

#THE NEXT GENERATION OF FUN MODELS

STUDY GUIDE

ARAB LEAGUE



SPECIALIZED

M ²⁰ ₁₈ NEXT

اِنَّ اللّٰهَ لَا يَغَيِّرُ
مَا بَقِيَ حَتّٰى يَحْيِيَهَا
وَمَا اَنفَسْتُمْ هُنّ



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2018

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INTRODUCTION

Honorable Delegates

Welcome to MUNEXT 2018!

It is a deep honor for us to be sharing this wonderful experience with all of you. As your chair, we have put all our effort into preparing a high-level committee, which will also feature an interesting procedure and on-going topics for your enjoyment. Our expectations for this committee are very high. For this reason, we expect a rigorous preparation from all our delegates. We hope you make the most of this great learning opportunity and therefore help us make this committee the most enjoyable possible. That being said, we now proceed to introduce ourselves:

My name is Isabella Coronado Doria. I'm a first-year student, majoring in both public policy and economics in the Universidad de Los Andes. I have had a deep experience on Model United Nations, as I participated on this events throughout my high school. I'm currently enrolled in ONUANDES Crisis Team, reason why I have a special affection for crisis committees and any others apart from the traditional branch of UN committees. Model United Nations is no doubt, one of my greatest passions, and indeed, one of the activities I put the most effort to. So, I really encourage you, to make the most of this committee, and really hope to contribute to the development of fascination towards MUN.

My name is Eduardo Bernal Muñoz, I am currently majoring in international relations at the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana. Im part of the Board of Directors of ONUJaveriana and SGA of Security Council at COLMUN Cali. It is an honor for me to be part of this wonderful experience, which promises to be exciting, challenging and fun. In my 6 years of experience, I have learned of the importance of showing our best, to achieve the most, so I put this concept in practice and really hope you take it into account during this event. Isabella and I are looking forward to seeing the best of you during this conference. Remember that we are the future of the world and that leaders build up their paths in these types of scenarios. I invite you to fight for your ideas and put aside war and conflict.

It is really important for us to emphasize, that during the development of this committee, we will move within a fragile context. We will be working upon one the most unstable region in the world. One, whose conflicts resonate widely as they constantly change the course of global dynamics. It is for this reason, that the exercise of involving ourselves on these cultures is incredibly valuable. We want you to know that consciousness is the first step to change, and in this committee, we are creating that awareness.

Once again, Welcome to Arab League and to MUNEXT!



Eduardo Bernal Muñoz: bernaleduardo@javeriana.edu.co

Isabella Coronado Doria: i.coronado@uniandes.edu.co

ABOUT THE COMMITTEE

What is the Arab league?

The Arab League, formally the League of Arab States is a voluntary regional association, which brings together Arab countries: That is, those countries whose official language is the Arabic, or whose population is mostly Arab-speaking. The Arab League, includes states whose territories extend throughout north and northeast Africa as well as Southeast Asia. Its permanent headquarters is currently located in Cairo (Egypt)

The organization currently holds 22-member states. Which are: Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, UAE and finally Yemen.

The main objective of this organization is to strengthen ties between member states and therefore, coordinate collective policies, directed towards the common good of the region. Historically, the organization has served as a platform to discuss matters of common interest, conflict resolution and the promotion of conjunctive development policies.

In the previous years, the possibility of jointly expanding their military capacities and thus conform what they call an Arab NATO, has entered the agenda of the A.L. But internal conflicts in the region have diluted this initiative.

The Arab League is composed by the following organs:

- Specialized Arab agencies;
- Technical committees;
- Council of the Arab League, composed of all member states.
- Arab Economic and Social Council;
- Secretary-General, appointed by the Council
- Arab unions or associations;

The main organ of the organization is the council of the league. This body is made up of representatives from each of the member states. Usually the representative is a foreign minister, their representative or permanent delegates. The current secretary general of the organization is: Nabil El Araby.

The council meets twice a year. This meeting take place in March and September. Special sessions may be summoned at the request of two-member states. Decisions are only binding for states who voted for them.

The organization has not achieved a significant degree of regional integration, and different from many other regional organizations, the Arab League does not maintain direct relations with citizens of its Member States. Despite this, the Arab League has been of great importance in the fight to resolve current internal conflicts such as the Syrian civil war, the crisis of Yemen and the Gulf Crisis. This, because the organization brings up a space for deliberation, where external interventions are put into question.

The Arab League works through their advice and the vote of each State within it, this being the main body of the group. The Council is responsible for accepting or remove members, approve or reject proposals made by any of the commissions and the address itself of the, the actions and decisions that are taken in the Council are subject to vote when the result is unanimous to the favorable this is compulsory for each country, and if victory is positive but not unanimous this becomes only binding to the Nations that their vote was in favor.

The most important institutions of the Organization are, the economic and Social Council and Council set of Defense of the Arab League. Finally, all other subsequent Arab League bodies are divided into five main groups: the organs of the Council, general secretariat bodies, organs of Defense and economic cooperation, the Arab deterrent force and the office in the overseas - States non-members of the Arab League.

ABOUT THE COMMITTEE

BACKGROUND

The organization emerged during World War II. At the time, Cairo was the center of the economic and military decision-making of the British for the whole Middle East. This key strategic position allowed the Egyptian government to enter into talks with other Arab countries to consolidate a closer union between all of them.

At the time, war had consolidated a deep sense of unity among the Arab States, which resulted in a first attempt to create a League of Arab States.

The first draft, developed by the Prime Minister of Iraq and the United Kingdom, established five points by which the union was to be ruled, and established the Hashemites as leaders. Because of this last measure, the project had a strong

opposition and was soon revoked. Nevertheless, the intention of union continued to be present, so a second project arose quickly. This one, involved a lower degree of integration but was a lot more legitimate to the participants. After two conferences, the League of Arab States was created: It united seven countries with relative capacity for action: Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Transjordan, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and North Yemen.

Throughout time, the effectiveness of the Arab League has been severely affected by divisions among its member states. Some of the most important divisions we can recall are:

1. Cold War: There was an almost proportionate division among pro-soviets, and pro-western members states.
2. Egypt and Iraq:
3. Regime Division: Refers to the on-going hostilities between traditional monarchies and new republics. As is the case of: Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Morocco vs. Egypt, Syria, Iraq and Libya.
4. US-Led attack to Iraq: During this time, members states were divided among those who opposed the attack, and those who set themselves aside from the conflict.

ABOUT THE COMMITTEE

PROCEDURE/FUNCTIONING

For the MUNEXT's Arab League committee, the procedure will be the one specified in the general handbook. We will feature a traditional procedure, with traditional rules and motions. For the sake of this committee, we will take decisions as the main organ of the organization: The council of the Arab League. Decisions will be taken by simple majority and will be binding **ONLY** for the countries that voted in favor.

TOPIC I: THE DILEMMA OF SECURITY PRIVATIZATION

INTRODUCTION AND IMPORTANCE

Armed actors of different nature are involved in multiple conflicts around the world. These may not only be Private Military Companies (PMCs) but also could be Private Security Companies (PSCs) or even just generic Mercenaries. Now, differences and similarities between these actors have been clarified by international doctrine issued by recognized authors on the subject such as Percy and Cleary or by international organizations such as the ICRC. On the other hand, the Security Council has not made a clear effort towards a proper term separation, and has traditionally avoided boarding the matter directly (Taking into account that PMSC have participated in several UN peacekeeping missions).

It is to be analyzed if the Council can legally undertake any action against private military contractors (Individuals or Companies), even if that implies undermining some States interests, or if it is mandatory to preserve the integrity of the Non-intervention principle.

The importance of this problem lies upon the tradition that supports the use of mercenaries. As we will observe later in the historical context, private military companies and more recently security providers have been an important part of the consolidation of the states. But in many cases, they have generated a dispersion of power that results in the delegitimization of states and other figures of social organization.

TOPIC I: THE DILEMMA OF SECURITY PRIVATIZATION

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The historical background of Private Military Companies (PMCs), Private Security Companies (PSCs) and Mercenaries is as broad as history itself. From antecedents dating back to the times of the Roman Empire, Mercenaries constitute an essential institution in world history. Permanent armies have always been used by empires and organized societies to cope with their conflicts and, as warfare got more complex, new variables were added to the art of war, but the presence of fighters that did not belong to this “permanent” structure had always been part of human conflict. As Percy has said:

“Mercenaries, often referred to as the “world’s second-oldest profession,” have been part of the history of war since its beginnings. While their precise description has varied over time, generally speaking, mercenaries are

fighters who are not members of the group that hires them (whether that group is a state, a city-state, or the followers of a feudal lord) and are usually motivated by financial gain (although this feature varies over time; the idea of motivation by financial gain makes little sense as a marker of a mercenary in the medieval period)” (Percy, 2007)

Now, even if the appearance of mercenaries is nothing new in history, this phenomenon has had a gradual complexity increase. According to Percy, the mercenaries have been hired by various actors, throughout history to provide knowledge in military techniques and even technology. (Percy, 2007). Some experts argue that the economic dynamics related to the hiring of mercenaries generates the necessary incentives for a more organized, dynamic and adaptable structure to be created. Consequently, we have evidence of historical moments in which national armies have been bluntly overshadowed by private companies. The most notorious cases are the 12th and 13th century in Europe, in the consolidation process of the modern state, and later, during the 20th century and the decolonization process in Africa and the civil wars that came after.

The modern doctrine agrees that there are actual and explicit mentions to Mercenaries on various international instruments, among them Protocol s I and II of the Geneva Convention of 1949, and the UN Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries, and therefore, there is an existent applicable law to them. (For the purposes of this committee, we hope that you will review the specific statements of these regarding the use of mercenaries and Private Security Companies).

TOPIC I: THE DILEMMA OF SECURITY PRIVATIZATION

THE CONFLICT AND ITS RELEVANT ACTORS

The use of Private Military Companies became more common, both within United Nations and for military interventions driven by states, such as the United States. For example, many UN peacekeeping missions contracted PMC for its deployment, due to the fact that it was easier to hire a private actor than to ask to states to provide their own military staff; and it was cheaper (in terms of time and money). It stands out the Police Task Force deployed in Bosnia, for example. Regarding military operations driven by states, we can highlight the Iraq intervention, in which PMC services we used as well. Nevertheless, the involvement of private contractors in international conflicts became problematic, given that these actors got involved in serious violations of human rights. For example, in Bosnia, the company DynCorp took part in sexual trafficking with Bosnian women

and girls. In Iraq, Blackwater was responsible of massacres, such as the Nisour Square one.

However, no one has been found guilty for those crimes, or has answered for them. This, because there is a lack of clarity around the difference between PMC and mercenaries. The latter is one of the main problems regarding the use private actors to provide security services. Despite de international instruments that define and typify mercenaries, and forbid its use, there is a lack of clarity around Private Military Companies: are they mercenaries? From a formal and legal point of view, and according for example to the UN Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries, they are not, because they do not fulfill all the criteria to be considered as mercenaries. But, in practice, they seem to be mercenaries. Thus, in the committee we expect that delegates have this into account, and define whether they are going to considerate PMC as mercenaries or not.

Also, you must take into account as well that, in some cases, the participation of PMC has been considered as positive. For example, during the civil war sin Sierra Leone, the intervention of private contractors helped in an effective way, according to some academics. Thus, the chair expects that you consider both this aspect and the position of your country in relation to intervention of private actor in internal and international conflicts.

It has to be considered as well the context, in terms of security, alliances, politics, etc, in which is the region. The Arab world has been characterized by the permanence of internal conflicts, many of which have had a large foreign participation. Some of the most notorious actors have been England and the United States. The first being praised for its direct intervention in Sierra Leone, and the last being condemned for its failed attempts to establish peace and stability in the area (being the intervention in Iraq the most notorious case of this failure).

There is evidence of success, as well as evidence of failure in the use of mercenaries for specific purposes. It is therefore that at present there is an obvious dilemma in the Arab world. Should the use of mercenaries be allowed, penalized, prohibited?

In the ongoing conflicts, being the case of the civil war in Yemen one of the most evident, the use of private military companies has generated great disputes in the league. International media such as HuffingPost claim that countries such as the United Arab Emirates have called on Latin American mercenaries to intervene secretly in the conflict. These allegations have generated disputes in the league because of the refusal of other members, such as Saudi Arabia, who allege the principle of non-intervention of the United Nations. Some others condemn the

individual interests of the nations that have wanted to get involved in the conflict. (Huffingpost, 2017)

Other evidence of the tensions generated by the use of mercenaries is present in the Syrian and Libyan conflicts. In this particular case, the use of mercenaries by the regent governments has aroused the interest of the international community, especially for the alleged violation of human rights in the area. In the same way, there are members of the league who claim for the respect of national sovereignty and the self-determination of the Arab countries. (FP Global Thinkers, 2017)

During this conference, we hope that as delegates, you will be informed about the internal conflicts of the region, the participation of private military companies and mercenaries. Do a thorough investigation of the three conflicts mentioned above and the position of your country in each of these.

We hope that by the end of the conference, you will typify the use of mercenaries (considering the debate about the character of PMC as mercenaries or not). Decriminalize, regulate or prohibit. Establish conditions and guarantees for the use of these and determine a joint position regarding the interventions of members of the league in the aforementioned conflicts.

TOPIC I: THE DILEMMA OF SECURITY PRIVATIZATION

Q-ARMAS

- i. How is it possible to eliminate the risks associated to the use of private military companies?
- ii. Should PMC be considered as generic mercenaries?
- iii. Should The Arab League establish a legal framework to regulate the use of PMC? If yes, which one?
- iv. What are the most effective important strategies to ensure safety in the Middle East?

TOPIC I: THE DILEMMA OF SECURITY PRIVATIZATION

LEADING QUESTIONS

- i. Does my government makes use of private military companies?

- ii. What are the existing regulations regarding the use of private military companies, private security companies and other companies who provide coercive services?
- iii. What is the perception of citizenship on the use of private military companies by the government?
- iv. What are the risks related to the generalization of these practices in my country?
- v. How do international relations influence my country in the decision-making process of politics regarding security?

TOPIC II, INFORMATICS REVOLUTION: SECURITY OR WAR?

INTRODUCTION AND IMPORTANCE

The informatics revolution is a process that has come to us so subtly that it is difficult to think of it as a revolution if compared to other more disruptive events in history, such as the Industrial or the French Revolution. Despite this, it is no secret that technology has taken great leaps in recent years and that its progress, increasingly rapid, have permanently transformed our lifestyles, business, education, medicine, and even the way of making war.

Elements of our day-to-day life, such as cell phones, laptops, and the internet itself, are relatively new to our world and yet have become key intelligence tools that have served to generate great changes. One of the most significant events that highlights this phenomenon has been the "Twitter Revolution" of 2011. According to journalist Jay Rosen, an expert in media affairs, the Twitter platform served as a virtual agglomeration point to run multiple demonstrations, and other popular movements that ended up unleashing the Libyan civil war.

As illustrated in the previous example, the power of technology in recent years is broad and not only as a tool for convocation, but also as a means of spying, sharing information, and mass dissemination of messages. It is because of this great reach, ease of access, and multiple other mass factors that the risks of technology increase exponentially. In recent years the electronic media have provided us with two scenarios which are opposite but at the same time very close one to another. On the first place we have a security scenario, with alarm systems, closed circuit of television (CCTV), techno-monitored vaults etc.

While on the other hand, we encounter a panorama of insecurity, where the possibility of information theft, impersonation, anonymity etc, is increasing. It is at this point, where we ask ourselves how positive can this computer revolution be. It

is here, where we wonder if the computer revolution brings us towards security or instead, leads us to war.

TOPIC II, INFORMATICS REVOLUTION: SECURITY OR WAR?

BACKGROUND OF THE CONFLICT

In recent years, largely due to the uninformed external coverage that has been made of the Middle East, the zone has been projected as a technologically retrograde area. A large number of Western media projects this area, as one where the eradication of modernization, the abolition of new technologies, attributed to the Western world, and the desire to return to an earlier era of history, are the ultimate goals. (Goodman, 1992)

Contrary to that common belief, and according to a study made by the University of Pennsylvania in the 1990s, that impression that describes the region as technophobic is incredibly simplistic and exaggerated. In the above mentioned work, Goodman explains that because of the economic, political and strategic importance of the region, technological development has been essential. In this way, the use of technology in the Middle East has shown to be a tool of governments to respond effectively to their political and economic needs.

Regarding individual computer developing in each country, we can highlight Egypt, which has developed "the largest, most capable and most internationally oriented computing community in the Arab world" (Green, 1992). According to the African Studies Center, for 1992, the system for modeling different debt rescheduling schemes, "Is credited as playing a key role in producing a model that resulted in the negotiation of very favorable terms from foreign creditors. As a result, other developing countries with severe debt problems look to Egypt for technical assistance on debt rescheduling." (ASC, 1992).

We also can also observe the development of Iran in the same year, whose advances in security technology came at the time of the abdication of the Shah, being him the one who introduced them in the first place to safeguard its own security. At the same time, electronic archaeological inventory systems in Jordan, electronic communication strategies in the service of Bashar Al Assad in the Syrian regime and many other examples.

Despite this, the lack of connectivity in 1992 and even today is undeniable, at the same time that the acceptability and value of technology remains an ambiguous issue in the region. This, since hardware manufacturing industry does not exist in any of the Arab countries but many of the countries since the 1990s send a lot of people abroad to receive informatics training.

As we saw earlier in the historical background, the use of computer media in the Middle East has always been linked to the government and its pretensions. In that sense, in order to describe the problem, and to analyze the influence of the information security revolution in the area, it is necessary to see the approaches from which the governments of the Middle East have used these means and how this means, have led to the arise of risks for them as well.

The power of knowledge

One of the most commonly known approaches in the Middle East has been information control. According to Burkart, social-power structure and dynamics, in the vast majority of MENA countries have remained stable over time due to the dissemination of information. (Burkart, 2012) Examples such as the Iraq, whom has not yet told its population that their army was destroyed by the opposition in 1991, shows us that despite the mass media, control of content is one of the most important parts of political change and the maintenance of the status quo.

According to Abu Jileh, a researcher on the topic, this practice is widespread in Middle Eastern countries, although in some, the dissemination of information is a bit more subtle. For the latter, the strategy of saturation of new information stands out. "New media in all its channels can be used to disseminate old material and content" (Abu Hijleh, 2002)

In this approach, a dilemma called the Dictator's Dilemma, first introduced by Bruce Dickson in a book of the same name, takes prominence. This one refers to the paradox of technological advances occurring in dictatorial regimes, despite the presumption that for technological development, freedom of access is necessary. The so called Dilemma, will be of great importance to the committee due to the very nature of the regimes that rule certain countries in the Middle East.

Government, control, progress and tensions

The second approach refers to existing tensions between controlled access regimes and the general population, which, despite the prohibitions, develops levels of intellectual progress superior to the economic situation of the country and therefore represents a risk to the socio-political balance that has been kept in recent years. In this approach, the relationship between economic development and the information revolution is undeniable, but at the same time it is called into question because of the risk that the implementation of policies that expand the range of access, represent for the regimes of some countries.

Virtual enemies.

Another approach, perhaps one of the most important in terms of computer revolution is the existence of virtual enemies. In this regard, and according to an Atlantic Council Report on cyber-terrorism management in the Middle East, access limitations also dissipated the competence of citizens (potential public officials) in the field of computer security. In this way, the protection mechanisms of attacks such as the hacking of inside information developed within the governments of the Middle East are still precarious. That is why some countries have opted to introduce new security methods through commercial transactions, treaties or strategic alliances.

Social Media, Censorship and Recruitment

This approach is vital importance, due to the great potential that social networks have as drivers of change. This, as far as they facilitate tendencies, which at the same time convey messages of great influence. In this specific case we see as an example the Twitter Revolution in Libya, 2011. And likewise, many other Arab countries, struggle between the need to guarantee certain civil liberties to avoid uprisings and the requirement to eliminate the risk that the anonymity and the potential for expansion of revolutionary messages, represents for regimes.

On the other hand, it is vitally important to identify the existence of different high-impact terrorist groups in order to understand the external risks associated with the information revolution. Groups like ISIS, recognized by some as a state and by others as terrorist groups, presume to be experiencing significant growth in terms of technological advances. Although many deny this organization's ability to organize a large-scale cyber-terrorist attack, its presence on social networks has meant an increase in the number of recruits. Daniel Lohrmann, head of the Security Mentor organization, warns that thanks to the existence of capture software, terrorist organizations such as DAESH can identify potential recruits based on search history or visits to certain web pages.

Religion and technology.

This last approach refers to the influence of dogmas and religious customs on the development of public policy in the Middle East. Despite the general belief that the Islamic religion is against modernization, the restrictions imposed on the basis of religion are more linked to the influence that exposure to a more secular western custom can generate in collective consciousness. Again, we observe a risk to the regime itself in view of the fact that its permanence is related to the religious convictions of populations, convictions that lead them to support Islamic republics or regimens with great religious influence.

It is for all the above implications, and because of how paradoxical the implementation of measures of technological expansion can be, that addressing this problem is so important.

For this committee, we hope you will be able to develop a joint strategy which succeed on balancing between the derivation of the benefits of boosting technological advances and the mitigation of the risks that this process represents in the matter of security.

For purposes of this committee, we will make a special emphasis on *Social Media, Recruitment, Virtual Enemies* as well as *Tensions Between Progress and Government Censorship*. We hope that by the meeting, you come up with an integral plan that includes concrete strategies in the fight against computer enemies. Especially in issues related to recruitment. Think about how governments could avoid the advance of these opposition groups, by means of a virtual strategy. At the same time, consider the restrictions that each of your countries have, and how to use that in your favor. Remember that we should include reforms on information control, in order to achieve economic progress. This, without jeopardizing the policies of your country's regime.

TOPIC II, INFORMATICS REVOLUTION: SECURITY OR WAR?

Q-ARMAS

- i. What primes in the Arab League's public Agenda? The guarantee of safety in its maximum splendor? Technological advances that lead to an economic improvement? The civil rights?
- ii. How is it possible to eliminate the risks associated with technological advances?

TOPIC II, INFORMATICS REVOLUTION: SECURITY OR WAR?

LEADING QUESTIONS

- i. What is the level of technological progress in my country? What are the reasons behind that indicator?
- ii. What laws (if existent) regulate the use of electronic, social networks, etc. in my country? How flexible are them? What are the reasons behind them?

- iii. What are the most recent politics regarding public informatics' security or the boosting of technological advances in my country?
- iv. What external groups threaten informatics' security in my country? Why? What are we doing at present to counteract it?
- v. How influential is religion in the decision-making process, in my country? How could that play against be? How can I take the most advantage out of it?

GLOSSARY

Informatics revolution: Describes current economic, social and technological trends beyond the Industrial Revolution. Commonly related to globalization. (National research institute)

E-governance: the application of information and communication technology (ICT) for delivering government services, exchange of information, communication transactions, integration of various stand-alone systems and services between government-to-customer (G2C), government-to-business (G2B), government-to-government (G2G) as well as back office processes and interactions within the entire government framework. (Saudata, B)

Hacking: Unauthorized intrusion into a computer or a network.

Cyberterrorism: The politically motivated use of computers and information technology to cause severe disruption or widespread fear. (Techtarget organization)

Cyberspace: the online world of computer networks and especially the Internet (Merriam webster dictionary)

Censorship: Supervision and control of the information and ideas that are circulated among the people within a society. (Oakstate University)

Capture Software: Refers to any software used to capture data for various purposes. (Workable Software)

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