



United Nations Security Council

BACKGROUND GUIDE 1

Persian Gulf Crisis

Director's Letter

Welcome to the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) at Oakridge Model United Nations II! My name is Emily Heyler and I am ecstatic to be serving as your Director for this committee. Staffing alongside myself will be your Chair, Taric Somani, and your Assistant Director, Jimmy Wang. The three of us look forward to watching the committee engage in exciting debate on two extremely important topics and collaborate to find long lasting solutions.

Model UN has held a strong presence in developing my devotion and knowledge for global affairs, and diplomacy around the world. Model UN has not only caused my world views to be challenged, but it has also helped me develop new insight to different countries' views on important issues. Moreover, the people I have met and the excellent memories I have gained through attending conferences can only be described as a life-changing experience. I am always in awe of the creative and effective solutions delegates are able to come up with during a conference, and I guarantee that this committee will continue to impress me as well.

As delegates, you will not only broaden your understanding of world politics but engage with other delegates in a meaningful manner. The two topics for this committee have meaningful influence over the future of our globe and your engagement in the topic will lead to your success in the committee. The issues of the Persian Gulf Crisis and the Anglophone Crisis (Cameroon Civil War), will require you to put much thought into the country you are representing. I encourage all of you to research your country's position on these topics extensively and come prepared to represent the opinion of your nation.

Once again, I welcome you to the United Nations Security Council and look forward to a weekend of diplomacy, leadership, productive debate, and the creation of long lasting solutions for the global community. If you have any questions regarding the backgrounder, topics, committee, or Model UN in general, please do not hesitate to contact the dais at unsc@oakridgemun.com. Furthermore, if you would like to be considered for an award, please send your position paper to the respective email, by March 12th. We look forward to meeting all of you in March!

Best Regards,
Emily Heyler,

Director | United Nations Security Council

Committee Introduction

The United Nations Security Council is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations, founded in 1945 due to World War II. The committee is primarily responsible for the maintenance of international peace and security. It was one of the initial UN organs established by the United Nations Charter of 1945, and first met in 1946. The Council was primarily founded as a result of the failure of the League of Nations, whether that be it failed to maintain global peace as a result of the lack of recognition or the ability to impose binding resolutions on its members. As a result of this, Article V, of the charter highlights what the mission of the UNSC, which is for, “the maintenance of international peace and security, and agrees that in carrying out its duties under this responsibility the Security Council acts on their behalf.” (Article V. 24).



The Council was founded by the allied powers, which consists of the United States of America, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the People’s Republic of China, and France. Currently, these five nations are permanent members of the UNSC, and have veto power; which means that any resolution can be vetoed by any permanent member. The other ten members on the council exist on rotation, where each member gets a seat in the organ for two years.

Topic Overview

The Persian Gulf Crisis (2019 - present) is the recent buildup of military tensions primarily between Iran and America. The US began a buildup of its military presence in the Persian Gulf region after allegations that recent activity by Iranian and Iranian-backed forces, including the resurgence of Iran's nuclear programme, is destabilising the region and threatening US interests. Iran denies the destabilization and alleges the US of trying to use military force and economic pressure to bring down their government. The Persian Gulf Crisis began to escalate in May 2019 when 4 oil tankers were hit by blasts in the Gulf of Oman, with Iran denying US accusations that it had taken part.

Since then, 2 more tankers have been attacked, in addition to the assassination of Iranian general Qasem Soleimani and nuclear scientist Mohsen Fakhrizadeh-Mahabadi by the Trump administration. Tensions have threatened the use of the Strait of Hormuz, which accounts for the passing of almost a fifth of the world's oil. If international shipping is hampered or even blocked, there would be no doubt negative economic effects that would be felt around the globe, and if the crisis erupts into a war, the consequences would be devastating¹.

¹ www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-49069083

Historical Analysis

The Persian Gulf region is no stranger to conflict. The current crisis in the region dates back to the colonial era, which laid the foundations for much of the current religious and military tensions that exist in the region.

In 1921, then military commander Reza Khan seized power of Iran and was crowned Reza Shah Pahlavi. However, the Shah's pro-Axis allegiance in World War II led to the Anglo-Russian invasion occupation of Iran in 1941, where he was forced to abdicate in favour of his son, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. After the invasion, Iran served as a major conduit for British and American aid to the Soviet Union.² At the 1943 Tehran Conference, the Allied "Big Three" issued the Tehran Declaration to guarantee the post-war independence of Iran. However, Soviet troops remained in Iran after the war and led to the Iran Crisis of 1946³. Instability ensued in 1951 when a power struggle between the Shah and nationalist Prime Minister Mohammad Mossadeq. Mohammad was eventually deposed in the 1954 Iranian coup d'état, which marked the first time the United States took part in overthrowing a government during the cold war.

After the coup, the Shah became increasingly autocratic and sultanistic, and Iran entered a decade-long phase of controversial relationships with the United States and many others.

While the Shah modernized Iran, arbitrary arrests and torture were used by the secret police (SAVAK) to crush all forms of opposition, leading to the Islamic Revolution of 1979 and the first major demonstration against the Shah and the exile of the Shah family⁴. On November 4, 1979, a group of Muslim students seized the United States Embassy in Iran and held 52 personnels hostage after the United States refused to extradition of Shah, further increasing tensions between the nations⁵. Since then, the United States has imposed many rounds of sanctions on Iran, and with the recent US withdrawal from the Iran nuclear deal and killings of Iranian state officials, tensions have been at an all time high⁶.

² history.army.mil/books/wwii/persian/chapter01.htm#b1

³ web.archive.org/web/20160215211023/http://azargoshnasp.com/recent_history/atoor/theiraniancrisis194546.pdf

⁴ www.nybooks.com/articles/1976/10/28/terror-in-iran/

⁵ www.fsmitha.com/h2/ch29ir.html

⁶ www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-14542438

Timeline

5 May, 2019 - Then US National Security Advisor John Bolton announced that the U.S. was deploying the USS Abraham Lincoln carrier strike group and four B-52 bombers to the Middle East to “send a clear message” to Iran⁷.

12 May, 2019 - Four commercial ships including two Saudi Aramco oil tankers were damaged near the port of Fujairah in the Gulf of Oman⁸. The United Arab Emirates claimed the incident was a "sabotage attack" and the U.S. accused Iran or one of its ‘proxies’ for the attack without evidence⁹.

July-August 2019 - On 3 July, Gibraltar enacted the "Sanctions Regulations 2019," sanctioning oil sales to Syria¹⁰. The Iranian government reasserted its intentions to continue supplying oil to the nation.

14 September, 2019 - A coordinated cruise and drone attack named the Abqaiq-Khurais attack took place, targeting the Saudi Aramco oil processing facilities at Abqaiq and Khurais in Saudi Arabia. The Houthi movement in Yemen claimed responsibility, but US officials suspect the attack to originate from Iran¹¹.

7 November, 2019 - The International Maritime Security Construct (IMSC) launches operations in Bahrain to protect shipping and oil lanes near the Iranian territorial waters¹².

3 January, 2020 - Then US president Donald Trump approved the killing of Iranian General Qaessem Soleimani. Iran vowed to seek revenge against the US.

8 January, 2020 - Ukraine International Airlines Flight 752 crashed shortly after taking off from Tehran International Airport, killing 176 passengers and crew. Iranian officials initially denied participation, but on 11 January admitted to accidentally shooting down the plane.

⁷ www.axios.com/us-navy-deploys-strike-group-to-iran-bolton-1e5b9298-f807-4db2-a4e7-ddd9f308db36.html

⁸ www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-48245204

⁹ www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/27992

¹⁰ www.europeansanctions.com/2019/07/gibraltar-sanctions-laws-grace-1-designation/

¹¹ www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-49733558

¹² www.arabnews.com/node/1580576/middle-east

27 November, 2020 - Iran's top nuclear scientist, Mohsen Fakhrizadeh-Mahabadi, was assassinated in Theran in a roadside ambush. In the aftermath, Iran expressed fury and accused Israel and US of the killing¹³.

Current Situation

With the current situation in the Persian Gulf region deteriorating, there has been uncertainty moving forward. The seizure of several international oil tankers off the Persian gulf has raised maritime security concerns of global oil supply routes in the region and motivated the formation of the International Maritime Security Construct (IMSC), whose goal is to ensure the freedom of navigation of merchant vessels in the area¹⁴. Currently, there are eight members supporting the IMSC, most notably the United States and United Kingdom.

Iran and the United States have emerged as two of the contributing factors to the current Persian Gulf Crisis. There was a rise in political tensions between the two nations after the Trump administration decided on the withdrawal of the United States from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) and the imposition of new sanctions against Iran. Iran's response was however muted, accusing the Trump administration for not honouring international treaties. Former U.S. president Barack Obama rebuked the decision, saying Mr. Trump's withdrawal would leave the world less safe, confronting it with "a losing choice between a nuclear-armed Iran or another war in the Middle East"¹⁵.

The crisis escalated in early 2020 when Iranian Quds Force Leader Qasem Soleimani was killed in a U.S. drone strike, resulting in vows of exact revenge from Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamanei. Soleimani's funeral was one of the largest public funerals in Iran¹⁶ and shortly afterwards Iran announced its withdrawal from the 2015 nuclear deal, meaning it would not continue to abide by the limitations set forward¹⁷. In response to Iran's violations of the nuclear deal, the United Kingdom, France and Germany threatened to reenact sanctions on Iran, a move supported by the United States¹⁹.

¹³ www.nytimes.com/2020/11/27/world/middleeast/iran-nuclear-scientist-killed.html

¹⁴ www.arabnews.com/node/1580576/middle-east

¹⁵ www.nytimes.com/2018/05/08/world/middleeast/trump-iran-nuclear-deal.html

¹⁶ www.euronews.com/2020/01/05/crowds-greet-soleimani-s-body-as-trump-threatens-to-attack-52-iranian-sites

¹⁷ apnews.com/article/76ef3722e781efed91a832a44d25917d

UN Involvements

The United Nations has taken action to address the situation in the Persian Gulf, working with both regional organizations and the private sector, to solve both the humanitarian and the security issue in the Gulf Region. Despite the efforts of the UN, it has been criticized about the lack of involvement to get involved in the United States-Iran conflict, often not putting enough pressure on the US to lift sanctions and return to its commitments of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, during the Trump Administration.¹⁸

The type of criticism that the UN is getting from Non-Governmental Organizations, could be due to the fact that often these humanitarian crises need to be solved by the UNSC and due to the veto power of the United States. However, there is a possibility that the UN can begin to make peace once again in the region, with the new Administration of President Biden. President Biden, pledged that he will have the United States rejoin the JCOPA and the United Nations, once managed to negotiate a deal regarding American-Iranian Relations.

The resolution 2231¹⁹, was a way to solve the disputes between the major countries involved in the conflict and guarantee that, after the suspension of UN sanctions on Iran, China and Russia could veto the resolution, if the U.S. or its allies sought their reimposition. Although resolution 2231 lifted these sanctions on Iran from the UNSC; the question after the USA left the Iran Nuclear Deal, was is the country still a “JCPOA participant State” for purposes of this Resolution.

¹⁸ responsiblestatecraft.org/2020/02/12/the-united-nations-needs-to-get-involved-in-the-u-s-iran-standoff/

¹⁹ www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/2231/background

Sustainable Development Goals²⁰

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has the overarching goal to "leave" no global citizen behind. However, according to a new report from the International Rescue Committee (IRC) and the Overseas Development Institute (ODI), "millions of "people caught in crisis" – people living in conflict, and who are displaced within their own countries or across borders – are being left behind." With the ongoing pandemic and crises affecting nations such as the Persian Gulf Crisis, it will make the UN have a hard time meeting its goals, such as Sustainable Development Goal Three and Eight.

One Sustainable Development Goal, in particular, that is affected is Sustainable Development Goal three. In SDG Three, the UN pledge member states to "ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages." The conflict between the United States and Iran, in the Persian Gulf crisis, is harming Iranians' Right to Health-related industries.²¹ Although the American government has created exemptions for humanitarian imports into its Sanctions against the country, the United States' sanctions against the banks in Iran have made it hard for the Iranian government to pay for humanitarian imports such as medicine. The consequences of sanctions from the United States, contributed to a shortage of essential medications, which range from a lack of critical drugs for epilepsy patients or a need for radioactive medicine for cancer patients. US officials have indicated that the pain of sanctions is causing ordinary Iranians is intentional on several occasions. These sanctions are part of a strategy to compel Iranian citizens to demand their autocratic government to transition to a democracy, which often comes with collective punishment that infringes on citizens' daily lives, such as access to medicine. The United States government's failure to lift sanctions on the Iranian people is causing the country to have a difficult time at achieving SDG 3, and the committee will have to decide whether or not they want to help this country achieve goal 3.²²

Secondly, the Persian Gulf Crisis and the effects of the Covid-19 Crisis affect people's daily lives in the Persian Gulf States, especially in Iran. The economy is hurting both the citizens and the government of the country. Even though Iran's economy is in shambles, the world still has to solve Sustainable Development Goal 8²³, which aims to

²⁰ sdgs.un.org/goals

²¹ www.hrw.org/news/2019/10/29/iran-sanctions-threatening-health

²² sdgs.un.org/goals/goal3

²³ sdgs.un.org/goals/goal8

"promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all." The sanctions that the United States placed on Iranian oil have had devastating effects on Iran's oil industry. According to the International Monetary Fund's World Economic Outlook of April 2019, "Iran's economy grew at the rate of -3.9% in 2018 and is projected to grow at the rate of -6.0% in 2019."²⁴ Furthermore, to the IMF, "consumer prices in Iran rose by 31.2% in 2018 and are projected to rise by 37.2% in 2019." As we can see, the sanctions from the United States of America is ultimately affecting Iran and its primary industry of oil²⁵, which caused the life of ordinary Iranian citizens to be involved. The unemployment rate skyrocketed by 3%, affecting Iranians' daily livelihood who are unable to purchase medicine or healthy food. The trajectory that Iran is going on will ultimately not get them to SDG 8, which guarantees that countries will have stable economic growth and all citizens will have a chance to maintain employment.

²⁴ www.counterpunch.org/2019/08/01/the-us-sanctions-are-affecting-all-aspects-of-human-life-in-iran/

²⁵ www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-48119109

Bloc Positions

The European Union

The European Union, specifically the three major countries in the European Union (France, Germany, and Italy) have tried to create a balance between the Iranian led bloc and the United States led bloc. They have made attempts to protect the Iran Nuclear Deal, to prevent criticism and avoid the massive damage to the credibility of the United Nations Security Council. During this committee, this bloc will have to convince non-neutral states on issue to make compromise with other blocs beside their own in order to try to end the Gulf Crisis.

Iranian Led Bloc

The Iranian Led Bloc, specifically Iran, China, and Russia, have tried to stand up against the recent buildup of U.S. military presence in the Persian gulf region. They have made attempts to support Iran's stance in the conflict, with Russia defending Iran in a conference in Jerusalem²⁶ and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi reaffirming China's support towards Iran amidst U.S. tensions, quoting "China resolutely opposes the U.S. implementation of unilateral sanctions and so-called 'long arm jurisdictions'..."²⁷. During the conference, the Iranian Led Bloc will have to convince other states to support Iran in order to hopefully end the Persian Gulf Crisis.

American Led Bloc

The American Bloc, specifically the United States and Israel, have accused the Iranian led bloc of destabilizing the Persian gulf and jeopardizing international shipping. They have made attempts to deter what they regard as a planned campaign of belligerency from Iran by building their military presence in the region. Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu defended the killing of Soleimani, stating "Qassem Soleimani is responsible for the death of American citizens and many other innocent people"²⁸. During the conference, the American Led Bloc will have to convince other states into pressuring Iran, either through sanctions or embargoes, for an appropriate resolution to the Persian Gulf conflict.

²⁶ www.newsweek.com/russia-iran-us-israel-drone-ally-1445802

²⁷ www.reuters.com/article/us-china-iran-idUSKCN1SN1Q2

²⁸ www.reuters.com/article/us-iraq-security-blast-israel-idUSKBNI1Z20HB

International Maritime Security Construct (IMSC)

The IMSC, led by the United States, has stated goals of de-escalating tensions and promoting maritime stability in the Persian Gulf region. They have made attempts to ensure the safety of international shipping vessels that operate through the gulf. During the conference, the states in the IMSC will have to resolve tensions in Persian Gulf region while making sure no disruptions will hamper trade or freedom of navigation.

Potential Solutions

Amending Resolution 2231

The UNSC's Resolution 2231 has long received criticism and doubt on its effectiveness to limit Iran's nuclear activities. The lifting of economic and military sanctions on Iran has opened up tens of billions of dollars for the regime, which critics say will be detrimental to the security of the regime²⁹. Additionally, the United States, the United Kingdom, France and Germany have all accused Iran of "defying" the resolution after a series of proactive missile launches, which analysts say are "nuclear capable"³⁰. By amending Resolution 2231, new courses of actions, including sanctions, tariffs and embargoes, can be set on Iran, which may force the regime to compromise towards a new resolution.

Search for a Peaceful Settlement

The search for a peaceful settlement in this crisis has long been the goal of many blocs, specifically the EU, in order to prevent a full-blown war. There have been many attempts to negotiate with Iran already, most recently from the United States under president Joe Biden, whose priority is for both states to get back in compliance with the nuclear deal in exchange for some sanction relief³¹. A peaceful settlement in the Persian Gulf Crisis would be the best-case scenario as it would allow the resolution of the crisis without the use of force. However, compromises would have to be made in the process, and all states should be fully aware of their stance in this crisis before making a final decision.

²⁹ www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/07/05/lawmakers-alarmed-iran-nuclear-windfall/29652429/

³⁰

www.dw.com/en/iran-missile-tests-defied-un-resolution-say-us-and-european-allies/a-19149402?maca=en-rss-en-all-1573-rdf

³¹ <https://globalnews.ca/news/7583615/biden-us-iran-nuclear-deal/>

Commencement of Use of Force

The use of force would be the less preferred and viable solution in this crisis, as it would most likely lead to the eruption of war and the disruption of international trade in the region, which will no doubt have detrimental consequences on the global economy. The use of force would serve as a last-ditch effort in ceasing Iran's nuclear programme, but will no doubt destabilize the entirety of the Persian Gulf region. They must not only be mindful of the benefits of use of force, but also the consequences it would have before considering anything of this matter.

Guiding questions

1. How can the United Nations Security Council, work with other United Nation Organizations to give aid to Iran in times of Crisis?
2. How is the Persian Gulf Crisis affecting the surrounding Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries exports? What can the United Nations do to restimulate the economy in this particular region?
3. What can be done to help Iran and other Persian Gulf States achieve the Sustainable Development Goals? What has the United Nations done to help conflict zones reach their sustainable development goals? How has your country gotten involved?
4. How can the United Nations Security Council and Iran begin a path towards nuclear nonproliferation? Is this through sanctions or renegotiating the Iran Nuclear Deal amongst its member States and Iran?
5. What can be done to de-escalate the situation in the Persian Gulf? Is it working with regional organizations and should the UNSC ask the Arab League to reconsider Iranian membership?
6. What type of action can your particular delegation take to stop the action in Persian Gulf? What are the actions long term or even short term? How will your country be affected if there are steps to end it or no steps to end it?
7. How is the Covid-19 Pandemic affecting the Persian Gulf Crisis? How are sanctions affecting the Persian Gulf States?
8. Is the United States still a “JCPOA participant State” for the purposes of Resolution 2231?

Extra resources

<https://www.vox.com/world/2020/1/13/21051794/us-iran-soleimani-ukraine-airline-questions>

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals>

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc13862.doc.htm>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-49069083>

Works Cited

- Baraheni, Reza. "Terror in Iran." *The New York Review*,
www.nybooks.com/articles/1976/10/28/terror-in-iran/. Accessed 9 February 2021.
- Bayat, Jalil. "The United Nations needs to get involved in the US-Iran standoff." *Responsible Statecraft*,
responsiblestatecraft.org/2020/02/12/the-united-nations-needs-to-get-involved-in-the-u-s-iran-standoff/. Accessed 9 February 2021.
- "China backs Iran during U.S. tensions." *Reuters*,
<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-iran-idUSKCN1SN1Q2>. Accessed 9 February 2021.
- Cook, Lorne and David Rising. "EU pressures Iran on atom deal in last-ditch bid to save it." *AP*, apnews.com/article/76ef3722e781efed91a832a44d25917d. Accessed 9 February 2021.
- Dorell, Oren. "Lawmakers alarmed over Iranian nuclear windfall." *USA Today*,
www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/07/05/lawmakers-alarmed-iran-nuclear-windfall/29652429/. Accessed 9 February 2021.
- Falconer, Rebecca. "Bolton: U.S. sending Navy strike group to Iran to send 'clear message.'" *AXIOS*,
www.axios.com/us-navy-deploys-strike-group-to-iran-bolton-1e5b9298-f807-4db2-a4e7-ddd9f308db36.html. Accessed 9 February 2021.
- Farrell Stephen. "Israel defends U.S. killing of Iranian commander, puts military on alert." *Reuters*,
www.reuters.com/article/us-iraq-security-blast-israel-idUSKBN1Z20HB. Accessed 9 February 2021.
- Fayazmanesh, Sasan and Kouros Ziabari. "The US Sanctions are Affecting All Aspects of Human Life in Iran." *Counterpunch*,
www.counterpunch.org/2019/08/01/the-us-sanctions-are-affecting-all-aspects-of-human-life-in-iran/. Accessed 9 February 2021.

“Four ships 'sabotaged' in the Gulf of Oman amid tensions.” *BBC*,
www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-48245204. Accessed 9 February 2021.

“Goal 3.” *United Nations*, sdgs.un.org/goals/goal3. Accessed 9 February 2021.

“Goal 8.” *United Nations*, <https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal8>. Accessed 9 February 2021.

Hess, Gary R. “The Iranian Crisis of 1945-1946 and the Cold War.” *Political Science Quarterly*. March 1974. *Internet Archive*.
web.archive.org/web/20160215211023/http://azargoshnasp.com/recent_history/atoor/theiraniancrisis194546.pdf. Accessed 9 February 2021.

“Iran and the crisis in the Gulf explained.” *BBC*, 19 August 2019,
www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-49069083. Accessed 10 January 2021.

“Iran missile tests defied UN resolution, say US and European allies.” *DW*,
www.dw.com/en/iran-missile-tests-defied-un-resolution-say-us-and-european-allies/a-19149402?maca=en-rss-en-all-1573-rdf. Accessed 9 February 2021.

“Iran Profile - Timeline.” *BBC*, www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-14542438.
Accessed 9 February 2021.

“Iran: Sanction Threatening Health.” *Human Rights Watch*,
www.hrw.org/news/2019/10/29/iran-sanctions-threatening-health. Accessed 9
February 2021.

Jamieson, Alastair. “Iran abandons nuclear deal over Soleimani killing.” *Euronews*,
www.euronews.com/2020/01/05/crowds-greet-soleimani-s-body-as-trump-threatens-to-attack-52-iranian-sites. Accessed 9 February 2021.

Knickmeyer, Ellen. “Biden works a weakened U.S. hand to negotiate way back into Iran nuclear deal.” *Global News*,
globalnews.ca/news/7583615/biden-us-iran-nuclear-deal. Accessed 9 February
2021.

OakridgeMUN II - UNSC Topic 1 Backgrounder

Landler, Mark. “Trump Abandons Iran Nuclear Deal He Long Scorned.” *The New York Times*,
www.nytimes.com/2018/05/08/world/middleeast/trump-iran-nuclear-deal.html.
Accessed 9 February 2021.

“Maritime coalition launched to protect Gulf shipping after Iran attacks.” *Arab News*,
www.arabnews.com/node/1580576/middle-east. Accessed 9 February 2021.

Moshtaghian, Artemis, et al. “Ukrainian Boeing plane crashes in Iran after takeoff, killing 176 on board.” *CNN*,
www.cnn.com/2020/01/07/middleeast/plane-crash-iran-intl-hnk/index.html.
Accessed 9 February 2021.

O’Connor, Tom. “Russia Warns U.S. and Israel That Iran Is Its 'Ally' and Was Right About Drone Shoot Down.” *Newsweek*,
www.newsweek.com/russia-iran-us-israel-drone-ally-1445802. Accessed 9 February 2021.

Politi, Daniel. “Pentagon Officials Reportedly “Stunned” by Trump’s Decision to Kill Soleimani.” *Slate Magazine*, 6 January 2020,
slate.com/news-and-politics/2020/01/pentagon-officials-reportedly-stunned-trump-kill-soleimani.html. Accessed 10 January 2021.

QC, Maya Lester. “Gibraltar sanctions laws & Grace 1 designation.” *EU Sanctions*,
www.europeansanctions.com/2019/07/gibraltar-sanctions-laws-grace-1-designation/. Accessed 9 February 2021.

“Resolution 2231 (2015) on Iran Nuclear Issue Background.” *UN*,
www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/2231/background. Accessed 9 February 2021.

Sanger, Dave E, Eric Schmitt, Farnaz Fassihi and Ronen Bergman. “Gunmen Assassinate Iran’s Top Nuclear Scientist in Ambush, Provoking New Crisis.” *The New York Times*, 27 November 2020,
www.nytimes.com/2020/11/27/world/middleeast/iran-nuclear-scientist-killed.html. Accessed 10 January 2021.

OakridgeMUN II - UNSC Topic 1 Backgrounder

“Saudi oil attacks: Drones and missiles launched from Iran - US.” *BBC*,
www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-49733558. Accessed 9 February 2021.

“Six charts that show how hard US sanctions have hit Iran.” *BBC*,
www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-48119109. Accessed 9 February 2021.

Team, C. R. S. A. B. (2019, August 8). “Iran sanctions: What impact are they having on medicines?” *BBC News*, www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-49051782. Accessed 9 February 2021.

Trevithick, Joseph. “U.S. Government Claims Iran Is Behind Attacks On Oil Tankers, But Has Yet To Show Evidence.” *The Drive*,
www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/27992/u-s-government-claims-iran-is-behind-attacks-on-oil-tankers-but-has-yet-to-show-evidence. Accessed 9 February 2021.

“The Coming of Americans.” *U.S. Army Center of Military History*,
history.army.mil/books/wwii/persian/chapter01.htm#b1. Accessed 9 February 2021.

“The Iranian Revolution.” *MACROHISTORY: WORLDHISTORY*,
www.fsmitha.com/index.html. Accessed 9 February 2021.

“THE 17 GOALS.” *United Nations*, sdgs.un.org/goals. Accessed 9 February 2021.



OakridgeMUN II

Enter with Curiosity, Exit with Courage.