



Committee: JCC: Kazakhstan

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 Kazakhstan and its surrounding 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.

Kazakhstan is the strongest country in Central Asia with a great wealth of natural resources. It is one of the top ten global oil and gas producers, is ranked 19th in global literacy rates (UK: 23rd, China: 106th), and has a rapidly growing economy.

The strategic location of Kazakhstan coupled with its wealth make the country's foreign policy a difficult balance to maintain, especially balancing relations with Russia and the USA. This has historically been done by supplying resources to Russia at greatly subsidised rates, and providing anti-terrorist assistance to the US. At times, Kazakhstani-Russian relations have been strained as Kazakhstan cooperates militarily and economically with the US in its continuing War on Terror in the region, and also in regards to the on-going dispute with Russia surrounding the Baikonur Cosmodrome (Russia's first and largest space launch facility, located in Kazakhstan). This precarious situation in appeasing both Russia and the US has prevented all parties from making the most out of their partnerships, and so Kazakhstan has sought other regional allies to treat with.

Futhermore, Kazakhstan has suffered from increasing conflict in regards to an oil deal in ruins, a presidential assassination, and a collapsing diplomatic situation. Central Asia is thrown into chaos and military tensions are at an all-time high with China and Russia glaring at each other across the increasingly unstable Kazakhstan. The escalating conflict must be defused between these two great nuclear powers, and time is running out.

Plus, the Central Asian countries surrounding the Caspian Sea are all at various stages of transition since the collapse of the Union of Soviet and Socialist Republics (U.S.S.R.) and are considered high political risk. The transition process had been further complicated by the presence of major petroleum and natural gas resources, the politics surrounding the export of those resources, and continuing historical and ethnic tensions.

So delegates in order to combat the constant issues surrounding Kazakhstan it is imperative to focus on a long term, sustainable solution in order to create peace for the region. As many of Kazakhstan's issues result into diplomatic instability, corruption and accusations of human rights abuses, which blight development and threaten regional stability.

Questions for delegates to consider are the following:

- How can countries ensure human rights are monitored and upheld?
- How significant are disputes involving water, oil and foreign investment?
- What are the essential features of an effective government and how can they be cultivated in Kazakhstan?

- What are the root causes to this conflict and how can they be addressed to ensure a long-term, sustainable peace? What is your country's position on a potential regional conflict?
- What can the international community do to help the progress of a peaceful resolution and end to conflict in this region?

In order for delegates to have a thorough sense of the background towards Kazakhstan and the crisis it faces, along with having sufficient enough evidence to support each individuals position paper, below are a few resources whereby each delegate can obtain facts and figures to support their own countries position.

General Research Links:

<http://unic.un.org/imucms/almaty/4/413/un-in-kazakhstan.aspx>
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/asia-pacific/country_profiles/1298071.stm
<http://www3.ambest.com/ratings/cr/reports/Kazakhstan.pdf>
<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/kz.html>
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/kazakhstan>

Economic and Social issues:

<http://eurodialogue.org/Kazakhstan-Strategic-Significance>
<http://en.tengrinews.kz/markets/Chinese-companies-to-control-over-40-of-Kazakhstans-oil-shortly-15796/>
<http://en.tengrinews.kz/markets/Kazakhstan-to-increase-oil-exports-to-China-18328/>
<http://www.caluniv.ac.in/academic/China%20Study%20Final/Relations%20between%20China%20and%20Kazakhstan.html>
<http://www.hrw.org/europecentral-asia/kazakhstan>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-22026702>
<http://www.eia.gov/countries/cab.cfm?fips=KZ>
<http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/survey/so/2011/int081611a.htm>

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 do your research to its fullest.

We would also urge delegates to address others issues relevant to your country as this is only a general guide to aid you in your research. However ensure it is specific in the direction of statistics and facts. Also, bear in mind that this is a crisis cabinet; as a result it is fundamental to present other aspects of the countries issues, such as how other countries are affected by Kazakhstan's constitutional crisis. We do also encourage you to focus on possible resolutions more so on their logistical rather than moral grounds.

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 Kazakhstan