



ECOSOC

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS



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SOCOMUN XXXIII

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TOPIC: PEACEBUILDING AND
POST-CONFLICT RECOVERY



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Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Peacebuilding and Post-Conflict Recovery

Hello! I am Sabrina Hamra, your chair. I am a senior and have participated in MUN since freshmen year. This will be my twentieth conference, and third time chairing the ECOSOC Committee at SOCOMUN. Playing tennis, traveling, hanging out with friends and family, and crocheting are some of my favorite activities alongside school. I look forward to hearing your intelligent solutions, speeches, and ideas.

Hello, my name is Amani Krishan and I am currently a junior. I have been in MUN for two years now and I have learned so much. I have grown in my public speaking skills and learned how to interact with people in a work environment. MUN has helped me with my research skills and so much more. I plan to stay in MUN all four years and continue to learn from myself and others!

Hello, my name is Laila Agathakis. I am a sophomore in MUN. Outside of MUN I play volleyball and beach volleyball. Last year, I won a few awards and really enjoyed SOCOMUN. I hope you enjoy it as much as I did!

After the opening ceremonies, all ECOSOC delegates will follow their chair, vice chair, and rapporteur to the room where the committee will take place. Delegates will then be asked if there are any points or motions on the floor. A delegate will motion to open debate, and another will open the speaker's list. All delegates who wish to speak can raise their placard at that time to be added. After each speech, two delegates will be able to comment on the previous speaker's ideas. As time passes, delegates will have chances to motion for formal and informal consultations. Formal consultations will focus on delivering short, specific speeches on certain subtopics within the main topic. Informal consultations will revolve around developing blocs or groups to draft resolutions, or a combined document of solutions and goals. Once these resolutions are finished, each will be presented and voted on by the committee. To end, a delegate will motion to close debate, and closing ceremonies where awards will be handed out will commence. Any questions that pertain to committee prior to the conference can be asked at ecosoc.socomun@gmail.com.

Background

Peacebuilding and conflict recovery are at the forefront of safe futures. However, developing these goals takes time, careful consideration, and thoughtful discourse. There are three essential factors to tackling the diverse issue: economic, social, and political statuses. Conflict wrenches these sectors forcing a difficult recovery. Recovering from conflict remains challenging in all nations, especially those without developed legislature, economies, or even social advancement. After unrest, nations are economically and structurally weak. Nations that do not have the resources to bounce back from devastation often fall into disarray. When a country loses trade agreements and partners, rebuilding becomes even more of a challenge. This is especially true when the partners lost were important contributors to the economy. It may also result in nations losing important strategic advantages and resources that are essential to their existence. Finding other nations ready to trade is a goal shared by many, especially in light of the gravity and significance of the conflict's political situation.

Besides external factors, conflict may damage internal natural resources and infrastructure. Rehabilitation requires calculated planning, preparation, and essential funding. In addition to this restructuring, a nation needs a visionary and determined political figurehead or



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group to help it return to normality. For a nation struggling to rebuild, the restoration of a strong, influential, and capable leader and system is crucial. A firm, intentional, and influential guide must be provided for the country to return to normalcy. The transition from post-conflict chaos to a stable form of government can be extremely difficult depending on the damage done to the previous government.

Along with providing political stability, morale of the people will be a major asset that must be gained. A nation's functional systems need to be restored, and conflicts can do a great deal of damage to civilian morale. In order to rebuild their nation and keep attempting to bring the economy back to normal, citizens must have a positive sense of purpose. The consequences of post-conflict situations give birth to displaced people and refugees. While some are forced to wonder about their identities and state affiliations, others are left without anywhere to go.

Peace has been a wanted initiative for a long time. However, keeping it has proved demanding. For it to finally come to fruition, there must be global cooperation in reducing intense military status and increasing human rights development globally. The roots of conflict and war must be targeted. In addition, countries must be willing to compromise and adopt solutions that ward off future peace disruptions. Nowadays, a wide range of entities are active in attempts to promote peace, including governments, local communities, international organizations, and civil society groups. Many of these programs target various issues, such as racial and social fairness, economic and social development, security sector transformation, and the demobilization, reintegration, and disarming of former combatants. The last and one of the most important goals of peacebuilding is the creation and upkeep of successful, secure communities that are able to solve arguments and disputes peacefully while straying from the use of violence.

The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) has taken a keen interest in and contributed to post-conflict reconstruction and peacebuilding. ECOSOC was established in 1945 and is one of the six principal institutions of the United Nations. Coordination of global social and economic advancement is its main objective. The UN General Assembly selects the 54 countries that make up ECOSOC for three-year mandates. It is in charge of coordinating the social and economic initiatives of the UN system and promoting international cooperation in areas such as banking, healthcare, education, and human rights protection. Peacebuilding and post-conflict rehabilitation have a long history, having been central to the United Nations' mission since its founding at the end of World War II. Early on in the UN's history, strategies for settling international disputes were created, including military operations and settlement initiatives. In the 1990s, it became clear that a more comprehensive approach to post-war rehabilitation was required. This approach is one that addresses both the immediate effects of the conflict as well as its underlying causes. The concept of "peacebuilding" then arose, highlighting the necessity of a long-term, workable plan for promoting peace and preventing the recurrence of conflict.

Early in the upcoming years, the UN established a framework for peacebuilding that encompassed a range of programs, including the demobilization and reintegration of former combatants, reforms in the security sector, the promotion of justice and forgiveness, and the advancement of economies and societies. Additionally, the UN established the Peacebuilding Commission, whose duty was to provide strategic guidance and support to peacebuilding endeavors in specific countries and regions. Initiatives for post-conflict rehabilitation and reconciliation have been implemented during the past 20 years in a number of locations, including Timor-Leste in Southeast Asia, Bosnia and Herzegovina in Europe, and Liberia and



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Sierra Leone in West Africa. These initiatives have involved a large number of people, including foreign organizations, national governments, and civil society organizations. Peacebuilding and post-war reconstruction initiatives have encountered several challenges, including inadequate administrative institutions, ongoing violence and conflict, and a lack of money. Though there have been occasional accomplishments, reconciliation and post-conflict healing are still in their infancy and are a major focus of international development programs.

Potential Solutions

The need for short, mid, and long-term solutions, which include strategies to achieve the goals above, must be kept in mind when creating solutions. Please remember that finance is not a major problem when creating these solutions because the UN has the resources to provide it. A range of solutions may be useful in promoting peace and post-conflict healing, depending on the specific context and nature of the conflict.

The establishment of an appropriate governing structure that does not compromise a nation's sovereignty would be an ideal place to start when it comes to nation-building. Establishing and promoting democratic governments would aid countries in their efforts to recover. Furthermore, it is crucial to guarantee that there is no prejudice in this process and that representation is strengthened. Restoring a government free of discriminating policies will increase stability after a conflict. The healing process is accelerated when marginalized groups participate and are recognized.

Supporting development and economic growth is another important strategy that might bring change. Encouraging economic development and prosperity may be crucial to achieving lasting stability. This can mean providing financial support to areas affected by violence, promoting the growth of businesses and jobs, and allocating funds for infrastructural improvements. Promoting the involvement of the local population in the post-conflict reconstruction of their nation creates jobs for those who lost them during the conflict while also helping the nation grow.

Next, strengthening the legal system may help prevent future upheaval. In order to promote peace and prevent future violence, it is crucial to establish a strong legal system and make sure that everyone has access to justice. This might mean supporting courts and legal groups, protecting human rights, and strengthening the rule of law. These adjustments will enable nations to return to normalcy quicker.

Furthermore, to promote healing and reconciliation, it is critical to fulfill psychological and social needs since conflict can have a lasting impact on people. This might mean providing counseling and other forms of assistance, promoting religious and cultural tolerance, and addressing issues linked to trauma and mental health. This is consistent with morale, which promotes mental health education and assistance.

Addressing the underlying causes of conflict may reduce the frequency of conflicts, which will lessen the need for post-conflict recovery action plans. Taking care of the structural and systemic issues that cause instability and conflict is essential. This may entail offering therapy and support services, encouraging religious and cultural tolerance, and tackling trauma and mental health-related problems. Morale goes along with this by encouraging mental health awareness and support. Addressing the root reasons of conflict will stop conflicts from occurring more frequently and, therefore, decrease the need for post-conflict recovery action plans. It is critical to deal with the systematic and structural problems that cause conflict and volatility. This may entail working to advance social and economic fairness, tackling issues of discrimination



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and inequality, and fostering confidence among various societal groups. Supporting international cooperation can play an essential role in bringing nations back to their peaceful states.

Questions to Consider

These questions will not be asked at committee and do not need to be formally answered, however, they are a guide for research and writing solutions. They can be considered when researching the topic and devising solutions.

1. How can you develop plans that are effective for both developed and developing nations?
2. What methods will ensure smooth rehabilitation for a country in a post-conflict state without compromising national sovereignty?
3. How will countries maintain resilience in the face of potential political and social stigmas during rehabilitation?
4. How can it be ensured that peace will be maintained after its establishment?
5. How might countries cooperate to move forward with peacebuilding?
6. How can discriminatory outcomes from disputes be avoided?



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