

# **Historical Security Council**

## **Introduction to the Chairs and committee**

Dear delegates, I have the pleasure to write you this study guide for the coming conference in Nancy the 7th and the 8th of November, NCYMUN. My name is Emile and I'm in year 12 in the OIB section as well as Cleo. We will also have the pleasure to welcome another student from Strasbourg, Beliz. We'll have the pleasure to meet you all and we're really looking forward for it to start. Please read this study guide in order to spend a great time together with interesting debates and two very pleasant days. See you soon !

You will be part of the Historical Security Council, it means that you are going to debate on events that happened before. Your two topics will be «Solving the Kippur War between Israel, Egypt and Syria» and «Chernobyl disaster of 1986 : fighting against the worldwide consequences of the disaster». In the Security Council, I remember that you can use force to solve problems and that five countries have the right of veto (USA, France, Great-Britain, U.S.S.R, People's Republic of China) it means that if one of those countries votes against a clause it is immediately cancelled. Do not overdo this veto right and use it wisely. You also have to know that as it is an historical committee you'll be debating as if you were during the event and it is unfinished and you'll have to find solutions for it to stop. Now that's the presentation of your committee is done we can explain you what your topics are and what was happening in the world in the 20th century. It's the moment to do a time travel !

## **I/ Introduction to the topic A**

The Kippur War has been a turning point in the Middle-East history. This was a very bloody conflict as almost 13,000 soldiers died and almost 30,000 soldiers were wounded. It is also a very important conflict as it took place in 1973 while the Cold War was raging between the US and the Soviet Union. The US were supporting Israel and the Soviets were mainly supporting Egypt and Syria. Throughout this conflict the two belligerents of the Cold War were showing their power as they supplied each other their allies in order to make them win the war. The other big concern was that Israel wasn't an Arab country it was a Jewish one. They were quite unbeatable before this conflict and the other countries hated Israel and wanted them to disappear of the map.

## **II/ History of the topic**

The Kippur War is a conflict between Israel and basically all the other countries of the Middle-East such as Egypt, Syria, Iraq and Jordan. The origins of this conflict are that Israel just won in June 1967 the Six-days war very quickly and humiliated Egypt. Egypt was willing to take its revenge and regain their honour especially the president at the time Anwar Sadat. It wasn't just a matter of honour, they also lost several territories like the Sinai peninsula and the Gaza strip. Syria also lost several territories and power. They left the Golan heights to the hands of the Jewish state. The last country beaten by Israel was Jordan and they also lost territories : West-Bank and East-Jerusalem. The Israelis won the war thanks to particularly their very sophisticated air-force.

You first have to know that Yom Kippur is a very holy day in the Jewish calendar where nothing happens.

The Jews all go to the synagogues to pray and roads are empty as well as cities. This is precisely the day Egypt and Syria chose to take by «surprise» Israel. This day was October 6th, 1973. I put surprise between mark as Israel was warned by the king of Jordania, king Hussein, of the coming moves of Egypt and Syria. In less than a day Syria won back the Golan heights and Egypt managed to cross the Suez canal and they passed through the Bar-Lev line very easily which was a line of defense for Israel in the Sinai peninsula and on the shore of the Suez canal. It was built after the Israeli victory in the Six-Days War in 1967. It was made to slow the Egyptian in case they would attack the Sinai. The problem is that this line of defense was inefficient against Egyptian troops. I said earlier that Israel had a very powerful air-force. The problem is that thanks to the help of the Soviets they were better armed with ground to air missiles. The air-force

became inefficient. For quite a long time the president of the USA, Richard Nixon didn't want to supply Israel but when they got in a bad situation they immediately sent a lot of military equipment such as tanks, helicopters, weapons and ammo. The Israeli counter-attack was very quick even before the supplies from America came. They pushed back the Syrian troops and regained the Golan Heights. After the supplies arrived on Israeli soil. They fought back the Egyptian and crossed the canal of Suez and encircled the Egypt's third army which was left without food supplies. As the situation worsens the UN asked for a ceasefire on the 22nd of October. But the fighting didn't stop as nobody would want to let their guard down. The IDF (Israel's army) was only 60 miles away from Cairo and 25 miles away from Damascus which is the capital city of Syria. The Soviets threatened Israel to send their troops if they approached more the capitals. Because of this threat, the USA answered and also warned that if Soviets sent their troops they would as well. It is important to precise that it is the closest situation where they were about to have a military confrontation since the Cuban Missiles crisis in 1962. The main problem at the end of the war was to know what would happen to the Egyptian third army as their relations with the outside world are impossible because of the IDF pressure.



### **III/ Discussion of the topic**

Now that you have the context of this conflict, there are several issues that you will need to focus on. In the background of this conflict, there is obviously the Cold War between Americans and Soviets. This is an important moment during the war between the two super powers of the second half of the 20th century. It is a conflict where the two opposed each other through Israel for the United States of America and Egypt and Syria for the Soviets. At the time, the nuclear tension between the two parties around the world was at its tension. Even during the Kippur War there was a threat that Israel could use nuclear power because of the risk of losing the war. Losing the war for Israel would mean disappear of the maps and being split into several countries and it would be such a chaos politically, socially and religiously speaking. Anyway it didn't happen but it could have happen.

On the other hand, the diplomatic and economic stakes are really big. The allies of the Middle-East were really important in order to have oil. At the moment of the operation Nickel Grass which is the operation to supply militarily Israel the European countries were threatened by Syria and Egypt to stop providing them oil if they let the United States land on their soil. Everyone refused except Portugal where the US air fleet landed in order to supply their planes to make it to Israel.

#### **IV/ Bloc positions**

There were two sides during the Kippur War. The side of Israel supported by the United-States and its allies for example France and Great-Britain. It is important to precise aswell that even if People's Republic of China was clearly communist. During the Kippur War they had better relationships with United-States than U.S.S.R.

On the other side there is the allies of Egypt and Israel as Soviets and the allies of the Soviets such as Poland.

#### **V/ Bibliography**

Videos summarizing this conflict : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IHypjF9z8Ko>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fwWdCNAgB9w>

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#### **Issue B:**

##### **I. Introduction to the topic:**

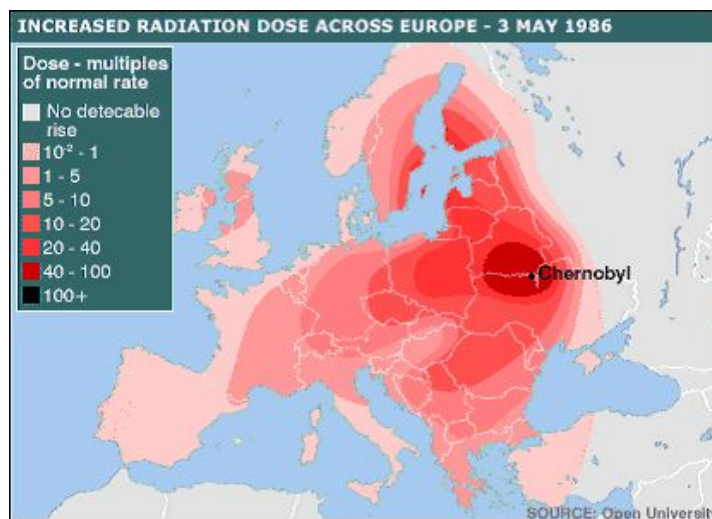
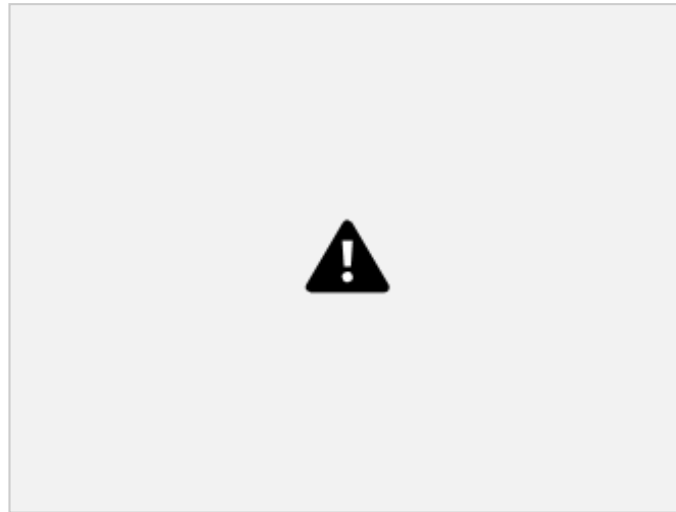
In 1986, a great nuclear explosion occurred at the Chernobyl Nuclear power plant in what was then the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic. It caused a massive cloud of nuclear energy that traveled with the wind through Europe until it disappeared in central France. It caused great panic

throughout Europe and divided the country into parts. For a long time people wondered what had happened until the truth finally came out. Some countries lied, others kept a part of the truth to themselves.

## II. History of the topic:

The Chernobyl disaster was a nuclear accident that occurred on 26 April 1986 at the No. 4 nuclear reactor in the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant, near the city of Pripyat in the north of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic. It is considered the worst nuclear disaster in history and is one of only two nuclear energy disasters rated at seven. The accident started during a safety test on an RBMK-type nuclear reactor. The test supervisor then failed to follow procedure, creating unstable operating conditions that, combined with inherent RBMK reactor design flaws and the intentional disabling of several nuclear reactor safety systems, resulted in an uncontrolled nuclear chain reaction. A large amount of energy was suddenly released, vapourising superheated cooling water and rupturing the reactor core in a highly destructive steam explosion. This was immediately followed by an open-air reactor core fire that released considerable airborne radioactive contamination for about nine days that precipitated onto parts of the USSR and western Europe, before being finally contained on 4 May 1986. About 49,000 people were evacuated from the area, primarily from Pripyat. The exclusion zone was later increased to 30 kilometres (19 mi) radius when a further 68,000 people were evacuated from the wider area. The reactor explosion killed two of the reactor operating staff. In the emergency response that followed, 134 firemen and station staff were hospitalized with acute radiation syndrome due to absorbing high doses of ionizing radiation. Of these 134 men, 28 died in the days to months afterward and approximately 14 suspected radiation-induced cancer deaths followed within the next 10 years. Among the wider population, an excess of 15 childhood thyroid cancer deaths were documented as of 2011. Due to the often long incubation periods for radiation exposure to induce cancer, the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR) has, at multiple times, reviewed all the published research on the incident and found that at present, fewer than 100 documented deaths are likely to be attributable to increased exposure to radiation.





### III. Discussion of the topic

Now that you have the context of this conflict, there are several issues you'll need to focus on. In the 1980's, people thought that heat pumps were a great way to conserve energy, which turned out to be the reason of the Chernobyl accident. Nuclear power had been discovered since nearly 40 years so it was a new thing that we had to learn to control. Since it was new, the dangers were relatively unknown and people were not too cautious about how to conserve it or how to deal with nuclear waste. The Chernobyl reactors, called RBMKs, were high-powered reactors that used graphite to help maintain the chain reaction and cooled the reactor cores with water. When the accident occurred the Soviet Union was using 17 RBMKs and Lithuania was using two. Since the accident, the other three Chernobyl reactors, an additional Russian RBMK and both Lithuanian RBMKs have permanently shut down. Chernobyl's Unit 2 was shut down in 1991 after a serious turbine building fire; Unit 1 was closed in November 1996; and Unit 3 was closed in December 1999, as promised by Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma. In Lithuania, Ignalina Unit 1 was shut down in December 2004 and Unit 2 in 2009 as a condition of the country joining the European Union.

Closing Chernobyl's reactors required a combined effort from the world's seven largest economies (the G-7), the European Commission and Ukraine. This effort supported such things as short-term safety upgrades at Chernobyl Unit 3, decommissioning the entire Chernobyl site, developing ways to address shutdown impacts on workers and their families, and identifying investments needed to meet Ukraine's future electrical power needs.

On the accident's 10th anniversary, the Ukraine formally established the Chernobyl Center for Nuclear Safety, Radioactive Waste and Radio-ecology in the town of Slavutych. The center provides technical support to Ukraine's nuclear power industry, the academic community and nuclear regulators.

#### IV. Bloc positions:

Certain countries like France lied about the radiation cloud. It said that it stopped before getting in France, which it didn't. The cloud actually went over eastern and central France. Some countries didn't alert others like Ukraine who lied about how it took 36 hours to tell people to evacuate when they should have done it immediately.

#### V. Questions a resolution must answer:

- What is going to happen to the infected site ?
- Which countries are going to pay for it and how ?
- What are you going to do with the nuclear waste ?
- Should Ukraine be sanctioned for the accident ?

#### VI. Bibliography:

- <https://bestdelegate.com/free-guide-15-things-every-model-un-delegate-needs-in-their-research-binder/>
- <https://www.world-nuclear.org/information-library/safety-and-security/safety-of-plants/chernobyl-accident.aspx>
- <https://www.chemistryworld.com/news/chernobyl-disaster-mystery-solved/3008327.article>