

# NATO SUMMIT

NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION SUMMIT

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**Official Language:** English

**Topic A:** Evaluating the Conflict of Nagorno Karabakh

**Topic B:** Expanding Military Surveillance in Ethiopia as a Response to the Tigray Crisis

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## 1. Welcome Letter

*“The answer to violence is even more democracy. Even more humanity.”* - Jens Stoltenberg, 13th Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Dearest delegates,

It is our pleasure to welcome you to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Summit in this year's edition of the Marymount School Model of United Nations. As the presidents of this distinguished committee, we wish nothing more than to enable a space of learning, growing, debate, and consensus-building for you all to enrich your already broad knowledge, your skills as a delegate, and your perception as a global citizen.

Throughout history as the human race, there have been many failed attempts of establishing organizations like the ones we see today. As late as 70 years ago, it was nearly unimaginable that global organizations existed for the sole purpose of upholding democratic values and maintaining international safety and order. This is truly what makes our generation unstoppable and insatiable. We have the institutions in place that ensure that we are safe in our countries while preventing government abuses and tyranny. Although there is much left for these institutions to do, their sole composition and organization is a win for humanity. Thus, and after the year of constant change and irregularities we have experienced, we don't believe there has ever been a more pertinent time to discuss the issues that NATO deals with daily.

Although Model United Nations events are often considered a competition, it is our priority that you come out of this experience having learned something new. When you do, our goals and expectations will be met accordingly. Our responsibility as the Chair, more than moderating a debate and upholding order, is ensuring that you feel fulfilled from this experience. Hence, feel

free to reach out to us if you ever need advice, or if you have any kind of suggestion. We hope this will motivate you, even more, to continue to improve yourselves as delegates and as people.

This leads us to our next point: even when the order was disrupted by COVID-19, and when our whole world seemed to shift into chaos, global threats to security, order, and democracy prevailed. For this reason, we must carry on with exercises such as Model United Nations, and remind ourselves of the constant privilege we have had for having had our main concern be COVID-19 during the last year. Human rights abuses, insecurity, and conflict must still be considered even in the face of uncertainty.

Once again, if you have any questions, comments, concerns, or suggestions, feel free to contact us by any means you are comfortable with. We are confident that we will all come away from this experience having countless lessons learned.

Good luck,

María Correa and María Vélez



MSMUN

## 2. Committee Information

### History and Purpose

Although the North Atlantic Treaty Organization was established in 1949, it is imperative to understand the historic events that led to its creation. During the Second World War, the leaders of the Allied Powers were the United States of America, the United Kingdom, France, China, and the Soviet Union. Their allyship led to the defeat of Adolf Hitler in 1945 and the subsequent establishment of the United Nations. Hence, those are the five veto powers of the Security Council today, with the exception of the Soviet Union, which would become Russia in 1991<sup>1</sup>.

After the Second World War, the world was left in shambles, especially Europe. More than 36 million Europeans had died during the conflict, 19 million of them being civilians. In 1947, the governments of France, the United Kingdom, the USSR and the United States met to decide over the fate of Germany, and when the negotiations failed, Ernest Bevin, the then-Foreign Secretary of the United Kingdom, proclaimed that “The Western powers had to organise themselves to defend against Joseph Stalin’s expansionist ambitions and Soviet military power,” which gave way for the establishment of NATO. While the failed negotiations contributed to the formation of NATO, the final straw for the Western powers was when the Soviet Union began establishing communist governments in Eastern Europe. This led to the overthrow of the democratic government of Czechoslovakia by the Communist Party in 1948, which was supported by the Soviet Union. In doing this, the USSR cut off supply routes to West Berlin. Thus, the North Atlantic Treaty was signed in Washington DC in 1949, which officially created NATO. The original NATO members were Belgium, Denmark, Great Britain, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Canada and the United States, but this list would

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<sup>1</sup> See the dissolution of the Soviet Union.

be expanded to include another 18 countries in the coming decades. When West Germany was rumored to join NATO and raise its own army, the USSR responded by threatening to create a coalition of its own, and West Germany did join the organization in 1955, the Warsaw Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance was signed in Poland. This is better known as the Warsaw Pact, and was initially signed by the USSR, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Romania, Hungary, Albania, Bulgaria, and East Germany. In this case, just like the United States for NATO, the USSR had much of the control of the allegiance.

After the establishment of both the clear blocks, the Nuclear Arms race began, which led to the detonation of the most powerful weapon in history by the Soviets. The Tsar Bomba was 3000 times more powerful than the bomb detonated in Hiroshima, and finished establishing the incredible amount of damage that could be done if any of the two sides attacked. Both blocks were so immensely powerful that attacking the other would not only be suicide but could end the world. As a response to this, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty of 1968 was signed by 62 nations “...to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and weapons technology, to promote cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and to further the goal of achieving nuclear disarmament and general and complete disarmament.”<sup>2</sup>

In the coming years, NATO gained power while the USSR struggled to maintain control over their territories in East Europe. Additionally, after the oil prices dropped, the Soviet oil-dependent economy collapsed, causing mass starvation, poverty, and while the West progressed technologically, the East stayed behind. Finally, the Revolutions of 1989 in Poland, Hungary, East Germany, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, and Romania led to the surrender of East Germany on November 9th, 1989, and when the East Germans were allowed to visit West Germany, the Berlin

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<sup>2</sup> See the [Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons](#) (the United Nations).

Wall began being torn down. This gave way to massive independence movements in the areas controlled by the USSR, thus encouraging its collapse. After this, many questioned the importance of NATO, but the organization responded by expanding globally and acting as a peacekeeping force. Two of its first global missions were successful in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Kosovo, and when the 9/11 attacks happened, Article Five<sup>3</sup> was invoked for the first time with the purpose of stabilizing Afghanistan. After 20 years of this mission, the NATO and the United States Army are still in the country, as well as the belligerent groups<sup>4</sup> that they went to eliminate. The last significant event that impacted NATO was the 2014 Russian annexation of Crimea, which served as a wake up call for NATO, who began mobilizing in the area once again<sup>5</sup>.

## Structure

NATO is made up of two main parts: the Civilian Structure, that deals with the political aspect of the Treaty, and the Military Committee. Firstly, the Civilian Structure is made up of three main parts: the NATO Headquarters, the political and administrative center of the organization, the Permanent Representatives and National Delegations, that serve as the private offices of each member country (similar to an embassy), and the International Staff, who are the administrative support to the national delegations at the NATO Headquarters. Under the International Staff fall the Private Office, the Political Affairs and Security Policy Division, the Operations Division, the Emerging Security Challenges Division, the Defence Policy and Planning Division, the Defence Investment Division, the Public Diplomacy Division, the Executive Management, the Joint Intelligence and Security Division, and the NATO Office of Resources, in addition to the

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<sup>3</sup> See [Structure](#)

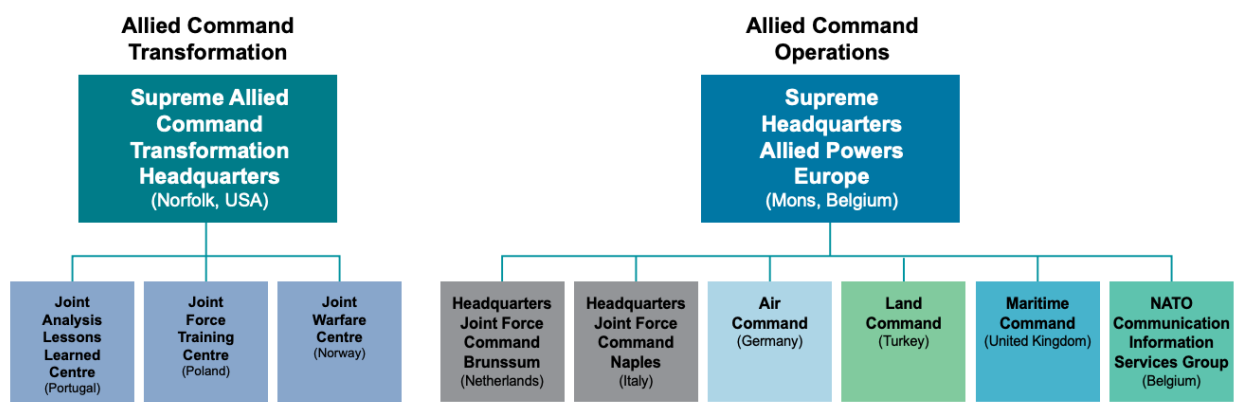
<sup>4</sup> Particularly Al Qaeda and the Taliban.

<sup>5</sup> See the [Statement by the North Atlantic Council on Crimea](#)



Administrative Tribunal, Production and Logistics Organisation, and other budgeting divisions. All of these divisions also have their subdivisions.

On the other hand, the Military Committee is controlled by the Chiefs of Defence of the 30 member countries. The Command Structure is divided into two strategic commands: Allied Command Operations (ACO) and Allied Command Transformation (ACT). ACO is under the command of the Supreme Allied Commander Europe (SACEUR), and has the responsibility of planning and executing all NATO military operations. Its headquarters are located in Mons, in the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, and in two Joint Force Commands in Naples and Brunssum. All of these centers are capable of deploying major joint operations out of each area. Additionally, ACO is organized into three commands for air, land and sea operations, all of which have their own headquarters. On the other hand, ACT is under the command of the Supreme Allied Commander Transportation, which has the responsibility of including education, training and exercises, and “promoting interoperability throughout the Alliance”<sup>6</sup>. ACT has a base in Virginia, and operates the Joint Analysis and Lessons Learnt Centre in Lisbon, the Joint Force Training Centre in Bydgoszcz, and the Joint Warfare Center in Stavanger, Norway.



*Image obtained from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization website*

<sup>6</sup> See [The NATO Command Structure](#).



### 3. Member Countries

- |  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| 1. Belgium (1949)  | 16. Spain (1982)           |
| 2. Canada (1949)   | 17. Czech Republic (1999)  |
| 3. Denmark (1949)  | 18. Hungary (1999)         |
| 4. France (1949)   | 19. Poland (1999)          |
| 5. Iceland (1949)  | 20. Bulgaria (2004)        |
| 6. Italy (1949)  | 21. Estonia (2004)         |
| 7. Luxembourg (1949)   | 22. Latvia (2004)          |
| 8. Netherlands (1949)  | 23. Lithuania (2004)       |
| 9. Norway (1949)   | 24. Romania (2004)         |
| 10. Portugal (1949)  | 25. Slovakia (2004)        |
| 11. United Kingdom of Great Britain and<br>Northern Ireland (1949) | 26. Slovenia (2004)        |
| 12. United States of America (1949)                                | 27. Albania (2009)         |
| 13. Greece (1952)  | 28. Croatia (2009)         |
| 14. Turkey (1952)  | 29. Montenegro (2017)      |
| 15. Germany (1955)   | 30. North Macedonia (2020) |

## 4. Topic A: Evaluating the Conflict of Nagorno Karabakh

### History and Definition

For decades, the historic region of Caucasus, which stands between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea, piqued Russian and Turkish geopolitical interest. With the fall of the empires at the end of World War I in 1917, the states of Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan recognized themselves

independent. However, the newly formed Soviet Union's mantle enslaved them with the guise of the newly formed Turkish nation. In 1921, a Soviet leader made a decision that would change history: he yielded Karabakh, a millinery armenian territory, to the then-Soviet Republic of Azerbaijan. The territory of Nagorno Karabaj, in the Caucasus region, is populated almost entirely by Armenians, who practice an ortodox kind of Christianity. Despite this, the former Soviet Republic of Azerbaijan was ceded in 1921 on Joseph Stalin's initiative. In the book *The Caucasian Knot: The History & Geopolitics of Nagorno-Karabakh* by Claude Mutafian, Levon Chorbajian, and Patrick Donabédian, this is described. According to Chorbajian's research, Stalin saw the struggle between the armies of Armenia, Turkey, and Azerbaijan in the early 1920s and acted purely out of political convenience. As a consequence, the conflict is still afoot.

### **Previous Solutions**

The Goble Plan, initially conceived in 1992 by Paul Goble, was resurrected in 1999. Mr. Goble came up with an outrageous political plan in the form of an essay. "In principle, there are three ways to "solve" the Nagorno-Karabakh problem: driving out or killing all Armenians now there, reimposing enormous outside force to keep the two sides apart, or transferring the NKAO to Armenian control. The first of these is morally impossible, the second is probably physically impossible, and the third is politically impossible if it is done alone because it would leave Azerbaijan the loser both territorially and in terms of the water supply to Baku." (Goble. P, 2000) Former State Department researcher Paul Goble suggested the land swap proposal three months before the Bush-Ozal conference. Former US Secretary of State Cyrus Vance was arranging for a visit to Armenia and Azerbaijan as the UN ambassador in early 1992 when he called around for suggestions. Vance had previously mediated the UN intervention in Yugoslavia, and Armenia had urged the US to approve the dispatch of UN observers to

Karabakh in the months leading up to the conflict. The states had only just gained independence, the conflict was raging, and Armenians in Karabakh were still militarily surrounded on all sides by Azerbaijan.

In a briefing paper, he proposed giving Armenia the majority of Nagorno Karabakh and the Lachin region in return for Azerbaijan receiving the Meghri region, which would link directly to Nakhichevan and then Turkey. Despite the fact that the proposal was not vetted by the government and was purely Goble's own brainstorming, it became known as the "Goble Plan," (Three years prior, Russian scholar Andrey Sakharov suggested a more comprehensive land exchange to the Soviet leadership, which he wrote about in his memoirs released in 1989, but it was also rejected.)

Both Armenia and Azerbaijan opposed the idea, though it was debated by Armenia's leadership in 1994, as per former foreign minister Vartan Oskanian. President Levon Ter-Petrosyan stated at the time that "the Goble plan would be useful for Armenia if the northern area of the Azerbaijani exclave Nakhichevan is granted to Armenia to ensure a boundary with Iran." That became the basis for a new Goble post, dubbed "Goble Plan 2.0."

Alongside Turkey's acknowledgement of the genocide, Armenians fantasize of reclaiming historic Armenia which is known as Nagorno Karabakh today, based on the Treaty of Sèvres of 1920 and the international community's pledge made by President Woodrow Wilson, the 28th president of the United States. At this point, realizing that wish appears improbable, as it is largely dependent on Armenia's and Turkey's relative political and military clout.

For territorial exchanges, however, it is likely that domestic resistance to the abandonment of territories may ultimately have avoided the adoption of such an arrangement.

## **Present Situation**

Since the mid-1990s, no significant progress has been achieved through international mediation in getting Armenia and Azerbaijan closer to an agreement. It was hoped that the current administration would alter the trend. However, with the passing of two years, the trend that has arisen is one of convergence with previous methods. Given the brief opening of the possible rapprochement between Turkey and Armenia, US strategy is unlikely to lead to a breakthrough in aiding to reach a peaceful end to this conflict. The conflict of Nagorno Karabakh broke out on the contested territories between the two regular armies of Armenia and Azerbaijan on 27 September 2020. The violence has expanded exponentially. Urban areas have been extensively bombed and shelled, including Stepanakert, the largest city in Nagorno-Karabakh with a population of 55,000, and Ganja, the second largest city in Azerbaijan, 100 km further east, with a population of 350,000. Cluster ammunition, which was outlawed by HI under the Oslo Convention in 2008, was used in Stepanakert.

Barack Obama's administration began with the establishment of the resolution stipulated for the Nagorno-Karabakh dispute as a priority of his presidency. Little progress has been made in the dialogue and the tensions remain stuck on the truce lines defined in the first half of the 1990s. It should be remembered that the status quo could still be in Moscow's interests, and therefore the Kremlin will have no motivation for the Armenians and Azerbaijanis to find a settlement, although it is necessary to be seen internationally as promoting the peace process. Many typologies have been developed to describe various mediation techniques, as Bercovitch & Wells (1993) outlined before. The method followed in this essay reflects the definition outlined by Kressel & Pruitt (1985, pp. 193–194) of 'assertiveness,' with an aggressive mediation technique being more assertive and a passive mediation strategy being less assertive.

And when one gets to the issues themselves, there is always a disagreement as to who should be included in the negotiating process. The Azerbaijan capital, Baku, argues that there is a tension with the Armenian capital, Yerevan. However, many Armenians (including some from the contested territory) claim that Nagorno-Karabakh officials should be included. This has been significantly strengthened by the fact that many Armenian officials come from Nagorno-Karabakh, including former president Robert Kocharyan, who was president of the enclave before becoming president of Armenia-proper, and the new president, Serzh Sargsyan, who was born in Nagorno-Karabakh and played an active role in the struggle of the 1990s.

This is borne out by the study (Ambrosio, 2001, p. 209) of the international portrayal of the Nagorno-Karabakh dispute from 1990 to 1994. The reporting of the Bosnian crisis in four of the most important US newspapers (and CNN) was some 32 times that of the Nagorno-Karabakh war.

Numerous European countries have acknowledged the events of 1915, when the Ottoman Empire and its governing body, the Committee of Union and Progress, slaughtered nearly 1 million ethnic Armenians from Asia Minor and neighbouring states during World War I, as a "genocide," much to Turkey's consternation.

In his statement, Obama did not use that particular term, although he vowed to acknowledge the genocide in the 2008 campaign.

This is how the new co-chair of the American Minsk Party, Robert Bradtke, alluded to the discussions in the Moldovan capital of Chisinau in October 2009 (Azerbaijan, Armenia Hold 'Serious' talks on Karabakh, 2009). This was prompted by voting in the US Congressional Committee and the Swedish legislature to acknowledge the events of 1915 as genocide. The timeframe seemed rather ostentatious, coming 24 hours after the failed St Petersburg summit, when

Aliyev allegedly left early after refusing a suggestion made by Russian President Dmitry Medvedev.

The fact that Armenia does not officially endorse the independence of Nagorno-Karabakh is one of the most surreal aspects of the dispute. The unification of the NKAO and the Armenian SSR ongoing during the Soviet period did not proceed until Armenia emerged as an independent entity. Armenia does not recognize the region as part of its own government, nor does it formally recognize its independence. However, this is a legal fiction, since the illegitimate relationship between the two is not in line with Armenia's de jure stance.

A third stalemate may be added to this: the confirmation of Matthew Bryza as Ambassador to Azerbaijan. Bryza was reprimanded by the Armenian-American organizations for being quite close to Azerbaijan. His appointment is reportedly subject to a 'double-holding' by Senators Barbara Boxer and Robert Menendez (Rozen, 2010). This was granted a partial remedy by a veto override at the end of December 2010. Azerbaijan originally disregarded that this had taken place, but later acknowledged it, claiming that they considered the plan unreasonable.

## **5. Topic B: Expanding Military Surveillance in Ethiopia as a Response to the Tigray Crisis**

### **History and Definition**

Tigray is a region located in the northern part of Ethiopia and borders southern Eritrea as well. The region is home to the Tigrayan ethnic community, composed of approximately 7 million members, representing 6% of Ethiopia's population.





*Source: United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR)*

Since the last century, the territory has been ruled by Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), currently a leftist political party. In 1975, TPLF initiated a protracted rebellion against Ethiopia's central military government. However, the Tigrayans' efforts led to no positive change but instead triggered an unceasing conflict present today. During 1984 and 1985, the tensions between the ethnic Tigrayan community and Ethiopia's government caused a national catastrophe: a severe period of drought and famine. The government attempted to solve the issue by relocating peasants to the south and west parts of the country, with abundant resources, especially water. This solution lacked international support and thus had to be suspended, resulting in the unfortunate deaths of 100,000 citizens. Likewise, hundreds of thousands of citizens were forced to migrate to Sudan and Djibouti in search of a better life, free of war and hunger.



On May 28, 1991, Tigrayan forces succeeded to overthrow the Ethiopian government, which at the time was Amhara-dominated. The Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF), a Tigrean-led coalition of rebels forced the military dictator Haile Mariam Mengistu to flee the country, replacing him with Meles Zenawi, leader of the EPRDF at the time. In July, Ethiopia recognized Eritrea's independence after a 30 year-long fight for segregation. Nonetheless, conflict quickly arose due to confusion and disagreement on the border's demarcations. Both Ethiopia and Eritrea claimed to own areas of the Tigray region, and a "cold war" between the nations persisted for over two more decades.

In 2018, Mr. Abiy Ahmed became Prime Minister of Ethiopia. Shortly after rising to power, he dismantled and ruined the EPRDF, party that had been ruling the country for almost 30 years, and that continued to be led by Tigray's TPLF. Since then, Mr. Abiy has accused the Tigrayans of promoting ethnic violence and destabilizing Ethiopia, accusing them guilty of "the killings of civilians in many different parts of the country," according to a report sent to Ethiopian journalists. Tension between the TPLF and Abiy's government has set a dark atmosphere of violence and war, and has thus led to over 3 million displacements in just two years.



*Data showing displacements caused by violence in Ethiopia in a time frame of one year (January 2019 - December 2019). Source: Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre*

### **Previous Solutions**

The United Nations has actively responded to the Tigray crisis through many of its committees and organs, showing concern for the continuous violation of human rights, and the social, sanitary, and economic catastrophe that the war has triggered.

- UNICEF's Tigray Emergency Response Plan: UN Children's Fund has shown its infinite concern to the educational repercussions of the crisis by elaborating the Tigray Emergency Response Plan, which aims to reach 2.8 million people, more specifically 1.3 million children. According to the United Nations, UNICEF is working to ensure that critical supplies reach the country and that people can safely access essential services. More staff are also being brought to the region, but UNICEF has warned that humanitarian aid alone is not enough." Since November 2020, the fund has provided WASH, health, nutrition, and child protection assistance to 425,000 people in the Tigray region. Approximately 900 metric tons of emergency supplies, which add up to a cost of US\$ 2 million, have been distributed. Furthermore, 12 NGO partners have been sent to the most vulnerable refugees, IDPs, and host communities.
- UNHCR: The UN Refugee Agency has provided crucial support to the victims of the issue by locating different displacement sites and refugee camps. Recently, they opened a second refugee camp in Sudan, where 600 people have registered and received healthcare, food, water, clothes, amongst other needs. The agency shares how "Upon arrival at the new site, hot meals are provided and 1,000 tents have already been set up by partners to offer shelter

for up to 5,000 people.” A total of 26 humanitarian partners are working on activities to create a feeling of safety and community within these camps.

- UNFPA: The fund has supported female refugees, mainly pregnant women, affected by the war. In Dabat, Gondar, aid groups established support centers for displaced people. These centers currently have 630 households, around 1,870 individuals, residing there. Of these, 490 are females of reproductive age and 36 are pregnant women. The UNFPA has worked with Gondar City Administration Health Office to hire midwives for the health centers serving the women at the Dabat site. They have also distributed reproductive health kits to birth attendants, and established a safe space where women and children seek mental health and psychosocial support.
- UN Human Rights Council: The council has invested on thorough investigations regarding violation of human rights, predominantly sexual violence incidents, as well as has evaluated possible sanctions to those countries and groups committing these violations.

Despite the humanitarian aid offered, the crisis calls for \$400 million in funding to meet the needs of all victims. Not to note how intervention from the Security Council, the United Nations’s most powerful body regarding militia is more than necessary. Asides from humanitarian aid, military surveillance and action should be evaluated as viable responses to the crisis.

### **Present Situation**

The ongoing conflict between Ethiopia’s government and the Tigray region significantly worsened with the arrival of COVID-19. Prime Minister Abiy was in his obligation to hold the country’s first truly democratic elections in summer 2020, but postponed these due to the health

risks brought by the pandemic. Undoubtedly, the TPLF disagreed with Abiy's decision, arguing he was using the virus as an excuse to unconstitutionally extend his government's rule. Hence, they created an electoral commission and held their own elections, defying the Prime Minister's authority and laws. The government declared these elections to be unconstitutional and illegitimate, triggering the Tigrayans even more.

On November 4, 2020, the Ethiopian government publicly launched a military offensive against the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF). Prime Minister Mr. Abiy Ahmed justified the attack by claiming TPLF had attacked the Ethiopian military's Northern Command, a defense post, and had attempted to steal valuable military equipment. He stated the Tigrayans had crossed a red line, declaring the attack as a "treason that will never be forgotten". However, TPLF officials publicly denied Mr. Abiy Ahmed's accusations and instead claimed they had received attacks from Eritrean forces, as well as from Ethiopian forces located in Eritrea. Similarly, Tigray's president Debretsion Gebremichael composed a letter to the African Union, in which he Abiy of violating free speech rights by imprisoning his opponents, as well as of aiming to turn Ethiopia's ethnic federalism into his own empire; a dictatorial system in which he holds all the power. Debretsion Gebremichael wrote: "Dr. Abiy Ahmed's one-man dictatorial regime has started to unravel the constitutionally-established state institutions... He is also endangering the unity of this ancient country."

In just four months, the conflict has turned into a never-ending cycle of violence, in which one bombing is followed by another. A series of accusations coming from both sides of the conflict continues to spread confusion and panic, destabilizing the African Region. The repercussions of this war are more worrying each time; in January there were 56,000 displaced refugees in Sudan. Similarly, Eritrean refugees who have been living in UN-run camps in Tigray are eating tree barks

and drinking water from puddles after being forced to flee their camps. Not to note how the democratic electoral process in the country is nowhere to be seen, and according to BBC news, opposition parties claim over 52,000 people have been killed since the conflict arose in November.

### **Expectations for the debate**

Concerningly, internet and cell phone lines have been shut off in the conflict zone, violating some key human rights like freedom of speech, belief, and access to education. Acknowledging the gravity of this issue, and the lack of direct sources watching over it, implementing military surveillance over the zone is being contemplated. This means military intelligence would be used to closely observe aerospace, surface areas, and people in the Tigray region, with the purpose of collecting useful data on the war; actions taken by both sides, conditions in which victims are found, etc. With this helpful information, the international community can better assist the victims, call out guilty parties, and overall gain more control on the situation. However, implementing this surveillance is not an easy task; it requires great economic efforts, technological resources, and systems to optimally organize data. Hence, the debate shall revolve on whether or not implementing military surveillance is a viable solution worth the investments it requires. We suggest each delegate centers their arguments on the benefits or downsides of military surveillance, and elaborates a plan contemplating how much surveillance is needed, how would the surveillance be implemented, what data to collect, etc. Needless to say, although the violation of human rights in Tigray is infinitely concerning, it is our duty to remind you that this NATO committee focuses on the military aspect of the issue; it is pertinent to talk about human rights, but not to center the debate on said topic.

## 6. QARMAS

Topic A:

1. Does your country recognize the territory of Nagorno-Karabakh?
2. Historically, does your country maintain close relationships with either Armenia or Azerbaijan?
3. Does your country recognize the events of 1915 as a genocide?

Topic B:

1. What relationship does your country have with Mr. Abiy Ahmed's government?
2. Has your country granted any support (financial, military, politic) to the Ethiopian or Eritrean governments during the war in the Tigray?
3. Has your country taken any actions to support the victims of the Tigray crisis?
4. Do you consider military surveillance a pertinent, viable response to the issue? Why?
5. How do you think the international community can contribute, through NATO and the UN, to improve military surveillance over Ethiopia?
6. Besides from this military surveillance, what other actions do you think the international community should take as a response to the Tigray crisis?

## 7. Useful Links

Topic B:

- <https://www.npr.org/2021/03/05/973624991/9-things-to-know-about-the-unfolding-crisis-in-ethiopia-tigray-region>

- <https://www.unicef.org/ethiopia/stories/humanitarian-crisis-unfolds-tigray-unicef-steps-its-lifesaving-response?fbclid=IwAR3ryYXEflg4zEZ3BluUyF2DhBvkUUs4ZBRzT-5Vamdf3Ntfg5KiQIysH68>
- <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-03-04/un-security-council-warned-of-dire-crisis-in-ethiopia-s-tigray>
- <https://www.hrw.org/news/2021/04/15/un-security-council-needs-act-ethiopias-tigray-region>

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