



*Future Generations*  
*CalsMUN 2022*

**Research Report**

**Forum:** Historical Security Council

**Issue:** The Rwandan Genocide  
(7th April - 15th July 1994)

**Chairs:** Sal van der Schaar & Kevin van  
Bergen



## Personal Introduction

### Chair

#### Sal van der Schaar

Good morning/afternoon/evening, my name is Sal van der Schaar and, together with Kevin, I'll be your chair for the HSC at the upcoming CALSMUN conference. About me, I am an 18 year old and a first-year university student at Leiden University, studying Political Science and International Relations & Organisations specifically. My experience has consisted of me participating in over a dozen MUNs over the past years, among which I have chaired quite a few as well.



In my personal time, I like to watch movies and series (basically the entire Netflix catalogue) and I also play hockey and tennis. I hope we will have a good time at the conference together!



### Co-Chair

#### Kevin van Bergen

Hello delegates, my name is Kevin van Bergen, I'll be the co-chair for this year's Historical Security Committee. I am, just like Sal, a university student, but I attend Tilburg University where I study International Business Administration. I am 19 and a second year student, but I am here since I still love helping out my old friends and local MUN, because of my history as a Cals College graduate. My MUN experience has been attending 5 MUN's as a delegate and having helped out as a chair in last year's MUNday at Cals.

What can you expect of me during the conference? I am personally not the type to be all that strict on the formal procedures. My goal will be to help as many of you formulate additions to our resolutions, and to help with a vast knowledge of our two incredibly interesting committee issues. Let's create a committee where everybody feels free to speak and where everybody can add their ideas.

Then some fun information about me, because I think that MUN's are an incredible place to get to meet new people and talk about so much more than just the issues.

I am a giant movie and TV enjoyer, with a huge heart for Avatar(Atla), Marvel and Anime. My hobbies can be seen by me joining the Tilburg volleyball and internationals student association. Fully adjusting to university life with almost daily workouts and evenings of going out. For uni life, I still chose to immediately move to Tilburg, despite the chance of nothing physical happening for the whole year, but I haven't regretted it for a moment since. It led to such an incredible growth that I am now already the chairman of the volleyball association Gepidae in my second year. All in all, I would say that me and Sal are a great opportunity to all of you for any questions about university and we're open to any.



## Introduction

For the purposes of this conference, which is to find a solution to the current state in Rwanda, will this committee debate take place on the 20th of April 1994. It has been almost a month after the peace talks have failed and the nationwide fighting has started. We will try to prevent any at all possible anachronisms, staying true to the information available at the agreed upon date and attempting to resolve the issue from that point onwards.

The Rwandan Civil War, as it will be called from now on as the presence of a strictly legally speaking genocide has not been established, was sprouted from a deeply split history of the people in Rwanda. The conflict is being fought by two already historically divided races, the Tutsi and Hutu. The racial division, not scientifically present, stems from the feudal era when the Tutsi (nobles) ruled over the Hutu (peasants). However, the racial division was later assigned and strengthened during the periods of colonial rule of Germany and Belgium. When this race rhetoric was used to rule the population through Tutsi puppets.

The current factions were first formed during Rwanda's UN backed period of preparations for independence. Where during this time Belgium, with oversight from the UN, would prepare the country to be governed by its own democratically chosen government. After the Pan-Africanism sentiment (independence from all colonial rule) also spread to Rwanda, the preparation for democracy created two major parties, defined by the two races. Both parties striving for the emancipation of their race, where quickly after the formation, these parties both got militarised. Resulting in the first racial clash in 1959 with between 20.000-100.000 Tutsi casualties, called the wind of destruction. After which many of the Tutsi UNAR party and other Tutsi fled to neighbouring country Uganda, before Belgium forces arrived to still the violence. In 1962, the first democratic election was held. With the result, a one-party state with MDR-Parmehutu as the sole legal party. Afterwards, the president Kayibanda was in power for 3 turns till being overthrown in a coup and coup leader Habyarimana becoming president of Rwanda till the start of the Rwandan Civil War.



## Definition of Key Terms

### Chapter VI and VII of the UN charter

The UN charter is the constitution, the grounds on which the UN is formed. In this, chapter VI deals with peaceful settlement of disputes. It requires nation-states to first seek a solution through peaceful methods. If this fails or needs assistance, then the nation needs to refer it to the UN security council, which authorises it to issue recommendations but does not give it power to make binding resolutions.

Chapter VII gives the UN security council powers to maintain peace. It allows the Council to "determine the existence of any threat to the peace, breach of the peace, or act of aggression" and to take military and nonmilitary action to "restore international peace and security".

### Genocide

According to Article 2 of the 1948 United Nations Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide defines genocide as "any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such: killing members of the group; causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group; deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life, calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part; [...]" (

The term was almost fully avoided by the Security council and Western press during the Rwandan civil war. As the 1948 Genocide Convention obligated the international community to act to prevent and stop such an occurrence anywhere in the world once determined.

Therefore the establishment of a genocide in Rwanda would have moved the situation from a chapter VI to a chapter VII situation on the UN charter.

### Battle of Mogadishu

Later referred to as "the shadow of Somalia" was the battle that established the failure of the peacekeeping mission of the US in Somalia in 1993. In 1991 after the death of the president of Somalia, the country landed in a civil war where the UN relatively quickly employed



peacekeeping forces to bring peace. With a large American force under the justification of the War on Terror, the US's goal was to take out the main warlord Farah Aidid. But the raid on Farah Aidid's hideout went horribly wrong, with 19 deaths and more hurt. This was the biggest US humiliation since Vietnam, with the US blaming the UN. Scaring the organisation from quickly sending in peacekeepers again in the future.

### **Arusha Accords**

The official peace agreements between the government of Rwanda and the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF), signed on the 4th of August 1993. This was the accord to establish peace in Rwanda after the 3rd attack from the RPF following their successful invasion of the entire north, all the way to the capital. The agreement included the establishment of a wider democratic system, the repatriation of the refugees, and the merging of the government and rebel armies.



## General Overview

The Rwandan civil war started with its first phase in October 1990. When thousands of the Tutsi who had fled and were exiled after the wind of destruction had formed the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF). The goal of the RPF, to pressure the Rwandan government into accepting the refugees back into Rwanda as civilians. This force, formed in Uganda, entered Rwanda from the north advancing 60 kilometres, until the France backed Rwandan army repelled the invasion.

Then, in phase two, after a period of reorganisation and the appointment of a new leader, the RPF attacked again, but switched its attack to guerrilla warfare with a focus on hit-and-run tactics creating almost constant fighting in the north during 1991 and 1992. However, this pressure had resulted in the opposite effect in the country as intended. The invasion was seen as an attempt to reinstate Tutsi rule in the country, creating radical anti-Tutsi organisations in the country. The biggest being the Akazu clique, who stoked up the Tutsi hatred more with propaganda radio stations and encouraged the formation of self-defence militias. The war had created a change in the political system, now also needing a opposition party, but this role got filled in by a radical pro-Hutu opposition leader who was backed by the Akazu.

To remedy the unrest, the president started negotiations with the RPF, which resulted in a brief cease fire in the north. However, these peace talks between the president, the leader of the RPF and the Akazu already failed after a few months in 1993, when a Akazu evoked killing spree pulled the RPF off the negotiating table back to fighting in the north. These next six month switching the whole power dynamic in the country, with Rwanda in unrest and the economy failing, the RPF was able to capture the entirety of the north all the way to the capital. Necessary to note, that this invasion did not go as clean as their altruistic goal of the start would suggest, with much civilian involvement and over a million Hutu displaced.

However, the RPF stopped before the capital, under pressure of the international community, and moved its forces back with this as a message of their power for the resumption of the peace negotiations. These negotiations led to the president giving many concessions to the Tutsi, resulting in the Arusha accords. To uphold this accord, the UN used chapter VI to employ UNAMIR, filled with a Canadian commander and many Belgium soldiers.



The final chapter starts quickly after the accords were formed with the distribution of weapons exploding under the oversight of the Azaku. The Hutu after years of hearing anti-Tutsi redaric clearly did not approve of the accords and they prepared for “a final solution”. UNAMIR over hearing these preparations informed the UN security council, but only received back the orders of “you are to only keep peace”. This dooming the UN fighters on the 6th of April 1994, when president Habyarimana’s plane got shot down, the culprits unknown. With the military, many Akazu, taking over the country as a crisis committee. The actual successor, the moderate prime minister Uwilingiyimana, forced out and now under the protection of UNAMIR. This was the first day of a tragedy that was ignited by these words on the radio “cut down the tall trees”. Empowering all militias in the country to pick up their weapons and kill any Tutsi or moderate. The army, not stopping and sometimes even assisting in this onslaught. UNAMIR, not allowed to interfere, because of chapter VI of the UN nations charter, could only set up safe zones and send a convoy to the prime minister. Which were both ineffective, since UN security council resolution 872 (which created UNIMAR) only allowed them to “monitor”, “assist” and “investigate” under the Chapter VI mandate. This resulted in tens of thousands of Tutsi still dying in the safe zones, and prime minister Uwilingiyimana and her convoy being overrun and all 10 soldiers and the prime minister killed. The Canadian commander Dallaire has pleaded to his UN superiors in New York for reinforcements and authorise military support with chapter VII, as the current lightly armed force of approximately 2.500 troops does not have the ability to protect the civilians of Rwanda. On the opposite side, Belgium (who’s 10 soldiers were killed) has called for the redraw of UNAMIR from Rwanda. As Belgium does not want to follow the US in losing face in a failed peacekeeping mission, as the US did in Somalia with the battle of Mogadishu.



## Major Parties Involved

### Organisations

#### **United Nations Security Council (UNSC)**

The Security Council is the only body in the world that can, legally under international law, enforce peace in a certain country in specific circumstances, which are the events of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity.

#### **United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR)**

UNAMIR is a peacekeeping mission of the UNSC to assist in resolving the Rwandan Civil War, the context in which this genocide is taking place, and establish a power-sharing government between the Tutsi and the Hutu.

#### **United Nations Secretary-General**

The Secretary-General does not hold special powers, but plays a key role in advising the actions of the UNSC

### Countries

#### **Belgium**

Belgium is the largest contributor to UNAMIR due to its historical position as coloniser. A few weeks ago, on April 7th, 10 Belgian peacekeepers were killed by Rwanda.

#### **Rwanda**

Obviously, as the country in which this all is taking place, Rwanda plays a key role in the discussion of this issue. They have the power to give UN peacekeepers as much authority as they want.





## Timeline of Key Events

<b>Date</b>	<b>Description of Event</b>
<i>1899-1916</i>	German colony
<i>1916-1946</i>	Belgian colony
<i>1946-1961</i>	UN trust territory with Belgium oversight
<i>Nov. 1959</i>	Wind of destruction
<i>1 July 1962</i>	Independence Rwanda (1st president Kayibanda)
<i>5 July 1973</i>	Military coup (2nd president Habyarimana)
<i>Dec. 1990</i>	Invasion RPF
<i>1992</i>	Political reforms (creation Akazu and Interahamwe)
<i>Feb. 1993</i>	A killing spree breaks out, RPF counter offensive
<i>Aug. 1993</i>	Signing Arusha accords
<i>3 Okt. 1993</i>	Battle of Mogadishu
<i>6 Apr. 1994</i>	Airplane crash of President Habyarimana (start of the 100 day genocide)
<i>7 Apr. 1994</i>	Murder of prime minister Uwilingiyimana (and 10 Belgium soldiers)



## Previous Attempts to Resolve the Issue

The United Nations has, thus far, not acted meaningfully to stop the genocide. Most of the discourse within the UN is regarding the use of the term “genocide” relating to this conflict, as the United Nations cannot send a peace-enforcing mission to Rwanda unless it does so.

With regards to the Rwandan Civil War, the United Nations has sent in peacekeepers in the form of UNAMIR to bring the civil war to a conclusion and establish a power-sharing government.

The UN Secretary-General has sent a letter to the Security Council urging them to consider intervention, whereafter the Council has met, which is the meeting we will hold at the conference.

## Possible Solutions

The security council can choose to go in one of three ways with UNAMIR. It can choose to redraw most of its UNAMIR forces, as proposed by Belgium. It can choose to keep the number of soldiers in UNAMIR the same, but change the legal status of UNAMIR. Or the last option is to send in reinforcements to UNAMIR to expand the operation with the goal of total military control.

Another point of debate could be the legal status of the situation in Rwanda. Starting the use and labelling the situation as a genocide would enact the 1948 Genocide Convention.

Obligating the security council to handle the situation as a Chapter VII case.

For many countries a system for the coverage of the conflict could also result in a change in political support. A lack of tv and news coverage so far has resulted in barely any of the civilians at home knowing of the conflict, therefore more coverage could change the political pressure some countries are not feeling right now.



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