



ArcMUN

Aristotelio College Model United Nations

## **Security Council**

The Anglophone crisis

Study Guide

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## **1. Welcoming letter**

Dear delegates,

We are honored to have been given the opportunity to serve as the chairs of the ARC MUN 2024 Security Council. We have participated in many MUNs in the past and this is our first time as chairs and we look forward to sharing this incredible experience with you.

This study guide contains several information regarding the Anglophone crisis which is a civil war that has been raging on since 2017. Although you may find this study guide useful because it will familiarize you with the subject, we encourage you to conduct further research to enable you to represent your country in the best possible way.

Best Regards,  
Eleni Paraskevopoulou,  
Aspidou Venetia,  
Chairs of Security Council

## **2. Introduction to the committee**

The United Nations Security Council is one of the six main organs of the United Nations. It was established in 1945 under the UN Charter and consists of 15 member states , including five permanent members with veto power : China, France, Russia Federation, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. The ten no-permanent members are elected by UN General Assembly for a two-year term of office. They are chosen to

represent different regions of the world and contribute to the decision-making process of the Security Council. Its primary responsibility is the maintenance of international peace and security and this is achieved by identifying threats to peace, resolving conflicts, imposing sanctions and authorizing the use of force when necessary. The five permanent members have veto rights, which means that any substantive decision requires the affirmative votes of all five members. A single veto by any one permanent member can block a resolution. The committee holds regular meetings, both open and closed, to discuss various issues. It also has subsidiary bodies, such as committees and working groups, to address specific topics like counter-terrorism, non-proliferation and peacekeeping. The UN Security Council, plays a crucial role in maintaining global peace and security but its effectiveness can sometimes be hampered by the veto rights of permanent members. However, numerous efforts have been made by certain member states to reform the Security Council, in order to make it more representative and responsive to the evolving global landscape.

### **3. Definition of Key Terms**

Civil War : A civil war is a conflict that takes place in a particular country or region and, unlike an international war, usually involves different groups or factions within the same nation.

Refugees :The UNHCR defines refugees as “persons fleeing armed conflict or prosecution. Refugees are recognized and protected under international

law, as returning to their countries of origin would put their lives at imminent risk .

Anglophones: They are the English-speaking population of the country and live in the northwest and southwest regions, making up about twenty percent of the population. It is the English-speaking people whose opposition gave rise to this civil war.

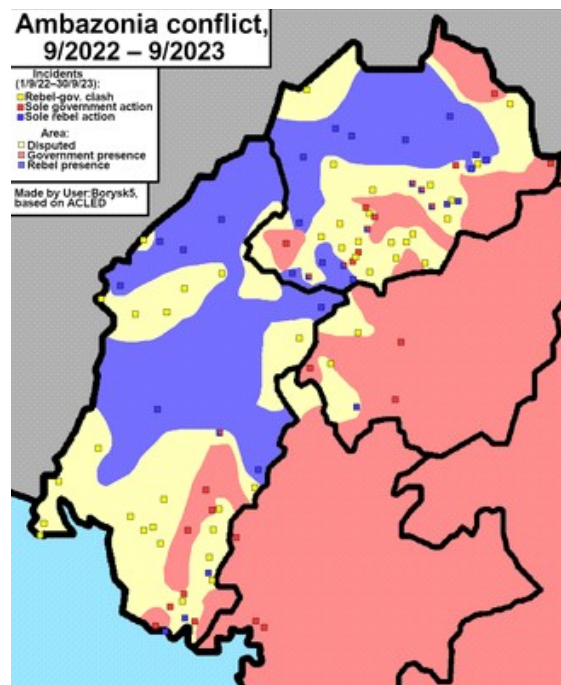
Francophones : It is the French-speaking population of the country and makes up about eighty percent of it. They also make up the government.




Ambazonia : Ambazonia is the independent state that the Anglophones are aiming to form.

## **4. Introduction to the topic**

Cameroon is a country that has always been divided by language and for the last five years has been divided by a deadly civil war commonly known as the Aglophone crisis. Relations between both sides began to worsen in 2016 when English-speaking activists made up of lawyers, teachers, and students began a series of mostly peaceful protests because they felt marginalized by the government as they felt that the French language was somehow being imposed on them. The government reacted immediately, putting several activists in jail and even killing some of the protesters. It was then that the calls for reform began to turn into a full-blown rebellion. What has followed since then is simply a cycle of violence with approximately 6.000 people killed, and more than 700.000 internally displaced. Today, the government continues to claim that all this violence is solely a response to anti-terrorist operations. However, monitoring groups claim that armed

separatists have also committed atrocities, including deadly attacks on schools, with them responding that they are simply trying to react to the education system because of the increased use of French in classrooms. Meanwhile, most schools in the country have been closed as both teachers and students are afraid to go to school.



-  Separatist presence
-  Government presence
-  Contested

## 5. Points to be addressed

1. **Raising Awareness**: Raising awareness of the situation in Cameroon is extremely important, because this is how countries that are not properly informed about the war can provide all kinds of humanitarian aid. Moreover, otherwise, there is a high probability that the serious consequences that the state is already facing will be extended even further.

2. **Human rights abuses**: Numerous human rights violations have been recorded during the conflict, including sexual violence, unlawful killings, the destruction of many homes and numerous abductions.

3. **Resettlement of refugees**: The United States, Germany, France, The United Kingdom and Canada are some of the countries that have provided shelter, to Cameroonian refugees, but unfortunately this is not enough considering that there are still thousands of them left. Although, it is not possible to force states to accept refugees, it should be possible to find countries that are willing to accept refugees in order to fill job vacancies.

4. **Medical Care for indefeasible people**: Thousands of people, who are directly affected by this conflict, are in urgent need of medical attention. Although, some countries have offered medical assistance in the past, there is still a large number of people with serious health problems, who are completely helpless. For this reason, the United Nations should ensure that the country has all the necessary medical resources.

**5. Education:** Since 2017, when the conflict started, many schools have been closed, due to the fact that both teachers and students are too afraid to go to school, considering that they are putting their lives at risk. In summary, these students are not in a position to miss any more years of school.

**6. Safety:** The personal safety of people generally affected by the war should be a priority of the United Nations since there is no point in taking any measures if they end up losing their lives.

## **6. Actions already taken**

Over the years, various countries have provided assistance to Cameroon during their ongoing conflict. To begin with, France, a long-term ally of Cameroon, has provided military assistance, including training and equipment, in order to help the armed forces. In addition, the United States also provided military support, but suspended much of it in 2019 due to various concerns about human rights violations by the Cameroonian military. In addition to this, they provided humanitarian aid to support those affected by the crisis, funding food, water, healthcare and shelter. In terms of other forms of aid, China has been an important economic partner of the country since the crisis broke out, providing financial assistance and infrastructure development. Other countries that have supported Cameroon in similar forms and ways are Germany, Russia, Canada and finally, Nigeria, which has sheltered thousands of Cameroonian refugees.

Subsequently, various countries, such as the African Union, the United Nations, Switzerland and Norway, have tried to end this ongoing conflict by



participating in or funding initiatives aimed at promoting dialogue and reconciliation. However, most of these efforts have come to nothing since the conflict continues to evolve.

## **7. Conclusion**

Cameroon has suffered more than six years of conflict, poverty, unemployment and food insecurity. As a result, thousands of people have lost their lives, parents are unable to provide their families with the necessities and a lot of children are afraid to go to school.

For these reasons, the Security Council will focus on bringing this conflict to a definitive end. But for this to happen, all Member States must reassess the situation in order to understand its gravity and the urgent need to take action before it is too late.

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