



# *Research Report*

*Forum: Security Council*

*Issue : South Sudan Conflict*

*Chairs: Nilesh Lalbahadoersing*

**CalsMUN 2018**

*Cals College Nieuwegein*





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## *Personal Introduction*

Honourable delegates,

It is my pleasure to be your president of the Security Council of CalsMUN 2018. My name is Nilesch Lalbahadoersing, I am 18 years old, Surinamese and Indian, though born and raised in the Netherlands. Former Cals student, currently living in Amsterdam, and taking the science track at Amsterdam University College. My hobbies are playing lots of piano, go to the gym, practice my



boxing, MUNs, and of course spending quality time with my family and friends. My MUN career started in the 3rd grade, up until now. I have participated in more than 10 high school MUNs, and 1 University MUN. Even though this is my second time chairing, I am very excited, and looking forward to the 20th!

With kind regards,

Nilesch Lalbahadoersing

(Committee Name)

CalsMUN 2018





## *Security Council*

*The Security Council is one of the primary organs of the United Nations. The main goal of the united nations is to maintain international peace and security. This often includes creating treaties, including sanctions or, in some cases, peace keeping operations. The security council is the only UN body that has the power to install binding resolutions (= there will be consequences if nations do not oblige).*

*The security council consists of 15 members, including the 5 permanent Veto-powers (the P5). These are France, The United Kingdom, The United States of America, China and The Russian Federation. If one of these nations disagrees with a resolution, it has the power to veto it. This means the resolutions does not pass even if all other member nations are in favour it. (NB this is the main reason some critical issues do not get solved in the SC). The other 10 members are elected biannually.*

*In MUN, the Security council is often a committee with quite experienced delegates (if you're not, don't worry- you'll learn fast!) In line with the real Security Council the P5 nations are allowed to veto amendments or resolutions (Please don't do this all the time as it leads to very unconstructive debate).*

*The security council is an Ad Hoc committee.*

*The process of ad-hoc debate is:*

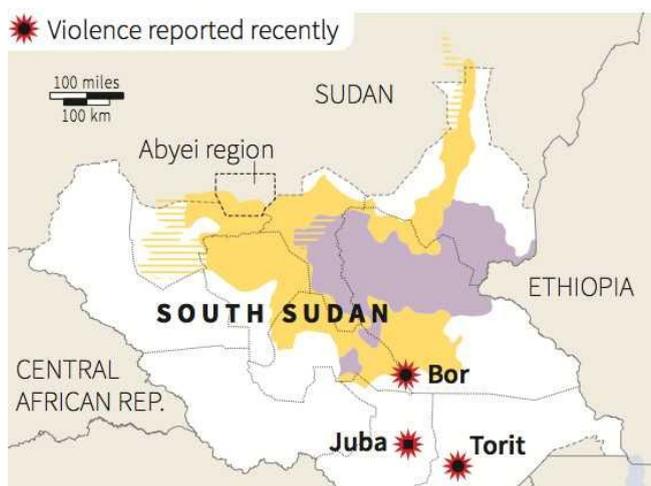
- 1. Member state submits amendment (Clause)*
- 2. Approved by chair*
- 3. Debate on the amendment*
- 4. Vote on the amendment (veto, in favour, against)*
- 5. Amendment gets included in the resolution.*



## *Issue: The question regarding South Sudan;*

In November, experts from the UN visited South Sudan. The world's newest country. They found a conflict marked by mass slaughter and what they described as a warped environment, where the rape of women and girls had become normal. The UN says the world has an obligation to intervene and prevent an ethnic cleansing one potentially as devastating as the Rwandan genocide of 1994.

At the time the world stood by and watched the slaughter of 800,000 people. It said it would never allow that to happen again. But it has. Since the South Sudanese civil war broke out in December of 2013 over 50,000 people have been killed, more than 2.3 million people have been forced to flee their homes, 6 million people are at risk of going hungry and 70 percent of schools have closed due to the fighting. It's a nightmare for a country that gained independence just five years ago. A move that was supposed to bring peace to an area that is only known war.



Before it became independent in 2011 South Sudan was part of Sudan. Since before colonial times a deep divide existed between the predominantly Muslim arabic-speaking north and people from the south which is mostly Christian or follows other traditional religions. The divide began to turn violent in the 1950s shortly after Sudan gained independence from British and Egyptian rule.

Positions of power were given almost entirely to northerners and the Sudanese government of Khartoum increasingly centralized around a small group of elites.

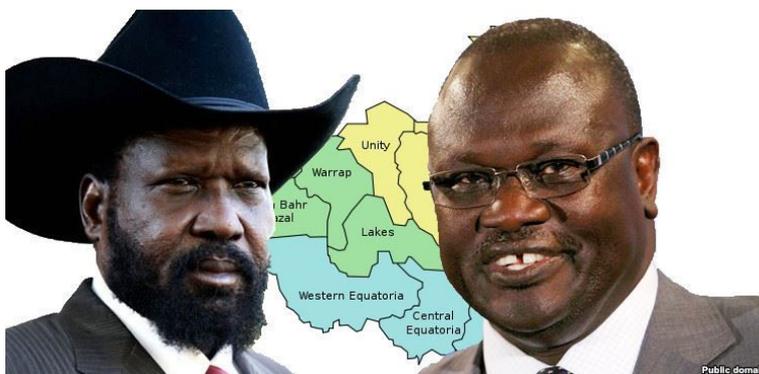
A predatory government emerged serving only to enrich its members by seizing natural resources and ignoring the desperate needs of the Sudanese people. The two parts of the country fought for decades in a civil war that only ended in 2005 with an agreement allowing the south to govern itself. That deal also opened up the possibility for South Sudan to officially vote, to break away from Sudan and to gain its independence. With help from the UN, the US and the international community that vote was held in January of 2011 and passed overwhelmingly with nearly 99% of South Sudanese voting in favor of creating a new state. The US had spent years pushing for the creation of an independent South Sudan and the Obama administration celebrated the vote.

Then everything fell apart. South Sudan contains more than 60 ethnic groups. During the Civil War at the North, those groups put aside their differences to fight for independence. The two largest ethnic groups in South Sudan are the Dinka and the Nur. The new President Salva Kiir was a Dinka and in an expression of unity he asked Riek Machar, a Nur to be his vice president. But the agreement didn't last and the peace was short-lived. Generals and warlords were put in political positions, that they were ill suited to keep. To



make matters worse, the international community had essentially stepped away after independence. Tensions between South Sudan's many factions have been overlooked, while it was trying to achieve independence for the north. When the fighting was over in the state building began those rivalries and tensions re-emerged. Vice President Machar started criticizing President Kira's policies, saying he might run against him the next election.

The conflict escalated and in December 2013, forces loyal to Machar clashed with troops loyal to Kiir. To mobilize support for themselves, Machar and Kiir exploited the ethnic divide throughout south sudan, by mobilizing sectarian militias and having their allies use hate speech to encourage violence against civilians. The political fights morphed into an all-out ethnic conflict, with people loyal to the two leaders taking up arms and slaughtering each other. More than 1,000 people were quickly killed and another hundred thousand displaced in the first week of fighting alone. It's only gotten worse since then, with other tribes joining the fight.



A cycle of violent retaliation, spurred by the politicians, has reignited old tensions. Fierce competition over resources, intervention by neighboring countries and the heavy flow of weapons into the region have only served to escalate the violence attempted truces have failed. While the UN is calling for immediate intervention from the outside world, there's no clear proposal for that intervention.

The US has proposed an arms embargo, to block all weapons sales to South Sudan and try to stop the fighting. The problem is that that resolution is unlikely to pass the UN Security Council, because China and Russia are deferring to South Sudan's neighbors. All of them have their own vested interests in South Sudan and are divided over what to do to stop the violence. until those African nations agree on a solution, China and Russia will block any sanctions or embargoes emerging from the UN.



## *Major organizations/countries involved*

### **Organisations**

#### **UNICEF**

Many people have been forced to flee from their houses. Many schools have been closed, and the major rescue party regarding children in warzones in of course UNICEF.

### **Countries**

#### **United states of America**

The States have spend a lot on South Sudan, hoping it was a good idea to invest in the newest state. Over 1,2 billion dollars were invested, and America does not want this money to be wasted. Therefore they are doing as much as they can to have a peaceful situation in Sudan again.

#### **Russia**

Russia sees the lucrative side to this conflict. The Russian army industry has strong connections with the South Sudan sides, and is selling arms, in order to support one side.

#### **China**

The same applies to China. China is one of the main weapon suppliers in this issue, and does not really want this conflict to end as they are making profit from this situation.

#### **South Sudan**

This is of course the main country, as it is taking place in South Sudan. It is of high need for the population of South Sudan to solve this issue. Some researchers say it is comparable to the genocide of Rwanda.



## *Timeline of related events*

**2011** 9 July - Independence day.

**2011** August - UN says at least 600 people are killed in ethnic clashes in Jonglei state.

**2012** January - South Sudan declares a disaster in Jonglei State after some 100,000 flee clashes between rival ethnic groups.

**2012** April - After weeks of border fighting, South Sudan troops temporarily occupy the oil field and border town of Heglig before being repulsed. Sudanese warplanes raid the Bentiu area in South Sudan.

**2012** August - Some 200,000 refugees flee into South Sudan to escape fighting between Sudanese army and rebels in Sudan's southern border states.

**2012** September - The presidents of Sudan and South Sudan agree trade, oil and security deals after days of talks in Ethiopia.

**2013** March - Sudan and South Sudan agree to resume pumping oil after a bitter dispute over fees that saw production shut down more than a year earlier. They also agreed to withdraw troops from their border area to create a demilitarised zone.

**2013** June - President Kiir dismisses Finance Minister Kosti Manibe and Cabinet Affairs Minister Deng Alor over a multi-million dollar financial scandal, and lifts their immunity from prosecution.

**2013** July - President Kiir dismisses entire cabinet and Vice-President Riek Machar in a power struggle within the governing Sudan People's Liberation Movement.

## **Civil war**

**2013** December - Civil war erupts as President Salva Kiir accuses his former vice-president, Riek Machar, of plotting to overthrow him.



*Rebel factions seize control of several regional towns, thousands are killed and many more flee. Uganda troops intervene on the government's side.*

**2014 January** - *A ceasefire is signed but broken several times over subsequent weeks, and further talks in February fail to end the violence that displaces more than a million people by April.*

**2014 April** - *UN says pro-Machar forces sack the oil town of Bentiu, killing hundreds of civilians.*

**2014 August** - *Peace talks begin in Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa and drag on for months as fighting continues.*

**2016 April** - *Riek Machar finally returns to Juba and is sworn in as first vice-president in a new unity government - but is sacked in July after further conflict and goes back into exile.*

**2016 November** - *UN sacks Kenyan commander of its peacekeeping mission over the failure to protect civilians in Juba during July violence. Kenya withdraws its troops from the peacekeeping mission.*

*Japanese peacekeepers arrive South Sudan, the first time in nearly 70 years that Japan has deployed its soldiers overseas with a broad mandate to use force if necessary.*

**2016 December** - *A UN commission on human rights says a process of ethnic cleansing is underway in several parts of the country, a claim that President Salva Kiir denies.*

**2017 February** - *A famine is declared in parts of South Sudan in what the UN describes as a man-made catastrophe caused by civil war and economic collapse.*

**2017 May** - *President Kiir declares unilateral ceasefire, launches national dialogue.*



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