

The Arab League: Topic B Primary Sources

Resolving the Civil Conflict in Yemen

Here are primary sources that your moderator or legal chair thought would be helpful in gaining an understanding of the topic. These are by no means all of the sources available, just sources we wanted to highlight.

Source #1: The Charter of the Arab League

This document outlines the policies and procedures that the members of the Arab League have agreed to. While each article is crucial in gaining a better understanding of the league and how it functions, we believe it is important to review Article V, which discusses the concept of sovereignty and the method through which conflict within the league shall be handled. Article VIII should also be read by each of the delegates as it may ease some concerns when it comes to altering established systems of governments. We strongly urge all delegates to closely read the guidelines provided by this charter since the wording is crucial in deciding how to proceed within the committee and determining what is and is not permitted by the League of Arab States.

http://arableague.weebly.com/uploads/7/6/9/3/7693018/the_charter_of_the_arab_league.pdf

Source #2: Letter from the Panel of Experts on Yemen addressed to the President of the Security Council

Although this is a very lengthy document, it is one of the most recent statements provided by the panel assigned to investigate and report about the situation in Yemen. The third and eighth sections are two of the most important parts of this document. Both sections cover numerous amounts of information but it is broken down into convenient sections that reveal thoroughly detailed aspects of the Yemeni government, the Houthi insurgency, incidents attributed to the coalition led by Saudi Arabia, and several other topics. This panel consists of a diverse group of people who have extensive knowledge about the situation in Yemen which makes the information it offers important to be aware of.

http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/2017/81

Source #3: Overview of the Needs and Response [in Yemen]

Since Yemen and its people often face violations of humanitarian law, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Human Affairs (OCHA) has made Yemen one of its main priorities. OCHA updates its information quite often and has people on scene reporting on the situation. Delegates should refer to the OCHA page and specifically this document since it details the most recent findings pertaining to the state of human affairs within Yemen. The findings are simple and to the point, offering quick yet crucial information for determining the extent of humanitarian aid required in the region. Delegates should refer to this document for specific numbers that can further support of emphasize a point to be made in debate or a resolution.

<http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/YEMEN%20Humanitarian%20Snapshot%20-%20PMR%20update%20July%202017%20En.pdf>

Source #4: The Universal Declaration of Human Rights

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) was written by a variety of countries and officially proclaimed in 1948 by the United Nations General Assembly. As almost all of the nations in the Arab League are members of the United Nations, it is expected that they uphold the ideals and

standards mention in the UDHR. In regards to the war in Yemen, this document can clearly help delegates realize the atrocities within Yemen that are violating the UDHR. Specifically, Article 25 should be read thoroughly. This article states that all people should have access to an adequate standard of living. The details of an adequate standard of living as well are described within the article. I strongly urge delegates to consider this when evaluating the situation in Yemen from a social and humanitarian viewpoint.

<http://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/>

Source 5: A Press Release from the Office of the Spokesperson for the United Nations Secretary-General

This is one of many official press releases from the Office of the Spokesperson for the Secretary General of the UN. These reports are not only important, but very reliable and provide accurate information about the current situation in several countries. This link provides information about several Middle Eastern countries which should help delegates find information specifically about Yemen as well as information about other countries who may be accepting Yemeni refugees or are involved in some way within Yemen. Furthermore, there is a transcript of a question and answer session that clarifies any misunderstandings from the report which will aid delegates in clearly understanding the document.

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2017/db170810.doc.htm>

Source 6: Security Council Report [on the Situation in Yemen]

This is a presidential report from the United Nations Security Council from March of 2015 that condemns the “ongoing unilateral actions taken by the Houthis...” Although this is an Arab League committee, delegates should be aware of statements provided by the Security Council and other United Nations agencies with regards to the war in Yemen. This will ensure that delegates have a well-rounded view of the situation. Considering the report speaks about several Arab League countries as well, these countries should be aware of how their situation is viewed by other nations within the United Nations.

http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s_prst_2015_8.pdf