

Security Council



The situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo

The situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is in serious risk of escalating. The DRC has a long history of conflict, and over 5 million people are believed to have died during the two Congo Wars between 1996 and 2003, which also displaced 2,6 million people in the DRC and forced 500 000 to flee the country. Today the situation in the Western part of the country is more stable, in part thanks to MONUSCO, the world's largest UN peacekeeping operation, but the eastern provinces of the country are still ravaged by violence. Armed groups continue to commit mass atrocities against civilians, and sexual violence is prevalent. The government has struggled to uphold its responsibility to protect civilians, and its own forces have been complicit in previous mass atrocity crimes. MONUSCO has also failed in preventing attacks against civilians, and trust in the operation has been eroded by accusations of UN peacekeepers engaged in sexual exploitation and abuse.

There is grave risk that the insecurity in the region deepens and spread to other areas due to tensions surrounding the DRC's presidential elections. The elections were supposed to be held in November 2016, but in early October, the electoral commission announced they would not meet the deadline and elections would be postponed to April 2018. President Kabila, whose term ends on the 19th of December 2016, shows no sign of stepping down. Political demonstrations have led to at least 50 civilians being killed and opposition headquarters being burned down, and there have been reports of increased repression throughout the country. The Secretary-General's Special Representative in the DRC has warned the tensions may quickly lead to large-scale violence, and that MONUSCO is not equipped to handle an escalated situation.

To deter further violence and to prevent a Third Congo War, the Security Council should take urgent measures to prevent the situation from escalating, including actions outlined in the Responsibility to Protect principle. The United Nations Security Council and the international community must unite in its responsibility to protect civilians in the DRC and to prevent mass atrocity crimes. The United Nations Security Council must also deal with the issue of sexual abuse by UN peacekeepers and ensure that those who are tasked with protecting civilians do not commit crimes themselves.

The Security Council is specifically asked to address the following issues

1. The responsibility of the Congolese authorities and the international community to protect all Congolese civilians from mass atrocity crimes;
2. The formulation and implementation of a new mandate for MONUSCO in order to correspond to the changing situation and improve the operation's ability to protect civilians from mass atrocity crimes;
3. The accusations of sexual exploitation and abuse committed by UN peacekeepers.

Peace, Security and Disarmament Committee



The prohibition of nuclear weapons

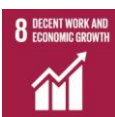
Nuclear weapons are the only weapons of mass destruction not yet prohibited by an international convention, even though they have the greatest destructive capacity of all weapons. In recent years, the debate on nuclear weapons has focused on the weapons' humanitarian impact and the devastating effect on societies their use would bring. Despite this, nuclear-armed states are modernizing their stockpiles, and the recent tensions between the Russian Federation and the United States of America complicates the task of further nuclear disarmament.

1. Can the member states of the UN agree on an international convention prohibiting nuclear weapons?
2. How can such a convention be used to pressure nuclear-armed states to abolish their weapons?



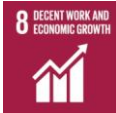
Humanitarian assistance in conflict zones

The last years has shown a worsening of the humanitarian situation in many parts of the world, not least in conflict zones, which have left millions in need of assistance. Full and unimpeded humanitarian access is a fundamental prerequisite for helping those in need, but in many situations there are multiple constraints on the ability of humanitarian workers to reach the populations in need. Such constraints include bureaucratic restrictions, intensified hostilities in civilian areas, and outright attacks on humanitarian personnel and theft of assets. Attacking personnel involved in humanitarian assistance constitutes a work crime under international law, but such attacks continue to go unpunished as they are often committed in countries that are not parties to the International Criminal Court, and the United Nations Security Council has been unable to refer cases to the court due to internal disagreement.



1. How can the member states ensure that humanitarian assistance reaches those in need in conflict zones?
2. How can the member states ensure the security of humanitarian workers?
3. How can the member states ensure that those committing war crimes by attacking humanitarian workers are brought to justice?

Human Rights Committee



Measurements concerning the rights of migrant workers

Due to the growing pace of economic globalization the amount of migrant workers has increased dramatically. Unemployment and increasing poverty have forced workers in developing countries or conflict-affected areas to seek employment elsewhere, while the demand for unskilled labour has increased in developed countries. As a result, millions of workers and their families travel to countries other than their own to find work. According to ILO there are approximately 230 million migrants around the world, and about half of them women. They contribute to their host countries economy, but in return they enjoy little social protection, face inequalities in the labour market and are vulnerable to exploitation and human trafficking. By 2030 the UN member states has set the goal to be able to provide decent work and economic growth globally.

1. How can the member states find a way to protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants and those in precarious employment?
2. How can we ensure that every country are able to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all men and women, and with equal pay for work of equal value?
3. What measurements need to be taken by developing countries in order to keep their own population from seeking employment elsewhere?
4. What can developed countries do to help?



Ban on racist organizations

In 1965 the General Assembly adopted the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racism Discrimination (CERD). In article 4, States Parties condemn all propaganda and all organizations which are based on ideas or theories of superiority of one race or group of persons of one colour or ethnic group, which attempts to justify or promote racial hatred and discrimination in any form. Despite this, racism and racist organizations are still present in our societies.

1. To what extent can the member states protect the freedom of speech among their citizens without violating the freedom of association and assembly?
2. Should the member states choose to ban racist organizations or just racist actions?

Development Committee



Measurements against child marriage

In many countries young girls are considered an economic burden to their family, and an early marriage at a young age therefore often becomes the only solution. In some societies these types of marriages are a part of their tradition, in other societies it is justified by the fact that young girls are protected from violence and sexual assault since they have a male protector. Child marriage tends to hinder young girls from attending school after they get married. Abuse within the marriage is also very common. The body of a young girl is not fully developed to be able to carry out a pregnancy and the risks for both the mother and child are severe.

1. How can the member states eliminate harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage?
2. How can the member states ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education?
3. Should the member states consider forming a law against child marriage?



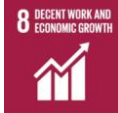
Gender equality in education

Poverty, starvation, mental and physical disabilities, ethnic belonging and gender are all contributing factors to why many children today lack access to proper education. Education is one of the most important tools for creating development and to lift a whole community out of poverty. By 2030, the United Nations member states need to ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes.

1. How can the member states ensure that that girls and boys have equal access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education?
2. How can the member states ensure that we eliminate the gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education?

Climate change and Environmental sustainability Committee

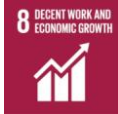
“We are the first generation that can end poverty, but the last that can end climate change” – Ban Ki-moon



Measures concerning the limitation of deforestation

Forests cover about 30 percent of the world’s land area, but large areas are lost each and every year. There are three big tropical rainforest areas left in the world; The Amazon in South America, the Congo Basin in Africa and the South East Asian rainforest which spans Indonesia. The biggest driver of deforestation is agriculture, but also logging operations cut countless trees each year. However, not all deforestation is intentional. Some is caused by a combination of both human and natural factors, such as wildfires and subsequent overgrazing. Deforestation has many negative effects on the environment and drives climate change. Scientists claim that we are taking away the ecosystems that normally help us to restabilize the climate. Rainforests absorb carbon (dioxide) from our atmosphere. During decades the forests are breathing in the carbon, storing it in the trunks and the leaves and the organic matter. Those carbon emissions are being held safe for us – until we clear them and light them on fire. When lighting these forests on fire, they release massive carbon emissions back into the atmosphere resulting in more extreme temperature swings that can be harmful to both plants and animals. The world’s rainforests could completely vanish in a hundred years at the current rate of deforestation.

1. How can the member states manage to reduce deforestation while, at the same time, ensure a sustainable food production?
2. What actions could be taken by the member states in order to ensure implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests?



Climate change impacts on fisheries and water pollution

Our oceans absorb carbon dioxide and take up about a third of the CO₂ that we dump into the atmosphere. Because of this ability, they are a stabilizing force of our climate. The problem is that the ocean is unable to do its job fast enough due to the high rate of carbon dioxide emissions. In the last 30 years 50 percent of all coral has been lost, and almost half of the species living in the oceans have disappeared. Close to two million species are dependent on coral reefs and we are endangering their natural habitat every single day by continuing down this path. In addition to this both commercial, as well as illegal fishing, pose a threat to the biodiversity in our oceans. Overfishing is one of the main problems due to the “open access” nature of fisheries and poor fisheries management. The fishing industry works faster than the fish is able to reproduce themselves. Many fishers are aware of the need to safeguard fish populations and the marine environment, however the problems still exist. Coastal communities around the

world depend on fish as their primary source of protein. By polluting and overfishing our oceans we are causing loss of people's livelihoods. It is causing starvation.

1. What actions could be taken by the member states to prevent and reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution?
2. How can the member states agree on and start implementing science-based management plans in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible?

