

Kennesaw State University High School Model United Nations
General Assembly First
March 23rd - 24th, 2018 Kennesaw, GA
Email: ksuhsmun2018@gmail.com

Delegates,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Thirty-Second Annual Kennesaw State University High School Model United Nations conference. My name is Samuel Brand, and I am honored to serve as your Director of the General Assembly First Committee. This is my second year both on staff and participating in Model United Nations. I am a junior here at Kennesaw State University and I am currently studying international business, and will continue my undergraduate career by also obtaining a economics minor. I enjoy playing guitar, reading, and hanging out with friends. In the past, I have competed in the Southern Regional Model United Nations twice and competed at the Bucharest International Student Model United Nations conference, and I look forward to more opportunities within Model United Nations here at Kennesaw State University.

I am thrilled to introduce my Assistant Director, Shiloh Ary. Shiloh is a junior at Kennesaw State University, majoring in political science with a minor in international affairs. In addition to High School Model United Nations, he is involved on campus, participating in Model NATO, volunteering for the Office of Student Advocacy, and acting as treasurer for the Political Science Club. He enjoys following American current events, sleeping, and telling terrible jokes..

I am proud to introduce my Chair, Chris Engert. Chris is a junior at Kennesaw State University. He is an international affairs major with a political science minor. Chris is in his first year on the NATO Team at Kennesaw, and is helping dias the General Assembly First Committee. During the summer he works part time as a manager for a pool management company, and he enjoys reading, following politics in the US and Europe, and explaining to people what NATO actually is.

If you should have any questions or concerns about the topics or the committee in general, please do not hesitate to email me. I look forward to meeting you all in March!

Sincerely,
Samuel Brand
Director, General Assembly First Committee
sbrand2@students.kennesaw.edu

The Topics under debate for the General Assembly First Committee are:

- I. Strengthening International Arms Control**
- II. Modernizing the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) Guidelines**

Each Member State delegation within this committee is expected to submit a position paper which covers both of the agenda topics. A position paper is a short essay describing your Member State's history and position on the issues at hand. There are three key parts to any successful position paper: history, current status of the issue, and possible solutions for the future. Information for properly formatting the position papers, as well as valuable advice for writing a quality paper, can be found in the Delegate Preparation section of the HSMUN webpage (www.hsmun.hss.kennesaw.edu/). Delegates are reminded that papers should be no longer than two pages in length with titles in size 12 and text in size 10-12 Times New Roman. Citations should be footnoted in Chicago style formatting, such as those used inside this guide. Furthermore, plagiarism in an academic setting is unacceptable and will nullify any score for the paper in question. During the grading process, we will be utilizing the university's plagiarism checker. Wikipedia is a wonderful place to begin researching, but we highly encourage the use of peer-reviewed academic articles or trusted media sources. The objective of a position paper is to present the diplomatic position of your Member State on both agenda topics as accurately as possible.

History of the General Assembly First Committee

The General Assembly is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations, established in 1945 with the ratification of the United Nations Charter. The General Assembly is comprised of all 193 Member States, and has the power discuss any matter “within the scope of the present Charter or relating to the powers and functions of any organs provided for in the present Charter,” and to make recommendations to Member States or the Security Council regarding those matters.¹ Though these recommendations are only suggestions and are not binding, resolutions put forth by this body often have a strong influence on how Members act. Primarily, the General Assembly functions to review reports of the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council; advise international political cooperation; foster international cooperation in social, economic, cultural, educational and health fields; and to promote peace between nations.²

The GA First Committee is responsible for dealing with disarmament, threats, and challenges to peace in the global community. It is charged with creating resolutions to address these challenges and making recommendations for Member States and the Security Council. This committee works closely with the United Nations Disarmament Commission and the Geneva -based Conference on Disarmament to address all matters pertinent international security and disarmament. These include matters with the scope of the Charter, matters pertinent to other organs of the UN, “the general principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security”, and matters concerning cooperation in disarmament or regulation of arms.³

The GA First Committee has made a considerable number of achievements since its establishment. The Committee has accomplished treaties that ban biological and chemical weapons through resolutions such as the convention on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and on their destruction (A/C.1/65/L.20), and the convention on the prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons and on their destruction (A/C.1/65/L.23).⁴ It continues to progress towards banning nuclear testing and eliminating nuclear weapons altogether.⁵ In its sixty -first session, the committee passed resolutions “condemning surplus weapon stockpiles” and reached an agreement on collaboration to trace black market arms, working to build the needed trust between nations to implement necessary measures to make progress.⁶ Finally, significant progress has been made in the disarmament of conventional weapons and small arms--“banning certain weapons with indiscriminate effects; curbing use of cluster munition and mines; taking action on proliferation of small arms and light weapons, and setting global rules governing the trade in conventional weapons through the recent Arms Trade Treaty.” Four Several key resolutions addressing conventional weapons were passed in the First Committee’s 65th session.⁷

However, as pointed out by Mr. Mogens Lykketoft, President of the UN General Assembly, despite these achievements, “a quick look around our world today, also demonstrates very clearly that there remain simply far too many weapons in circulation – weapons that are fuelling deadly conflicts and incredible instability.” Unfortunately, as weapons are being eliminated, more are being invented and produced. There are numerous challenges facing the

¹ Charter of the United Nations, Chapter III, IV, <http://www.un.org/en/charter-united-nations/index.html>.

² “What We Do: The General Assembly.” United Nations Foundation, <http://www.unfoundation.org/what-we-do/issues/united-nations/the-general-assembly.html?referrer=https://www.google.com/>.

³ “Disarmament and International Security,” General Assembly of the United Nations, <http://www.un.org/en/ga/first/index.shtml>.

⁴ “Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction” General Assembly of the United Nations, https://gaforc-vote.un.org/UNODA/vote.nsf/91a5e1195dc97a630525656f005b8adf/2f5c6260fade0f3e852577c8005a829a?OpenDocument#_Section4

⁵ “Address to First Committee on Disarmament and International Security,” General Assembly of the United Nations, <http://www.un.org/pga/70/2015/10/15/adress-to-first-committee-on-disarmament-and-international-security/>.

⁶ “Sixty--first General Assembly,” First Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations, <http://unchronicle.un.org/articel/sixty-first-general-assembly-first-committee-disarmament-and-international-security>.

⁷ Ibid.

First Committee, hindering progress. It will take “concerted diplomatic efforts combined with renewed political will” to face them.⁸ We implore you to always keep in mind the duties and mission of the First Committee as you conduct your research, as well as its accomplishments and challenges. As you tackle the topics under discussion and search for solutions, find innovative ways to address the challenges the First Committee has been facing. Again, use this information and the sources provided as a guide, but you must go much more in depth to have truly effective debate and negotiations. Good luck in your research!

Topic I: Strengthening International Arms Control

“The General Assembly may consider the general principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security, including the principles governing disarmament and the regulation of armaments, and may make recommendations with regard to such principles to the Members or to the Security Council or to both.”⁹

- Article 11 of the UN Charter

The proliferation of small and light arms is a chief factor in both inter- and intra-state conflicts throughout the world.¹⁰ Their spread has led to human rights violations on a massive scale, destabilizing communities and either ending or permanently damaging the lives of millions of innocent people.¹¹ The First Committee is the body designated within the General Assembly to work towards the goal of universal disarmament. The General Assembly passed its first arms control resolution in 1946 with the creation of the Commission to Deal with the Problems Raised by the Discovery of Atomic Energy, which called for “the elimination from national armaments of atomic weapons and of all other major weapons adaptable to mass destruction.”¹² Every year since then, the First Committee has passed, on average, over 40 resolutions a year on the subject of arms control and nuclear proliferation. These resolutions have varied in subject, with topics including ammunition storage and control, regional disarmament, and small arms/light weapons control.

The First Committee seeks to provide a space for Member States to discuss their positions on disarmament in order to build consensus and agree on norms of behavior. Furthermore, the First Committee seeks to ensure security in Member States via cooperative security agreements that universally reduce spending on weapons, arms production, arms trade, and the stockpiling of weapons.¹³ This is intended to reverse the previous Cold War-era thinking of security through the procurement of massive weapons stockpiles, more commonly known as Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD). Rather, the First Committee works towards the improvement of global security by reducing these stockpiles, and the consensus reached in First Committee can be translated to other bodies concerned with arms control, such as the Conference on Disarmament, where disarmament treaties are negotiated.¹⁴ Ongoing discussion on disarmament in the First Committee is critical to the improvement of security conditions throughout the world, and especially so in the world’s most dangerous conflict zones.

Background

In the aftermath of the Second World War, arms proliferation became a topic of great importance to be addressed by the newly created United Nations. The horrific, and revolutionary, use of the first nuclear weapons in the history of the world became the driving factor behind the UN’s very first resolution, calling for an end to the

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ “Chapter IV: The General Assembly,” *Charter of the United Nations*, United Nations, 2017
<http://www.un.org/en/sections/un-charter/chapter-iv/index.html>

¹⁰ “Drivers behind the Idea,” Small Arms Survey, 2017 <http://www.smallarmssurvey.org/about-us/mission.html>

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² “UN General Assembly First Committee,” Reaching Critical Will, 2017
<http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/disarmament-fora/unga>

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Ibid.

development and deployment of nuclear weapons by all states.¹⁵ While the existence of humanity itself was jeopardized by the existence of nuclear weapons, it also grew increasingly apparent that international arms control would become a critical aspect of global security in the eyes of the UN. Rebellions against the waning European colonial powers, as well as civil wars in countries such as Greece, China, and Colombia, saw armed groups violently struggling for power. In most cases, these groups armed themselves with weapons either taken from opposing armies, or gained illegally after WWII, a time when illicit arms were in great supply.

The history of UN efforts to implement arms control began in January 1952 with the passage of Resolution 502 (VI) and the creation of the United Nations Disarmament Commission (UNDC).¹⁶ This commission was mandated by the Security Council to work on proposals to regulate, limit, and balance armed forces and armaments throughout the world, as well as bring an end to the proliferation of nuclear weapons. In 1960, the commission was renamed the Disarmament Committee, and consisted of ten Member States. It would later expand to 18 Member States, and in 1978 the body was again renamed, this time as the Conference on Disarmament.¹⁷ In that same year, the General Assembly had its first special session on the topic of disarmament, and established a new Disarmament Commission to continue making recommendations to the General Assembly on issues regarding international arms control.¹⁸ In 1989 the commission decided to limit its agenda to four topics to allow for substantive debate, but in practice two to three topics were usually discussed. In 1998, the General Assembly voted to limit UNDC discussions to two topics a year, including one on nuclear disarmament.¹⁹

The Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, signed in 1997 in Ottawa, Canada, and entered into force in 1999, is one example of the successes of the General Assembly in regards to reducing the transfer and utilization of weapons globally. 133 signatory states, recognizing the damage caused by anti-personnel mines in current and past conflict zones, agreed to cease the production, development, and distribution of anti-personnel mines. The Ottawa Treaty also called for the destruction of all anti-personnel mines within the participating states within 10 years, allowing for a small number to be retained for training purposes. The treaty also called for mine-clearance by all participating states of territory under their jurisdiction, as well as assistance measures for those affected by landmines.²⁰

In 2008, the 108 members of the General Assembly passed a resolution condemning the usage of cluster munitions in warfare and prohibiting all signatory states from using, developing, producing, distributing, or encouraging the use of cluster munitions.²¹ Similar to the 1999 Ottawa Treaty, the Convention on Cluster Munitions also called for the destruction of all cluster munitions within the member countries and assistance in finding and disposing of cluster munitions scattered in conflict zones which had failed to explode.²²

Perhaps the greatest contribution made by the General Assembly towards ending the proliferation of the arms trade and strengthening international arms control is through the implementation of arms sanctions. International arms sanctions provide an economic means to limiting arms trafficking to conflict zones, and have seen wide participation by members of the General Assembly. As of December 2015, the UN had 11 arms sanctions in place against countries such as the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Libya, and Yemen.²³ Reauthorization of UN sanctions is required on a yearly basis, and of these arms sanctions, eight of them are over 10 years old. This is a

¹⁵ "Nuclear Weapons," United Nations Office of Disarmament Affairs, 2017

<https://www.un.org/disarmament/wmd/nuclear/>

¹⁶ "United Nations Disarmament Commission," United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, 2017

<https://www.un.org/disarmament/>

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ "Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction (Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention)," *Disarmament and Related Treaties*, United Nations, 2015 <https://unoda-web.s3-accelerate.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/assets/publications/more/treaties/disarmament-treaties.pdf>

²¹ "Convention on Cluster Munitions," *Disarmament and Related Treaties*, United Nations, 2015 <https://unoda-web.s3-accelerate.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/assets/publications/more/treaties/disarmament-treaties.pdf>

²² Ibid.

²³ LeBrun, Emile, and Christelle Rigual, "Monitoring UN Arms Embargoes Observations from Panels of Experts," Small Arms Survey, 2016 <http://www.smallarmssurvey.org/fileadmin/docs/B-Occasional-papers/SAS-OP33-UN-Arms-Embargoes.pdf>

testament to the support exhibited by the General Assembly in regards to international arms control, and provides a solid basis for future improvements on limiting the flow of arms throughout the world.²⁴

Current Situation

As was mentioned in the background section, the General Assembly currently has 11 arms sanctions in place against various countries in Africa and the Middle East which have been the sites of ongoing inter- and intra-state conflict. The Syrian Civil War has entered its sixth year, and throughout the world armed conflicts continue to claim the lives of millions of innocent people every year.²⁵ In addition to the continuance of sanctions against governments who sponsor or condone these types of violence, the General Assembly passed the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) in 2013, entering into force in 2014.²⁶ The ATT is the product of over two decades of diplomacy, and was signed by over 90 member states, including the United States.²⁷ The ATT is a beginning step in the fight against international arms trafficking- it provides regulations for the flow of arms across international borders, including everything from small arms to main battle tanks and fighter jets.²⁸ While these measures are intended to regulate the arms trade between states, it also serves to hinder the eventual sale of weapons illegally.

Despite these developments in the arms control arena, there are several challenges still faced by the First Committee. The inability of Member States to perceive the viewpoints of other members, due to the relative rigidity of each member's policies, limit the degree to which members can compromise and deliberate on new resolutions. Consensus among the majority of Member States is often undermined by the entrenchment of a few, bogging down the processes of the First Committee. Instead of meaningful resolutions with real impacts, repetitive resolutions with no new ideas are all too common in the First Committee.²⁹

A common theme within the arms control arena is the concept of punishing nations which are the recipients of illegal arms. This has been seen throughout the world, with UN arms sanctions currently in place on countries such as the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Libya, and Yemen.³⁰ Although these sanctions are critical in improving international arms control, it is only a partial solution to the problem. If the proliferation of the arms trade is to be ended, the solution must be applied not only to the nations which are recipients of illegal weapons, but also to the countries from which these weapons originate. As long as the illegal arms trade remains profitable, both state and non-state actors will continue to transfer weapons to countries in the developing world. International arms control cannot be addressed from a top-down perspective, or vice versa; it must be addressed at both ends of the issue.

Of further note in regards to arms control is the role played by non-state actors. While state actors that engage in illegal arms sales are able to be held accountable for their transgressions via international sanctions and other measures, non-state actors are significantly more difficult to monitor and prevent. While the General Assembly has taken measures to ensure Member States keep records of their armaments with the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (PoA), there is still no enforcement apparatus for combating the illegal arms trade, and especially when state actors are not directly involved.³¹ Arms control needs to be addressed at all levels, and the lack of a program to identify and prosecute those who are responsible for the transfer of weapons across international borders is an issue that must be addressed in the future.

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ "Drivers behind the Idea," Small Arms Survey, 2017 <http://www.smallarmssurvey.org/about-us/mission.html>

²⁶ Kymball, Daryl, "The Arms Control Treaty at a Glance," *Arms Control Today*, International Arms Association, 2013 https://www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/arms_trade_treaty

²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ Ibid.

²⁹ "UN General Assembly First Committee," Reaching Critical Will, 2017 <http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/disarmament-fora/unga>

³⁰ LeBrun, Emile, and Christelle Rigual, "Monitoring UN Arms Embargoes Observations from Panels of Experts," Small Arms Survey, 2016 <http://www.smallarmssurvey.org/fileadmin/docs/B-Occasional-papers/SAS-OP33-UN-Arms-Embargoes.pdf>

³¹ "Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects," UN Office for Disarmament Affairs, 2017 <https://www.un.org/disarmament/convarms/salw/programme-of-action/>

Conclusion

The proliferation of the international arms trade continues to be a leading factor in both inter- and intra-state conflicts, leading to the deaths of millions of innocent people.³² Conflicts throughout the world are sustained via illegal arms, and any effort to curtail this trade would directly correlate to a decrease in such conflicts. The UN has made strides in arms control measures with the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, the Cluster Munitions Convention, the Arms Trade Treaty, and other resolutions over the past decades.³³ With these accomplishments in regulating the arms trade between state actors, the next logical step is to further strengthen international arms control protocols to prevent non-state actors from obtaining weapons.

Committee Directive

Since World War II, inter-state conflicts have been on the decline and intra-state conflicts have been on the rise. While ethnic and territorial disputes, among other factors, can be attributed as causes of these conflicts, it is the presence and easily obtainable nature of weapons which allows these conflicts to escalate into widespread violence. The General Assembly must consider the means by which Member States can openly discuss and come to consensus on measures to prevent this spread of weapons and the violence they cause. Each Member State should consider what their position is on the topic of international arms control, and what measures they may support. It is equally important to include Member States which suffer from ongoing intra-state conflicts as it is to include Member States from which weapons are known to originate. The problem of international arms control must be addressed from both ends, as opposed to a top-down or bottom-up approach.

Delegates should ask themselves: How can we create a framework for international arms control that will not alienate other member states? What can we do to ensure that arms control measures are meaningful, and not merely words on paper? Are current international institutions and organizations under the UN sufficient to address the arms control problem? What assurances can be given to affected member states in order to ensure their continuing support?

Topic II: Modernizing the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) Guidelines

Since its inception, the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) has sought to mitigate the resurgence of violence in post-conflict states through a process of removing weapons from members of armed groups, disbanding the armed groups, and reintegrating militants back into society as civilians.³⁴ The end goal of this strategy is to lower the risk of resurging conflict by decreasing the number of those unemployed and armed in the populous, and in this way its mission goes beyond simply ensuring a ceasefire. However, the guidelines must consistently be tailored to meet the pace of the world, and once already in 2010 the guidelines were shifted to the second generation of DDR. Therefore, it is crucial that this topic be discussed in depth to reach a conclusion of what can be done to modernize DDR.

Background

The beginnings of DDR can be traced to March 1990, when the United Nations Security Council expanded peacekeeping operations in Nicaragua to include demobilization of anti-government elements.³⁵ This expansion was a move towards complex operations that goes beyond traditional peacekeeping. In 2005, the guidelines for DDR were established, with the aim of DDR being not to resolve conflict, it instead sets the foundations in post-conflict situations to ensure security and stability and hasten recovery and development.

³² “Drivers behind the Idea,” Small Arms Survey, 2017 <http://www.smallarmssurvey.org/about-us/mission.html>

³³ Ibid.

³⁴ “Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration.” [Peacekeeping.un.org](http://peacekeeping.un.org).

³⁵ Le Roy, Alain. “A Word From: Mr. Alain Le Roy, Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations.” *DDR in Peace Operations: A Retrospective*. United Nations. September 2010. http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/documents/DDR_retrospective.pdf

Development is crucial for the integrity of post-conflict states. DDR is one of many ways to conduct post-conflict reconstructions. DDR is frequently joined by non-governmental organizations (NGOs). These NGOs may operate with expertise to enhance development, or otherwise providing to public welfare thought tasks such as camp management, running child care centers, etc.³⁶ DDR may also work with military or police to accomplish its goals. By working with military components in a peacekeeping operation, this can provide services such as protection, information gathering and distributing, program monitoring, etc.³⁷ By working with police, UN Police (UNPOL) can assist DDR by increasing and/or providing security, assisting reintegration of ex-combatants, providing coordination to DDR operations as well as advising and monitoring to build public confidence and support in DDR operations.³⁸ The development process is ongoing throughout DDR, but is perhaps most crucial during the reintegration phase which will be discussed.

Planning of DDR is best started while peace talks are being held, and once it has been agreed on how to be conducted, the task of disarmament begins. For the UN, disarmament means the “collection, documentation, control and disposal of small arms, ammunition, explosives and light and heavy weapons . . . [disarmament] also includes the development of responsible arms management programmes.”³⁹ Due to the fragility of post-conflict states, the threat of violence is significant so long as weapons are easily accessible. This step is typically focused on disarming militia or other irregular armed groups or former combatants through the collection or enumeration of weapons, though it often expands to any outside of police, military, or other regulatory agencies.⁴⁰

The next step focuses on demobilization. Demobilization is characterized as the transfer of an individual from an armed group into a civilian status, including mindset. This may be accomplished by the civilian component of the peacebuilding mission in order to assist this process. During demobilization, the first stage may include combatants being processed through temporary centers to pull them from a military setting and instead placing them in a civilian environment, allowing them to be reinserted into society. Reinsertion is distinct from reintegration due to the fact that it includes short-term assistance to former-combatants to help the transition from military to civilian. This stage is meant to be a first step, whereas reintegration represents self-sustainability as a civilian in society.⁴¹

Following demobilization and reinsertion, an ex-combatant is socially and economically reintegrated once they have regained civilian status and gain sustainable employment and income. This process is very long-term with an open timeframe, however, failure to reintegrate ex-combatants poses the risk of mobilization, once again threatening the stability of peace in post-conflict areas.⁴² Reintegration is often focused on a local community level, involving ex-combatant involvement with the community⁴³. Naturally, this process is much longer than disarmament or demobilization, and as a result may be prioritized over the other two steps.⁴⁴

Current Situation

The implementation of first generation DDR has resulted in many lessons learned which have been integrated into second generation DDR. However, there are still obstacles to overcome. Perhaps the biggest obstacle involves the political will of nations with peacebuilding operations. These nations often still suffer from armed conflict, and therefore are unlikely to participate in disarmament.⁴⁵ One of the steps in disarmament involves national stockpiles being examined to determine necessity, when it is appropriate to do so. So long as combatants are armed and may resume conflict, they have the ability to undermine the development process. However, disarming a nation as a whole may leave non-combatants vulnerable. Similar issues involve general trust in the peace process. Without trust, parties may not cooperate with developmental operations, and the peacebuilding

³⁶ “Frequently Asked Questions.” United Nations. http://www.unddr.org/what-is-ddr/faq_4.aspx

³⁷ Ibid.

³⁸ Ibid.

³⁹ “What is DDR?” United Nations. http://www.unddr.org/what-is-ddr/introduction_1.aspx

⁴⁰ “Second Generation Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) Practices in Peace Operations.” United Nations. January 18, 2010. http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/publications/ddr/ddr_062010.pdf.

⁴¹ “What is DDR?” United Nations. http://www.unddr.org/what-is-ddr/introduction_1.aspx

⁴² Ibid.

⁴³ Ibid.

⁴⁴ “Second Generation Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) Practices in Peace Operations.” United Nations. January 18, 2010. http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/publications/ddr/ddr_062010.pdf.

⁴⁵ Ibid.

process may be impeded.⁴⁶ Additionally, there are the challenges of demobilizing parties which may be viewed as necessary, such as militia, as well as the long-term process of reintegration, which takes significantly longer than other steps in the process. These are some of the many challenges facing the DDR directives, challenges which may be answered through a modernization process.

Conclusion

The guidelines of disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration seem simple, but offer a path to answering the complexities of peacebuilding in post-conflict zones. These processes are long-term, and the broadness allows variance in implementation in order to be tailored to each environment. In this way, the threat of future conflict is mitigated, and the foundation for peace is laid out. However, conflict is constantly changing, and therefore we must resume towards the committee directive.

Committee Directive

As with every peacekeeping operation, there are significant challenges to be faced and learned from. Twenty years after switching the focus from traditional peacebuilding to DDR, a study was launched to develop new ways to accomplish it. This study addressed many of the challenges of DDR, as well as lessons to be learned from it. Many of the challenges faced in the past will be faced in the future, and therefore it is critical that discretion be taken to mind, as nations will have separate reactions to directives that impact national sovereignty.

Second generation DDR sought to advance the effectiveness of traditional DDR by targeting other groups which may extend the insecurity of peace in a post-conflict areas. This included gangs, criminal and terrorist groups, as well as at-risk youth. The most recent implementations of DDR have involved more robust measures, especially in Yemen, Libya, Mali, and others, which have had a strong focus on political processes.⁴⁷ Previous DDR efforts have shown that when DDR processes are planned out during the initial peacekeeping process, stability operations are more likely to be successful⁴⁸. However, every situation faces its own unique challenges, and as conflict changes, it is imperative to focus on what can be done today to assist in the stability of post-conflict areas during peacekeeping operations. Delegates should ask themselves: what can be done to modernize the disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration guidelines? What lessons can be learned from previous DDR operations going forward, and what initiatives can be taken?

Research Directory

As you begin researching your topics and writing your position papers, the below resources will provide you with basic information, and help you begin your research. Please remember to use quality sources. Good luck!

General Links:

General Assembly First Committee website: <http://www.un.org/en/ga/first/>

KSU HSMUN website: <http://hsmun.hss.kennesaw.edu/>

I. Strengthening International Arms Control

United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs: <https://www.un.org/disarmament/>

Small Arms Survey, Source for statistics on small arms trafficking and proliferation:
<http://www.smallarmssurvey.org/>

⁴⁶ Ibid.

⁴⁷ Robert, Muggah, and O'Donnell Chris. 2015. "Next Generation Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration." *Stability: International Journal Of Security And Development, Vol 4, Iss 1 (2015) no. 1: Directory of Open Access Journals, EBSCOhost.*

⁴⁸ Ibid.

Arms Control Today, Current News on arms control: <https://www.armscontrol.org/aca/998>

Compilation of First Committee sessions and other info: <http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/disarmament-fora/unga>

II. Modernizing the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) Guidelines

What is DDR? (UN Website): http://www.unddr.org/what-is-ddr/introduction_1.aspx

Key Considerations in Planning & Implementation (UN Website): http://www.unddr.org/what-is-ddr/key-considerations-in-planning-implementation_2.aspx

DDR FAQ (UN Website): http://www.unddr.org/what-is-ddr/faq_4.aspx

DDR in Peacekeeping Operations: A Retrospective:
http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/documents/DDR_retrospective.pdf

Second Generation Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) Practices in Peace Operations:
http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/publications/ddr/ddr_062010.pdf