil-war-breaks-out-as-Gaddafi-mounts-rearguard-fight.html> (accessed November 4, 2014)

⁸⁵ Cockburn, Patrick, "Amnesty questions claim that Gaddafi ordered rape as a weapon of war," *The Independent*, 24 June 2011, <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/africa/amnesty-questions-claim-that-gaddafi-ordered-rape-as-weapon-of-war-2302037.html>

⁸⁶ Encyclopedia Britannica, "Libya Revolt of 2011," October 2, 2013, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/1766291/Libya-Revolt-of-2011>

⁸⁷ Reuters India, "Libyan Rebels Pledge Free and Fair Election," 29 March 2011, <http://in.reuters.com/article/2011/03/29/idINIndia-55960820110329>

⁸⁸ Edward Wyatt, "Security Council Calls for War Crimes Inquiry in Libya". *The New York Times*, 26 February 2011, <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/02/27/world/africa/27nations.html>, (accessed November 14, 2014).

⁸⁹ Encyclopedia Britannica, "Libya Revolt of 2011," October 2, 2013, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/1766291/Libya-Revolt-of-2011>

⁹⁰ *Ibid*

⁹¹ *Ibid*

⁹² Alan Cowell, "France becomes first Country to recognize Libyan rebels," *New York Times*, March 10, 2011, http://www.nytimes.com/2011/03/11/world/europe/11france.html?_r=0

Nations Security Council.⁹³ NATO involved itself in the civil war, and successfully killed Gaddafi on 20 October 2011.⁹⁴

Civil war became certain when the protests and military attacks became a three-way battle. Reports show a connection between members of Libyan rebel groups and Islamic terrorist groups, such as Al Qaeda.⁹⁵ The Libyan Islamic Fighting Group, which fought Gaddafi in the 2011 Libyan war and continues to fight in the 2014 Libyan civil war, has direct connections to the terrorist group Al-Qaeda, including the known Al-Qaeda membership of some of the LIFG's top ranking members.⁹⁶ In March 2011, the LIFG pledged its support to the National Transitional Council and joined its ranks.⁹⁷

After the increased violence, many Libyan citizens fled the country; tens of thousands fled across the Libya-Tunisia border to escape the rebel and pro-Gaddafi forces.⁹⁸ Media outlets reported that Almost 10,000 people fled their homes after violence erupted throughout the country.⁹⁹ Reports suggested that the people of Tawergha were subjected to ethnic cleansing provoked by racism and vengeance from both Misratan and pro-Gaddafi supporters alike.¹⁰⁰ In the aftermath, many needs of the refugee population ensued, who had yet to return to Libya, as civil war continued after Gaddafi's death. The "International Committee of the Red Cross launched an emergency appeal for USD 6.4 million to meet the emergency needs for refugees affected by the violent unrest in Libya"¹⁰¹ According to a report from CIRET-AVT, before the revolution, Libya offered employment to many foreigners. Prior to the civil war, Libya often absorbed the unemployed of neighbouring states. Many immigrants worked in the petroleum and construction industries. About 3-4 million foreigners left the country due to the pressure of the events, including: 1.5 to 2 million Egyptians, 1 million Sahel, West and Central Africans, 600,000 Sudanese, more than 200,000 Moroccans, more than 100,000 thousand Tunisians, 60,000 Palestinians, 10,000 Algerians, as well as many Turks, Filipinos, Sri Lankans and other Asiatics.¹⁰² Because of these large numbers returning to their native countries, in addition to any possible Libyan refugees, the economies of neighboring countries continue to worsen during this war.

Conclusion

Since the outbreak of protests beginning in March 2011, Syria has been engulfed in violence and loss at the hands of rebel forces and the military presence of President al-Assad. As violent clashes continued throughout the country, Syrian civilians were forced to flee from their homes in what became one of the most severe cases of displacement in recorded history. Over three million refugees have fled the borders of their country into neighboring Member States such as Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, and Iraq. The mass influx of refugees into States such as Lebanon and Jordan has severely impacted these States's domestic socio-economic infrastructure and a unified Arab response must be developed by the Heads of States.

⁹³ Than Bronner, "Arab League Endorses No-Flight Zone over Libya," New York Times, March 12, 2011, <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/03/13/world/middleeast/13libya.html?pagewanted=all>

⁹⁴ Rania El Gamal and Tim Gaynor, "Gaddafi killed as Libya's revolt claims hometown," *Reuters Africa*, October 20, 2011, <http://af.reuters.com/article/topNews/idAFJOE79J09O20111020?pageNumber=1&virtualBrandChannel=0>, (accessed November 14, 2014)

⁹⁵ UN, "Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1989 (2011) concerning Al-Qaida and associated individuals and entities," March 28, 2011, <http://www.un.org/sc/committees/1267/NSQI05702E.shtml>

⁹⁶ Ian Black, "The Libyan Islamic Fighting Group – from al-Qaida to the Arab spring," 5 September 2011, <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2011/sep/05/libyan-islamic-fighting-group-leaders>

⁹⁷ Irish Times, "Islamic militant group pledges support to anti-Gaddafi rebels," 29 March 2011, <http://www.irishtimes.com/newspaper/world/2011/0329/1224293298818.html>

⁹⁸ UN News Service, "Tunisian Border at crisis point as tens of thousands flee Libyan violence, UN reports," UNHCR, March 1, 2011, <http://www.refworld.org/docid/4d7089f21e.html>

⁹⁹ Andrew Gilligan, "Gaddafi's ghost town after the loyalists retreat," *The Daily Telegraph*, 11 September 2011, <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/africaandindianocean/libya/8754375/Gaddafis-ghost-town-after-the-loyalists-retreat.html> (accessed November 14, 2014)

¹⁰⁰ *Ibid*

¹⁰¹ "Libya: ICRC launches emergency appeal as humanitarian situation deteriorates" International Committee of the Red Cross, Geneva, February 25, 2011, <https://www.icrc.org/eng/resources/documents/news-release/2011/libya-news-2011-02-25.htm>

¹⁰² CIRET-AVT, "Libya Report," May 2011, <http://www.cf2r.org/images/stories/news/201106/libya-report.pdf>

Committee Directive

As country leaders begin investigating this topic, they should focus on the history of the topic in accordance with his/her respective Member State and any specific actions that his/her country may have taken. Delegates should also look at methods to resolve the current Syrian crisis as well as prevent future crises. HOS can find initiatives throughout the guide as well as through looking at other committees of the LAS relating to the topic at hand. Discuss previous issues, such as with Libya, in relation to the current predicament. Bear in mind ethnic or cultural considerations when discussing reparation, health-care, unemployment, and any other applicable concerns. How may the issues mentioned concerning unemployment be resolved in both Syria and refugee hosting countries? Provide possible solutions based on the actions during previous crises or backed by the direct policies of the delegate's Member State. How can you use your role as the leader of your country to acquire resources more readily? Discuss the impact of involved countries, the LAS fellow Heads of State, as well as on a global scale.

Technical Appendix Guide

I. A Unified Front: Combating the Rise of Terrorist Organizations

Al Qaeda's Origins and Links. BBC. 20 July 2004.

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/south_asia/1670089.stm

This gives a brief summary of Al Qaeda's history and organization. Al Qaeda is the largest terror organization in the Arab world and has a long history of attacks on and off Arab soil. Understanding their organization will be a key concept in beginning to combat terrorism.

El Katheery, Salim Ahmed. *The League of Arab States Actions in Supporting the United Nations Efforts in Combating International Terrorism*. The League of Arab States: Cairo. 11 October 2007.

http://www.un.org/en/sc/ctc/specialmeetings/2007-nairobi/docs/Nairobi_LAS.pdf

This is an official statement made by the League of Arab States giving their support to the United Nations for a global effort to combat terrorism. The document does state reservations held by the league about international involvement, however, does give overall support to a cooperative effort to battle terrorism.

League of Arab States. The Economist. 2014.

<http://www.economist.com/topics/league-arab-states>

This webpage provides a series of links to Economist articles regarding the League of Arab states, their involvements in Iraq and Syria and their combating of terrorism.

Mustafa, Hamza. *Arab League Vows Support for Iraq Against ISIS*. Baghdad: Al-Awsat. 19 October 2014.

<http://www.aawsat.net/2014/10/article55337702>

This article comes from an Iraqi newspaper and discusses the Arab League's meeting in which they vowed to assist Iraq in the Member State's attempt to limit the growing power and ISIS and prevent any further terror attacks from the group on Arab soil. Within the conference, the Member States agreed against allowing foreign troops into Iraq to combat ISIS.

Tackling the Financing of Terrorism. United Nations Counter Terrorism Task Force. New York: United Nations. 2009.

http://www.un.org/en/terrorism/ctitf/pdfs/ctitf_financing_eng_final.pdf

This is a report by the United Nations Task Force created specifically to discuss and combat terrorism. The report sheds light on the ways in which terrorist organizations are able to gain their funding through both legal and illegal means. The report also shares ways in which the task force believes Member States may be able to halt the flow of money into these organizations.

The Arab Convention for the Suppression of Terrorism. The League of Arab States: Cairo. 1998.

https://www.unodc.org/tldb/pdf/conv_arab_terrorism.en.pdf

This is the convention ratified by the LAS in which they mutually agreed to combat the rise of terrorist organizations and protect their people from its dangers. Within the document are specific courses of action the League believes should be taken when dealing with terrorist organizations.

II. Addressing the Syrian Refugee Crisis

European University Institute. "Syrian Refugees." October 2014.

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=42925> - /h

This website is an overview of the Syrian Refugee Crisis from the aspect of various Member States within the Arab League and the global community. The site gives various statistics about the growing number of refugees and the states to which they are fleeing.

Foundation for Political, Economic and Social Research. "Arab League's Syrian Policy." April 2012.

http://setadc.org/pdfs/SETA_Policy_Brief_No_56_Arab_Leagues_Syrian_Policy.pdf<http://h/>

This article is a SETA brief discussing the Arab League's decisions regarding Syria from the onslaught of Civil War to the date of the brief. The study discusses reasons not only for Syria's suspension but events that led up to the suspension as well as discussions had by the league after the suspension.

"Security Council Welcomes Growing Cooperation between UN and Arab League." UN News Service. 26

September 2012. <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=43054&Cr=arab+league&Cr1#.VK37bNLF-uI>.

This is an article released by the United Nations in which they discuss the growing relationship between the Arab League and the United Nations. The Security Council gave its support to the two organizations working together in regards to the developing situation in Syria.

Thibos, Cameron. "One Million Syrians in Lebanon: a Milestone Quickly Passed." European University Institute, 2014. <http://cadmus.eui.eu/handle/1814/31696>.

This article discusses the start of Syrians migrating to Lebanon and becoming refugees of the state. The high quantity of refugees in the short period of time is uncharted territory for the Arab League. This discusses the potential political and economic destabilization of Lebanon and other states.

BBC News. "Syrian Refugees: UN Warns of Extreme Poverty in Jordan." 14 January 2015.

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-30815084>.

This news article discuss up to date information on the number of Syrians being displaced and becoming refugees in Jordan. It discusses the severity of the situation and the United Nations urging for States to help alleviate the impoverished conditions Syrians are experiencing. This article introduces the dangers to Jordan's economy if the situation is not helped.

UNHCR. "Syrian Arab Republic: Country Profile."

<http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/page?page=49e486a76&submit=GO>.

This is an in depth profile by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees giving detailed information on the number of Syrian refugees currently displaced. It discusses the actions of its Syrian Humanitarian Assistance Response Plan (SHARP) in alleviating the poverty surrounding Syrian refugees currently displaced. The data charts best depict total populations of refugees.

European University Institute. "Syrian Refugees: Timeline." http://syrianrefugees.eu/?page_id=163

This timeline gives a real time understanding of the rapid growth of refugees in Syria. It also shows at what time Syrians started settling in refugee camps in each of the states currently feeling pressures of high numbers of refugees. The data shows precisely how quickly the situation has escalated to a crisis, further showing need for assistance.