



Committee: JCC: Kashmir

Dear Delegates,

It is an honour to welcome you all to Global Classrooms: London Model United Nations conference. The JCC has been set up in order to discuss the current and highly unstable situation in the Kashmir region. The topic is one of increased sensitivity and Chairs respectfully remind delegates of the importance of preparation, consideration and the need to discuss this issue responsibly.

The conflict of Jammu and Kashmir has lasted decades and led to three major wars in the years of 1947, 1965 and 1999. Current tension levels are high and there have been all-too-frequent reports of acts of terrorism and skirmishes that threaten the (fragile) regional stability. The ongoing instability and various conflicts have led to an unimaginably high death toll. It is of significant concern to the international community that both sides have (apparently) acquired nuclear weapons. It is of significant concern to the international community that neither country has established transparent, effective and internationally agreed missile safeguards with a clear chain of command.

India claims a legal right to all of Jammu and Kashmir which they evidence with a strong historical claim. Recently, in a diplomatic breakthrough, India acknowledged that part of Kashmir does have the right to its own sovereignty. This progress is threatened by instability. A recent surge in terrorist activity in Kashmir has led to condemnation of Pakistan by India. India alleges that Pakistan is supplying and funding terrorist organisations. India also alleges that Pakistan is waging a proxy war – in direct violation of the ‘International Decree’ (the only agreement every signed between these countries regarding Kashmir). India alleges that Pakistan is promoting anti-Indian sentiment among the Kashmiris by spreading false propaganda.

Pakistan claims that India’s motivation over Kashmir is due to strategic geopolitical reasons and has little to do with protecting and ‘unshackling’ its inhabitants. Pakistan refutes India’s legal claims to Kashmir as legal claims as it states they were made without the consultation of its people. Furthermore, Pakistan says that any and all arrangements were made under duress. Reports also indicate that India’s military is responsible for a lot of the deaths. Pakistan asserts that the rise in insurgent activities proves that Kashmiris do not wish to remain under Indian rule and argues that Kashmiris would prefer to be a part of Pakistan or an independent state.

With no end to the instability in sight - and with Pakistan refusing to even acknowledge or stop the funding of terrorist groups in Kashmir... India ordered five naval vessels into the region. India’s Prime Minister Singh said that they have lost all patience and are acting in the interests of the people in the region to save the lives of the innocent and stop the oppressive regime. In a previously unpredictable region any sudden explosion of violence has the potential to spread to surrounding nations unless international efforts can broker a lasting peace. A previously neglectful international community must awaken and act decisively to save the people of Kashmir...before it is too late.

As a committee we will aim to enjoy the conference with lively debate. But we also aim to pass resolutions. Therefore, it is prudent that you are all able to do your research to its fullest. It is strongly suggested that all delegates refer to individual crisis guides to help you conduct research and complete position papers. We highly recommend visiting the Mulberry Model United Nations Weebly page for help with research and access to background guides. <http://globalclassroomsLondon.weebly.com/> . Should you have any further queries, questions or need any help at all please feel free to email us at londonmun@gmail.com . All position papers can also be emailed to londonmun@gmail.com which we sincerely look forward to reading.

We anticipate debate to a very high standard and impeccable representation of countries.

Kind regards, Crisis Cabinet for Kashmir