

# HISTORICAL SECURITY COUNCIL

SALVADOR MODEL UNITED NATIONS XIV



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# LETTER TO DELEGATES

Dear delegates,

Speaking on behalf of all the members of the leadership team of this year's edition of SALMUN, we are all deeply enthusiastic to have you all attend our conference. As the chairs of the Historical Security Council (HSC), Lucas and I will strive to welcome you all and work into molding this conference to be the most pleasurable and fruitful as possible.

As you may have noticed, the topics that were chosen for our council are particular for their originality, being chosen for their lack of exposition and presence in other model united nation conferences. Just as our topics, we are looking for delegates that diverge from the known models of delegates. We urge you all to find your individuality while debating, being confident in yourself and your convictions. Debate with will and be an exemplary rendition of the country you are representing. Keep in mind that old problems can only be solved with new solutions.

The HSC council is known for its relevance and specifically in past SALMUN editions, is noted for the high level of debating. The conflicts discussed must be put into perspective, after all their root causes and consequences still reverberate in current society.

Lucas and I are counting the days to be with you all and enjoy several hours of enthusiastic debating! As always, if there are any doubts or concerns, don't hesitate to send us an email!!

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## COMMITTEE DESCRIPTION

The Historical Security Council (HSC) is one of the staples for every Model United Nations conference. In this committee, delegates will turn back time and discuss conflicts that have already been resolved in order to find new solutions to past issues. This way, this council will demonstrate how history really does repeat itself and how atemporal some topics are.

Moreover, delegates debating will find greater power and thus responsibility. This committee is one of the only two councils which allow for the use of all command terms, as well as establishing autonomously embargoes and other consequences, even if it is the dirtiest of them all - declaring war.

For this year's edition of the HSC, the topics discussed are the Siege of Sarajevo, Chernobyl and the Indo-Pakistani war of 1965. These topics ponder human and governmental responsibility, the self-determination of people as well as ethical conflicts - issues which still are causes for the major conflicts of our decades. Hopefully, as a committee, we will find ways to curing the root of the problems and the lessons learned will be applied to our daily lives.



*The "Historical" Security Council at session.*



*Witnesses Escaping the Saravajo Region*

[https://ichef.bbci.co.uk/news/640/cpsprodpb/B010/production/\\_88327054\\_gettyimages-462783096.jpg](https://ichef.bbci.co.uk/news/640/cpsprodpb/B010/production/_88327054_gettyimages-462783096.jpg)

## **Topic A: Tackling the Siege of Saravajo**

Date of debate: August 29, 1995



## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Siege of Sarajevo was the attack of the capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the longest of a capital city throughout the entire existence of current fighting. In the wake of being at first assaulted by the powers of the Yugoslav People's Army, Sarajevo was blockaded by the Army of Republika Srpska from 5 April 1992 to 29 February 1996 (1,425 days) during the Bosnian War. The attack kept going multiple times longer than the Battle of Stalingrad and over a year longer than the Siege of Leningrad.

At the point when Bosnia and Herzegovina pronounced autonomy from Yugoslavia after the 1992 Bosnian freedom submission, the Bosnian Serbs—whose key objective was to make another Bosnian Serb province of Republika Srpska (RS) that would incorporate Bosniak-dominant part regions—encompassed Sarajevo with an attack power of 13,000 positioned in the encompassing slopes. From that point, they ambushed the city with cannons, tanks, and little arms. From 2 May 1992, the Serbs barred the city. The Bosnian government protection powers (ARBiH) inside the attacked city, 19 months since the beginning of contention, numbered somewhere in the range of 70,000 soldiers, were ineffectively prepared and unfit to break the attack.

An aggregate of 13,952 individuals was slaughtered during the attack, including 5,434 regular people. The ARBiH endured 6,137 fatalities, while Bosnian Serb military setbacks numbered 2,241 officers executed. The 1991 statistics demonstrate that before the attack the city and its encompassing zones had a populace of 525,980. There are gauges that preceding the attack the populace in the city appropriate was 435,000. The evaluations of the number of people living in Sarajevo after the attack went from somewhere in the range of 300,000 and 380,000.



# POSITION OF MAJOR COUNTRIES

## **Bosnian Serbs**

The Serbian Autonomous Region of the Bosnian Frontier was established in the western Bosnian Frontier area of Bosnia and Herzegovina, with its capital in Banja Luka, which was not recognized by the central government, after the government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina declared independence, which was not recognized by the federal Serbian controlled government of Yugoslavia. The start of the Bosnian Civil War: the conflict is known among the Serbs as the "Defensive Conflict on the Fatherland." The Serbs and the Army of the Republic of Serbia (VRS) were outnumbered, outgunned and divided, facing the regular Croatian Army (HV), the Croatian Defense Council (HVO), mostly the Muslim Army of Bosnia and Herzegovina (ABiH), the armies of the Autonomous Province of Western Bosnia and the airstrikes of NATO.

## **Yugoslavia**

Bosnia and Herzegovina declared independence after a referendum on March 1992, and soon afterward the Bosnian War began between Bosniaks, Croats, and Serbs in the region. In May 1992, the Yugoslav military withdrew formally from Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Yugoslav People's Army was formally dissolved on 20 May 1992, the remains of which reformed the newly founded "Federal Republic of Yugoslavia" .

## **NATO**

The presence of NATO started as largely political and symbolic, but gradually expanded to include large-scale air operations and the deployment of around 60,000 soldiers under Operation Joint Endeavor. NATO's involvement in the Bosnian War and the Yugoslav Wars, in general, began in February 1992, when the alliance issued a statement urging all the warring parties to allow UN peacekeepers to be deployed. Operations developed throughout the years of the siege includes the Operation Maritime Moniot and Operations Sky Monitor.



## TIMELINE OF EVENTS

**February/March 1992** → In a referendum boycotted by Serbs, Bosnia's Muslims and Croats vote for independence.

**April 6, 1992** → The EU acknowledges the autonomy of Bosnia. War breaks out and Serbs lay siege to the capital Sarajevo under Radovan Karadzic's leadership. They occupy 70% of the country, killing and persecuting Muslims and Croats in order to carve out the Republic of Serbia.

**May 1992** → UN sanctions imposed upon Serbia for the aiding of rebel Serbs in Croatia and Bosnia.

**January 1993** → Peace efforts in Bosnia are collapsing, war is breaking out between Muslims and Croats, who had previously been allies against Serbs.

**April 1993** → In eastern Bosnia, Srebrenica, Zepa, and Gorazde are considered to be three out of six U.N. "Protected areas." UNPROFOR is deploying troops and stopping attacks by the Bosnian Serb Army (VRS). But the city remains remote and in the only be a few humanitarian convoys reach the city.

**February 5, 1994** → First Markale Market attack

**March 1, 1994** → Creation of Muslim Croat Federation

**December 20, 1994** → Bosnian Serb Ceasefire

**May 25, 1995** → Tuzla Massacre

**March 1995** → Bosnian Serbian President Radovan Karadzic ordered that Srebrenica and Zepa should be completely cut off and that aid convoys should be prevented from entering the cities.

**July 9, 1995** → President Radovan Karadzic declares a new order to conquer Srebrenica.

**July 11 - 22, 1995** → Bosnian Genocide

**August 28, 1995** → Second Markale Massacre



## DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

**Siege** → the act or process of surrounding and attacking a fortified place in such a way as to isolate it from help and supplies, for the purpose of lessening the resistance of the defenders and thereby making capture possible.

**Saravajo** → a city in and the capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in the central part: assassination of the Austrian Archduke Francis Ferdinand here June 28, 1914, was the final event that precipitated World War I.

## FURTHER RESEARCH

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- ❖ Ivkovic, Sanja Kutnjak, and John Hagan. "The Politics Of Punishment And The Siege Of Sarajevo: Toward A Conflict Theory Of Perceived International (In)Justice." *Law & Society Review* 40.2 (2006): 369-410. Web. 23 Oct. 2019.
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*The Chernobyl Disaster*

<http://maestrocursos.com.br/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/The-Chernobyl-Disaster.jpg>

## **Topic B: Addressing the Chernobyl Disaster**

Date of debate: November 9, 1986



## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Chernobyl Disaster was a devastating nuclear accident in Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant No. 4 near the town of Pripyat in northern Soviet Ukraine, near the border with Soviet Belarus, that took place between 25 and 26 April 1986. The crash occurred during a security check early in the morning simulating a power outage at the station during which emergency protection and power control systems were purposely shut down. A mixture of intrinsic reactor design defects as well as reactor operators who organized the core against the test checklist resulted in unpredictable conditions for the reaction.

The Chernobyl disaster released about one hundred to one-thousandth of the total amount of radioactivity produced between 1950 and 1960, varying from 1/100 to 1/1 during the period of nuclear weapons testing at the height of the Cold War. Approximately 100 000 km<sup>2</sup> of land was substantially polluted with nuclear waste, with Belarus, Ukraine, and Russia's hardest-hit areas. With the exception of the Iberian Peninsula, lower levels of pollution were found across Europe.

Two hundred thirty-seven people suffered from acute radiation syndrome (SAR) after the incident, 31 of whom died in the first three months. An IAEA report examines the impact of the accident on the environment. The United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation reported an aggregate cumulative dose of radiation exposure from the accident "equivalent on average to 21 additional days of global exposure to natural background radiation;" individual exposures were much higher than the global average among the most exposed, including 530,000 mostly male decontamination workers.

It is difficult to determine the disaster's total economic expense. According to Mikhail Gorbachev, in the process of containment and decontamination, the Soviet Union expended 18 billion Soviet rubles (the equivalent of 18 billion dollars at the time, or 41.1 billion dollars at current values) which effectively bankrupted the country.



## POSITION OF MAJOR NATIONS

### United States

In the midst of the Cold War, American incumbent president, Ronald Reagan, directly blames the Soviet Union for the disaster in Chernobyl. In an interview in 1986, the president urges a Soviet explanation over the causes of the incident. Soviet secrecy on the case is uncomfortable to the American leader: “A nuclear accident that results in contaminating a number of countries with radioactive material is not simply an internal matter.” Despite occupying the opposite side of the political spectrum, when compared to the Soviet Union, American show public support to all those affected by the Chernobyl disaster.

### Soviet Union

Chernobyl was completely the responsibility of the Soviet Union, however, tools of socialism assisted in camouflaging its impacts. Hiding information about the disaster from its population and the world was crucial for maintaining the integrity of the Soviet Union. Anatoly Dyatlov (played by Paul Ritter), who at the time of the accident was the deputy chief engineer and boss, refused to accept that the core had exploded, despite evidence pointing to high-level radiation levels and personnel visiting reactor number four. Firefighters were sent in the immediate aftermath to extinguish the fire in order to protect the number three reactor and keep the core cooling systems intact.

### Ukraine

Ukraine was politically subordinated to the Soviet Union, therefore its main focus was on rebuilding the devastated area. Preserving its relationship with other countries was also priority to the Ukrainian diplomacy, since the Chernobyl incident also affected other countries. Ukraine also looks to decrease the use of its GDP in solving Chernobyl, that varied between 10-15% of the nominal GDP per year.



## TIMELINE OF EVENTS

**March 1970** → Beginning of the construction of the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant

**1977** → First of four nuclear reactors is ready to operate

**1979** → The first 10 billion kW/hr of electrical output is reached.

**1982** → Partial core meltdown in the first reactor. Within months, the reactor was repaired and put back into operation.

**1985** → The Minister of Energy, Anatoly Mayorets declares that adverse effects caused by the power plant were not to be published in the media.

**27 March, 1986** → Ms Lyubov Kovalevska: "The failures here will be repaid, repaid over the decades to come".

**25 April, 1986** → Cooling system testing begins,

**26 April, 1986 1:23:44** → Explosion

**26 April, 1986 1:23:45** → Second explosion

**26 April, 1986 1:26:03** → Fire alarm activated

**30 April, 1986** → Tass denies mass casualties

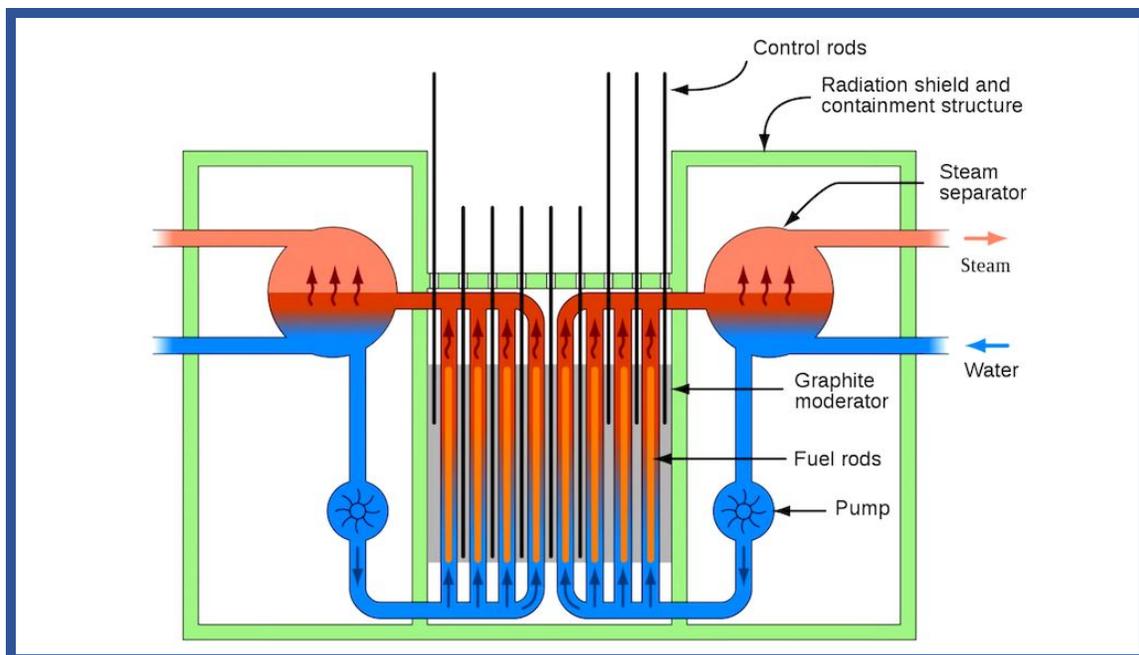


## DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

**Sarcophagus** = The cement and steel structure that encases the destroyed reactor at the power station in Chernobyl, Ukraine.

**Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant** = is a closed nuclear power plant near the abandoned city of Pripyat in northern Ukraine, 14.5 kilometers (9 mi) northwest of the city of Chernobyl.

**Anatoly Dyatlov** = was deputy chief-engineer of the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant and the supervisor of the catastrophic safety test which resulted in the 1986 Chernobyl disaster, for which he served time in prison. He was released as part of a general amnesty in 1990.



*The Chernobyl Sarcophagus*



## FURTHER RESEARCH

- ❖ [Chernobyl HBO series](#)
- ❖ [Zero hour: Disaster at Chernobyl](#)
- ❖ <http://www.chernobylgallery.com/chernobyl-disaster/timeline/>
- ❖ <https://www.world-nuclear.org/information-library/safety-and-security/safety-of-plants/chernobyl-accident.aspx>



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[www.world-nuclear.org/information-library/safety-and-security/safety-of-plants/chernobyl-accident.aspx](http://www.world-nuclear.org/information-library/safety-and-security/safety-of-plants/chernobyl-accident.aspx).



*India's military forces*

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/photo/54654205.cms>

## **Topic C: Resolving the Indo-Pakistani War**

Date of debate: August 1st, 1947



## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The two nations of South Asia were engaged in two wars following India's partition in 1947, including undeclared war, as well as many border frictions and military tensions. However, India accused Pakistan of intervening in proxy wars, providing military and financial support to militant non-state actors. All the armed conflicts between the two countries actively or passively happened in the disputed Kashmir region. A major concern internationally is that nuclear guns are available to both countries. Although they have a much smaller arsenal than the major global powers like the U.S., Russia, and China, a nuclear war between India and Pakistan could contribute to hundreds of millions of deaths, changes in the earth's climate, as well as the fearful nuclear winter.

India's partition came following World War II when Britain and British India were struggling with the war's socioeconomic tensions and reintegration. It was the intention of those who wanted a British India-emerging Muslim state to have a simple, independent and egalitarian partition between "Pakistan" and "Hindustan" as soon as independence came. The partition itself could have culminated in peaceful relations, as seen by political leaders like Muhammad Ali Jinnah, leader of the Muslim League, and Jawaharlal Nehru, leader of the Indian National Congress. British India's 1947 division among both India and Pakistan, however, didn't adequately split nations along religious lines. Nearly one-third of the Muslim population of British India remains in India. There had been between 500,000 and One million casualties of inter-community violence involving Hindus, Sikhs, and Muslims. The partition also concerned princely territories such as Kashmir and Hyderabad. These territories' authorities had to agree to join India or Pakistan. Kashmir's ruler, that had a majority Muslim population, was controlled by a Hindu maharaja, who decided to declare independence at the time of sharing. An invasion from non-regular Pakistani troops, accompanied by some regular troops, made the Maharaja agree to join India in repulsing the invaders by signing the accession document.



## POSITION OF MAJOR BLOCKS

### India

Due to a massive number of historical and political events, ties between India and Pakistan have been complicated and generally hostile. Relations between the two states were characterized by British India's controversial division in 1947, the conflict in Kashmir, and the frequent disputes between the two nations. Two new sovereign nations were established since the abolition of the British Raj in 1947 — India's Dominion and Pakistan's Dominion. The ensuing partition of former British India displaced up to 12.5 million people, with life-threatening estimates ranging from several hundred thousand to one million. India emerged as a secular nation with a Hindu majority population and a small Muslim minority. India's main religion was its basis against its fight against Muslim Pakistan and the dispute for the region of Kashmir and which religion was going to prevail became one of the objectives of the war.

### Pakistan

Pakistan has been geopolitically divided into two major regions since independence, West Pakistan and East Pakistan. East Pakistan was mostly occupied by people from Bengali. After a military operation in Pakistan and a genocide in Bengali in December 1971, after a political crisis in East Pakistan, the situation soon spiraled out of control in East Pakistan and India intervened in support of the rebellious Bengali people. The conflict, a brief but bloody war, led to East Pakistan's independence. Pakistan's actions in the war were often a retaliation to India's attacks. Such attacks damaged a substantial part of the naval power of Pakistan, while no Indian ship was lost. But the Indian Navy lost a single vessel when a Pakistani submarine torpedoed INS Khukri (F149). A total of 90,000 Pakistani military forces surrendered to the Indian Army and Mukti Bahini 13 days after the occupation of East Pakistan. East Pakistan became Bangladesh's independent nation after the surrender of Pakistani forces.



## TIMELINE OF EVENTS

**Aug. 1947** - End of the British Raj in India. India fragmented into two Dominions: Indian and Pakistani.

**Oct. 1947** - Start of the First Indo-Pakistani War. Pakistani Lashkars invade Kashmir. Indian troops requested to settle the situation.

**Dec. 1948** - Ceasefire agreement between India and Pakistan.

**Feb. 1954** - Accession of Jammu and Kashmir to India is Ratified by the Indian Authorities.

**Jan. 1957** - Jammu and Kashmir's constitution came into force and India now considers the territory officially as part of the Indian territory.

**1963** - Pakistan urges India's referendum to decide which country should win the dispute over India. Talks have broken down.

**1964** - Pakistan forwards Kashmir's case to the United Nations Security Council.

**Aug. 1965** - Second Indo-Pakistani War Starts. Pakistanis infiltrate into Kashmir dressed as Kashmiri.

**Sep. 1965** - Ceasefire agreement again signed under influence of the UN. A Kashmir portion is now dominated by Pakistanis.

**Jan. 1966** - Shastri and Khan sign agreement to restore political, diplomatic and economic relations.

**1970** - Zulfikar Ali Bhutto does not allow the participation of Awami League leader Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to assume a seat in the government although winning the elections.



## DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

**Indian Independence Act** - An Act of the British Parliament approved on July 18, 1947, responsible for the division of British India into two new countries; India and Pakistan.

**Line of Control (LoC)** - A military control line in between the Indian and Pakistani controlled areas of Kashmir. It is not a legitimately recognized international border, but is the actual boundary between Pakistan and India's territories.

**Instrument of Accession** - A treaty signed by the ruler of Kashmir, Maharaja Hari Singh, in 1947 which ceded the control of Kashmir over to India in exchange for personal protection and military aid.

## FURTHER RESEARCH

- ❖ <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Indo-Pakistani-War>
- ❖ <https://www.jagranjosh.com/general-knowledge/what-were-the-reasons-behind-indopakistan-war-and-its-effects-1470226470-1>
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