

XXXVII

TECMUN

Fourth Commission of
Special Political and
Decolonization

XXXVII TECMUN
Session Schedule

Monday, April 15th

Registration	8:00 – 9:00 h.
Opening Ceremony	9:00 – 10:00 h.
Break	10:00 – 10:30 h.
First Session	10:30 – 12:30 h.
Break	12:30 – 13:00 h.
Second Session	13:00 – 15:00 h.
Meal	15:00 – 16:00 h.
Third Session	16:00 – 18:00 h.

Tuesday, April 16th

Master Conference	8:30 – 9:30 h.
Break	9:30 – 10:00 h.
Fourth Session	10:00 – 12:30 h.
Break	12:30 – 13:00 h.
Fifth Session	13:00 – 15:00 h.
Meal	15:00 – 16:00 h.
Sixth Session	16:00 – 18:00 h.

Wednesday, April 17th

Seventh Session	8:00 – 9:30 h.
Break	9:30 – 10:00 h.
Eighth Session	10:00 – 12:00 h.
Break	12:00 – 12:30 h.
Ninth Session	12:30 – 14:40 h.
Meal	14:40 – 16:00 h.
Closing ceremony	16:00 – 18:00 h.

XXXVII TECMUN
General Agenda

Secretary General: Santiago Gutiérrez Caycedo

GENERAL COORDINATION

Subsecretary of General Coordination: Lía Naomi Mejía Vargas

Supervisor of General Coordination for Media Content: Celic Regina Ramírez Garduño
Supervisor of General Coordination for Co. Secretariat: Samuel Alejandro Herrera Tapia

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Subsecretary General: Monserrat Ríos Fernández

Supervisor of General Coordination: María Fernanda García Bautista

United Nations General Assembly

President: William Vázquez Hernández

- A)** Measures to prevent disagreements and warlike conflicts between the nations that border the Arctic Circle coming from the militarization and exploitation of natural resources as a consequence of climate change in the region of the Arctic.
- B)** Strategies to halt the violation of human rights to the Uyghur Muslim ethnic minority in the Xinjiang province in the region of the People's Republic of China with emphasis on the concentration camps referred to as vocational education centers.

Fourth Commission of Special Political and Decolonization

President: Miranda Senties Carmona

- A)** Strategies to consolidate the Independence of Western Sahara after the territorial conflict with the Kingdom of Morocco, emphasizing the maintenance of peace and the protection of the human rights of civilians.
- B)** Measures to assure the national security in New Caledonia due to the protests caused by the political instability, prioritizing its total sovereignty.

Sexta Comisión Jurídica

Presidente: María Sigaru Alcántara Nieva

A) Mecanismos para contrarrestar el uso inadecuado de inteligencia artificial en los Estados Unidos de América y el Estado de Israel con enfoque en los ataques cibernéticos Stuxnet, Equifax y Solarwinds a fin de instaurar disputas legales.

B) Estrategias para reforzar el sistema legal internacional con el objetivo de erradicar las redes globales de prostitución de mujeres y niñas, con énfasis en la República Federal de Nigeria y la República de Níger.

Alto Comisionado de las Naciones Unidas para los Derechos Humanos

Presidente: Gael Santiago Pérez Guzmán

A) Medidas para salvaguardar los derechos humanos en América Latina y el Caribe, con énfasis en las recientes protestas en la República de Nicaragua, la República de Perú, la República de Colombia, la República de Chile, la República de Honduras, los Estados Unidos Mexicanos, entre otros.

B) Medidas para frenar las infracciones de derechos humanos en el continente africano respecto a la mutilación genital femenina, haciendo énfasis en la región de la República Democrática Federal de Etiopía.

United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

President: Yamir Bandala González

A) Strategies to prioritize the education and health of refugees in the Near East following the Israel-Palestine conflict in Gaza.

B) Actions to enhance the internal infrastructure for post-pandemic established refugees in Gaza and the Near East.

Liga de los Estados Árabes

Presidente: Jorge Roel Rodríguez Alcántara

A) Acciones para contrarrestar el aumento de secuestros y decesos en la República Democrática de Somalia debido a la presencia del grupo extremista Al-Shabaab, enfocándose en la protección de civiles.

B) Mecanismos para contrarrestar el Tráfico de Armas hacia los Hutíes con énfasis en la protección de la población de Yemen ante la aún presente Guerra civil.

Counter-Terrorism Committee

President: Aranza Rodríguez Chagoya

- A) Measures to halt the growing menace of attacks with chemical components in the Middle East, focusing on the Syrian Arab Republic.
- B) Strategies to control attacks caused by cybernetic interventions in the Middle East, with an emphasis on the Islamic Republic of Iran.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Subsecretary General: Catherine Romina Espinoza Mora

Supervisor of General Coordination: Emilio Guillen López

Entidad de las Naciones Unidas para la Igualdad de Género y el Empoderamiento de las Mujeres

Presidente: Mariana Carolina Guerrero Zárate

- A) Estrategias para frenar la mutilación de genitales a niñas y mujeres de África Occidental a causa de la creencia de salvaguardar su castidad y reprimir su deseo sexual con énfasis en la República Democrática de Somalia y la República de Mali.
- B) Medidas para erradicar cualquier sistema de tortura a las mujeres en el Medio Oriente con un énfasis en el Reino Hachemita de Jordania.

Commission on Narcotic Drugs

President: Sofía Juanico Oceguera

- A) Measurements to manage the production of narcotic drugs and alteration of fentanyl-based medication in the United Mexican States, with distribution to the United States of America.
- B) Actions to eradicate drug trafficking in the Middle East to minimize the misuse of drugs for medical and recreational purposes.

Consortio Internacional contra los Delitos de la Vida Silvestre

Presidente: Laura Mariana González Beltrán

A) Estrategias para frenar la caza furtiva del elefante africano y el comercio ilegal de marfil en la Sabana africana, con énfasis en la promoción del desarrollo económico y social en las comunidades colindantes.

B) Acciones para frenar el comercio ilegal de especies en los Estados Unidos de América y Latinoamérica, haciendo hincapié en las especies de aves, reptiles y anfibios que habitan la región del Pacífico y la Amazonia.

Department of Peace Operations

President: Paulette Mayen Álvarez

Unique Topic) Measurements to counteract violence towards the civilians from the Republic of Cambodia to safeguard them from the communist regime.

United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

President: Frida Michelle Valadez García

A) Measures to improve access to humanitarian aid for the communities of Ituri and North Kivu following the rising wave of violence caused by armed groups in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

B) Actions to optimize humanitarian aid intervention during epidemics in developing African countries with emphasis on the cholera infection.

Organización para la Cooperación y el Desarrollo Económicos

Presidente: Yésika Pamela García Trejo

A) Acciones para mantener el nivel de empleo y el desarrollo de las fábricas automotrices de la Unión Europea reduciendo la emisión de carbono.

B) Medidas para regular la competencia laboral enfocado en la brecha de género situada en la República de Turquía y en los Estados Unidos Mexicanos.

Comité de Expertos en Transporte de Mercancías Peligrosas y en el Sistema Globalmente Armonizado de Clasificación y Etiquetado de Productos Químicos

Presidente: Valeria Arroyo Jerez

A) Medidas para moderar el uso de las sustancias perfluoroalquiladas y polifluoroalquiladas en las industrias Europeas debido a su impacto negativo en el medio ambiente y la salud humana.

B) Estrategias para prevenir los accidentes ferroviarios y carreteros de transporte de mercancías peligrosas con énfasis en los Estados Unidos de América.

Historical Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

President: Paulo Souto Núñez

A) Strategies to mitigate tensions between the extremist group Al Qaeda and the United States of America, following the onslaughts held against the United States of America, emphasizing on the prevention of crime through terrorist attacks. (1998 - 2001).

B) Measures to eradicate the extremist criminal behavior of the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA), addressing the attacks of the organization inside the territory of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. (2000 - 2011).

SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND REGIONAL ORGANISMS

Subsecretary General: Bruno Ramírez Barcelata

Supervisor of General Coordination: Brenda Noreña Mejía

Comunidad Caribeña

Presidente: María José Parra Meza

A) Medidas para contrarrestar la violencia y salvaguardar los derechos humanos de los habitantes de la República de Haití, con énfasis en el tráfico de armas, tráfico de narcóticos y corrupción en la región del Caribe.

B) Estrategias para frenar el reclutamiento de menores para el turismo sexual con énfasis en la región del Caribe.

North Atlantic Treaty Organization

President: Regina Covarrubias Rosales

A) Fostering defense capacity programmes for NATO's partners, such as the Republic of Moldova, emphasizing on Transnistria's occupation by Russian forces regarding the Ukrainian conflict.

B) Perspectives on reinforcement for seabed warfare, undersea infrastructure and security, ensuring NATO's members safeguard regarding the damage made to Finland-Estonia submarine pipeline.

Conseil de l'Europe

Président: Sofía Dominique Morin Anguiano

A) Renforcement des mesures de prévention du trafic humain concernant la route du Nigeria vers l'Europe Occidentale.

B) Actions pour arrêter le blanchiment des moyens financiers en Europe.

Organización de las Naciones Unidas para Asuntos del Espacio Ultraterrestre

Presidente: Abril Victoria Rodríguez Aguirre

A) Acciones para responder al cambio de paradigma y sistema internacional en materia de los tratados de no proliferación del armamento espacial con énfasis en las normas y regulaciones de estos con el fin de prevenir la militarización del espacio y desarrollo e implementación de armamento en el mismo.

B) Medidas para facilitar el acceso equitativo y sostenible al espacio y sus recursos con énfasis en garantizar la inclusión de las naciones y el aprovechamiento de los recursos y la tecnología por medio de prácticas sostenibles.

Security Council

President: Aranza Michelle Castro Rivero

A) Actions to stop armed attacks on civilians in the Gaza Strip due to the conflict between the State of Israel and the State of Palestine.

B) Measures to avoid the indiscriminate use of weapons, violent clashes and reincorporation of armed groups in the region of Tripoli after the civil conflict in the State of Libya.

Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General for Children in Armed Conflict

President: Arantza González de la Peña

A) Strategies to cease the recruitment of children in armed forces in the Syrian Arab Republic as a consequence of the civil warlike conflict, as well as ensure the fulfillment of the human rights of the affected children residing in the country.

B) Actions to put an end to the exploitation and abuse of children in the Democratic Republic of the Congo due to the ongoing conflict and state of anarchy in the country, while ensuring the fulfillment of their human rights and basic needs.

United Nations Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect

President: Sara Sofía Govantes Cruz

A) Strategies to curb incitement of genocide and inter-ethnic violence by armed groups, due to the multifaceted crisis in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

B) Measures to slow down genocidal practices towards the Uyghur community in the People's Republic of China, along with the repercussions it brings.

Corte Africana de Derechos Humanos y Personas

Presidente: Beatriz Mena Torres

A) Dominick Damian v. República Unida de Tanzania.

B) Samia Zorgati v. República de Túnez.

Background

In 1969 the General Assembly adopted the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and People (General Assembly Resolution 1514 XV also known as the Declaration on Decolonization, formed by 29 member states. The main objective was to assist the movement for independence or free association of Non-Self Governing Territories. As a result, eighty colonies have obtained sovereignty, with contingent approval upon verifying the fulfillment of one of the three self-government predetermined measures; emergence as a sovereign independent state, free association or integration with an independent state. The top priority is to ensure the well-being of each nation, covering human rights protection, peace maintenance, and preventing the spread of massive destruction weapons in these territories.

Faculties

As one of the Commissions of the General Assembly, the Fourth Commission of Special and Political Decolonization, seeking to grant the Non-self governing territories their independence, has the capacity to:

- Offer studies and training facilities for inhabitants of non-self governing territories (NSGTs);
- Collaborate with Non-gubernamental Organizations (NGOs), specialized agencies, and International Institutions with the objective of carrying on tactical operations;
- Examine the political, economic and social situation in the dependent states;
- Report the data obtained through recommendations and draft resolutions to the General Assembly in order to act against the irregularities;

- Organize periodic sessions, and discussion forums between the member states, NSGTs and NGOs.

Topic A

Strategies to consolidate the Independence of Western Sahara after the territorial conflict with the Kingdom of Morocco, emphasizing the maintenance of peace and the protection of the human rights of civilians

Historical context

The Kingdom of Spain settled military bases in the territory of Western Sahara with the objective of colonizing and succeed it. As a consequence, it became an official province¹ known as the Spanish Sahara. During this period of time, the African decolonization was occurring, where colonized African countries were achieving their independence from European colonies, which caused the intervention of the United Nations in Spanish Sahara situation, claiming this territory should have the same political conditions of the African region, with the aim of reaching sovereignty. As a result of the interference, in 1975 the Kingdom of Spain proposed a self-determination referendum² for Sahara, however it failed to happen. Francisco Franco, the Spanish military dictator, established that if the Kingdom of Morocco invaded Sahara, a belic conflict would start, and was not convenient for its government, so they would withdraw, which occurred with the Green March. Nevertheless, this did not lead to Western Sahara independence, since the Kingdom of Morocco and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania were interested in the territory occupation.

During the kingdom of Hassan II in Morocco, which was under internal political pressure, the invasion of Western Sahara began with the argument of a historical issue, a loyal pact between descendents sultants³ and local tribus, before it was colonized. It started with an organized plan called the Green March, carried out in November 1975 where approximately 350,000 Moroccans crossed the frontier of the region. Invaded the colony for a week, with two main objectives; force the Kingdom of Spain to transfer its domain power over the Sahara territory, and obstruct the celebration of the Sahara autodetermination referendum. The invasion was successful and led to the signment of Madrid Accord, where the Islamic

¹ **Province:** a principal administrative division of a country or empire. (Oxford Languages, s.f)

² **Referendum:** a vote in which all the people in a country or an area decide on an important question (Cambridge Dictionary, 2023)

³ **Sultants:** a Muslim sovereign. (Oxford Languages, s.f)

Republic of Mauritania demanded this territory as property, establishing that the Kingdom of Spain would withdraw and transfer its domain power to Islamic Republic of Mauritania and the Kingdom of Morocco.

After this, the Polisario Front, opposed the Madrid Agreement, since they claimed its territory and did not agree to continue under the domain of external governments. The Polisario Front started as an armed rebellion by Saharawi university students. Recognized as a nationalist pro-independence movement leader by Brahim Ghalim that seeks for Western Sahara Independence. In 1976 this organization declared the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) as an independent state, which was supported and recognized by the United Nations as the only Sahrawi people 's legitimate⁴ representative. In the same way, countries like the Algerian Republic provided military support, and established refugee camps in their borders.

Diplomatic relations

Since 1963, the Algerian Republic has been involved in armed territorial disputes with the Kingdom of Morocco up until 1989, when they signed the Constitutive Treaty of the Arab Maghreb Union in order to restore diplomatic relations. After the creation of the Polisario Front, the Algerian Republic assisted it, and in 1976 announced it as official, increasing the tension in its relationship with the Moroccan government. From that point on, a series of military attacks were present in both countries. In 2005, a meeting between both representatives was programmed with the objective of signing treaties to reach peacekeeping, however, it failed, since, Rabat, Morocco's government representative canceled it, justifying

⁴ **Legitimate:** to make something legal or acceptable (Cambridge Dictionary, 2023)

that it was not the right time due to the political internal situation. Until 2021, the Algerian Supreme Court accused Morocco of continuing with hostile⁵ acts.

After the creation of SADR, in 1975 the International Court of Justice demanded a verdict stating that the Kingdom of Morocco nor the Islamic Republic of Mauritania were historically tied or had territorial sovereignty over Western Sahara. With the aim of exposing them they did not have the right to demand its supposed portion of it. As a consequence, the local Sahara people had the power to decide the integration with another state, its partition or independence. Nevertheless, it failed to be handled due to lack of local democracy and led to decades of territorial disputes.

The United States of America allied strategically with the Kingdom of Morocco during the Cold War and branded the Polisario Front a soviet ally. Even so, it has not been involved in the dispute at all as in other International conflicts, which meant that it supported the Kingdom of Morocco in military aspects but not in politics, yet, Rabat considered it as the most important external player in this conflict. The United States took a neutral position since it wanted to keep Morocco as a geographical ally without harming its economic relation with the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria. However, in 2020, Donald Trump, the United States president, officially recognized Western Sahara as Moroccan territory.

Territorial dispute

After all these events, the conflict became a United Nations interest turning into an official and regulated situation. Causing the proclamation of 74 resolutions⁶ since the beginning of the dispute, considering not officially Morocco's invasion, the Green March, and not recognizing the Madrid Accord. As a consequence of the invalidation of this accord, the

⁵ **Hostile:** showing strong dislike; unfriendly (Cambridge Dictionary, 2023)

⁶ **Resolution:** of solving or ending a problem or difficulty (Cambridge Dictionary, s.f)

Kingdom of Spain, though had already withdrawn from the territory, communicated its presence was finalized and had no responsibilities in the conflict. During 16 years, from 1975 to 1991 the Western Sahara and the Kingdom of Morocco were in an armed conflict, better known as *guerrillas*⁷.

The Polisario Front started fighting for its Independence from its head operational base settled in Tindouf, Algerian territory. The Algerian government has provided economic resources, food, and weapons, but mainly supported refugee camps that shelter 40,000 Saharawis. On the other side, the Kingdom of Morocco had around 2,000 former soldiers according to independent intelligence reports, however it is estimated that approximately 500 have been private from life and 100 missing and possibly in Polisario Front control.

Settled Solutions

Also, the Security Council in 1991, through resolution 690, established the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) by settling proposals in 1988 between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Polisario Front that were previously agreed by both sides. The purpose of MINURSO was to supervise the cease-fire⁸ in the border between the two involved nations and to approve a plan that provided a transitional period to prepare and claim a referendum where Western Sahara had to choose between independence or integration with the Kingdom of Morocco. Nevertheless it did not occur, since the Kingdom of Morocco postponed it, arguing they required more than a half of local votes. Despite that, nowadays, according to Amnesty International, a non-gubernamental organization, only 20% of the territory is under the control of the Saharawis.

⁷ **Guerrillas:** a member of a small independent group taking part in irregular fighting, typically against larger regular forces. (Oxford Languages, s.f)

⁸ **Cease-fire:** a temporary suspension of fighting; a truce. (Oxford Languages, s.f)

As mentioned by the United Nations, a state can only declare its sovereignty⁹ through a self-determination process, where local people vote for it, in a democratic context. There have been two approved resolutions by the General Assembly and Security Council, the Resolution 370 and Resolution 377, both in 1975, which ended up failing due to two reasons. More than half of Western Sahara's internal votes were uncertain, and the Moroccan government adopted a negative posture like the postponement of it. As a consequence, the Baker Plan II, proposed by James Baker, Security Council former Secretary of State, with the main objective to replace the settled plan in 1988 with a political solution on the basis of agreement between both parties. However, in 2007, the Kingdom of Morocco proposed an autonomy¹⁰ plan, establishing that administrative, legislative, and judicial powers would be regulated by the Sahara parliament, while flag, currency, foreign relations, security, and defense would be under the control of Moroccan forces.

Human rights violation

During this armed conflict between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Polisario Front different aspects have been affected but mainly human rights. Moroccan authorities launched an armed operation in November 2010 to dismantle Saharawi peaceful protesters that had previously settled a camp; a procedure that was profitable. As following, all detained in the operation suffered unfair trials, relying on confessions extracted from physical torture. The harassment, which continues nowadays, occurs through police violence, unfair legal procedures and bans on peaceful protests, provoking fear and intimidation in citizens. They have disrupted various facets, the limitation of the freedom of expression from Saharawis, since they repress activists, journalists and citizens that had expressed critical or offensive

⁹ **Sovereignty:** the authority of a state to govern itself or another state. (Oxford Languages, s.f)

¹⁰ **Autonomy:** the right or condition of self-government. (Oxford Languages, s.f)

opinions towards the dispute; the right of privacy due to the multiple tortures performed by military and degrading inhuman treatment.

Among the arbitrary¹¹ detentions, the most recent cases are regard to ill-treatments, physical violence, threats of property confiscation. Furthermore, external organizations like Amnesty International have documented cases of physical, verbal and sexual violence against Saharawi activists, however they have not been investigated deeper. Morocco obstructs the work of local human rights nongovernmental organizations, like Human Rights Watch by harassing their members and blocking legal registration processes, and beating activists and journalists under their custody and on the streets. These acts constitute a serious violation of human dignity.

¹¹ **Arbitrary:** based on a desire or idea or chance rather than reason (Cambridge Dictionary, 2023)

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Topic B

Measures to assure the national security in New Caledonia due to the protests caused by the political instability, prioritizing its total sovereignty

Historical Context

New Caledonia is constituted by six main islands, located in the Pacific. During the 17th century, the British discovered the territory, but it was subsequently colonized by the French army. This led to both nations sharing administrative power and governing the territory with parallel jurisdiction¹². However, the countries initially considered it to have no significant value until the mid-1800s when the discovery of sandalwood¹³ sparked a mercantile interest, giving rise to the Sandalwood Trade. The Sandalwood Trade provided a stable supply of the desired goods and command over the market. Despite its success, the Trade was eventually replaced by slavery when European colonizers coerced¹⁴ locals into working as slaves. This period became known as Blackbirding, during which natives were either kidnapped or deceived into laboring on sugarcane, cotton, and coffee plantations with minimal or no wages. Additionally, the European colonists referred to the enslaved workers as Kanaks.

In 1854, New Caledonia was officially claimed as a French colony and designated as a penal colony, established under the rule of Napoleon III. Approximately 5,000 prisoners were transported there in 1860. Due to its strategic location, the colony served as a secure prison for political opponents of the regimes that emerged during the French Revolution. As a consequence, convicts remained in the territory for a duration equivalent to their prison sentences, and the prison remained active for 35 years.

According to the Australian Trade and Investment Commission, New Caledonia possessed about 10% of the world's nickel reserves. Furthermore, in 1864, the discovery of nickel, facilitated by forced labor, prompted Europeans to send workers to the mines.

¹² **Jurisdiction:** the authority of a court or official organization to make decisions and judgments. (Cambridge dictionary, n.d)

¹³ **Sandalwood:** the hard light-coloured wood of a tree that grows in Southeast Asia and Australia. (Cambridge dictionary, n.d)

¹⁴ **Coerced:** to persuade someone forcefully to do something that they are unwilling to do. (Cambridge dictionary, n.d)

Consequently, indigenous people were displaced from these reserves and excluded from economic activities, leading to discontent that eventually sparked a civil war, including various revolts¹⁵.

Revolts and repercussions

After the Europeans appropriated the resources of the natives, a series of revolts ensued as a response from the Kanaks, leading to a violent period, during the decade of the 60s. The initial uprising was the Native Revolt, when the French government took over Kanak land to use for cattle farming and destroyed local crops, leading various native tribes, mainly Kanak, united and initiated *guerrilla* warfare¹⁶ against the French. According to Britannica, this conflict lasted 7 months and resulted in over 200 French casualties and 1,000 Kanak fatalities. After it, the *indigénat system* was introduced, which excluded Kanaks from legal status, establishing a civil law system based on French civil law. Subsequently, a second rebellion was orchestrated by Protestant missionaries¹⁷; however, the arrival of new diseases, such as the flu, syphilis and leprosy introduced by Europeans contributed to a significant decline in the native population, ultimately giving Europeans an advantage

Moreover, during World War II, New Caledonia became a base allied with the United States of America, housing army headquarters¹⁸ and navy facilities within the territory. Following the conflict, the status of New Caledonia changed to become a French overseas territory. As a result, the population gradually increased due to migration, primarily influenced by Polynesians¹⁹, setting the stage for the nickel boom of 1969 to 1972. As a result, a great number of ships arrived in the territory through the Blackbirding Trade.

¹⁵ **Revolts:** An attempt to get rid of a government by using violence (Cambridge dictionary, n.d)

¹⁶ **Warfare:** The activity of fighting a war, often including the weapons and methods that are used. (Cambridge dictionary, n.d)

¹⁷ **Missionary:** A person who has been sent to a place, usually a foreign country, to teach a religion to the people who live there (Cambridge dictionary, n.d)

¹⁸ **Headquarters:** The main office or center of control of a company or organization. (Cambridge dictionary, n.d)

¹⁹ **Polynesian:** relating to Polynesia, its people, or their languages. (Cambridge dictionary, n.d)

The Caledonian Union, established in May 1953, is a pro-independence political party led by Maurice Lenormand, a French politician. In an effort to strengthen the Caledonian Union's influence, Melanesians and Europeans formed a coalition²⁰ in 1972, aligning with the Party of Kanak Liberation and other political entities that supported the independence to establish the Nationalist²¹ Front. This coalition eventually evolved into the Kanak and Socialist National Liberation Front (FLNKS) in 1984. Simultaneously, the Rally for Caledonia in the Republic (RPCR) emerged as a conservative political party, opposed to separatism and strongly supportive of maintaining French status in the territory, as well as opposing the emerging New Caledonia's independence. The FLNKS boycotted²² the territorial election and created their own provisional government. This led to a decade of political struggles between these two parties, favoring the retention of French influence in the country.

Referendums and accords

In 1985, the French Republic proposed an independence referendum and a self-government association. However, this proposition was rejected by the independence groups, as they sought more time for internal discussions and decision-making. Subsequently, the French government unfairly distributed land, allocating two-thirds to the European community and leaving the remainder for the local population. This disparity led to disagreement among the Kanaks, resulting in roadblocks, gun battles, and property destruction. Furthermore, followed by these events, the Ouvéa Cave Hostage crisis unfolded, during which a separatist group took 27 hostages in an attempt to address the legal situation. Their main objective was to

²⁰ **Coalition:** a group of two or more political parties working together to win an election or govern an area. (Cambridge dictionary, n.d)

²¹ **Nationalist:** a person who wants their country to be politically independent. (Cambridge dictionary, n.d)

²² **Boycott:** to refuse to take part in an activity as a way of expressing strong disapproval. (Cambridge dictionary, n.d)

negotiate with the French government for independence. Consequently, France declared a state of emergency that lasted six months.

As a response to the *Ouvéa* Cave Hostage crisis, the Matignon Accords were negotiated in 1988 between the French government, FLNKS, and RPCR. The main goal was to maintain peace and facilitate the development of New Caledonia, restructuring the political system and providing a grant towards independence²³. The *Nouméa* Accord was subsequently signed, gaining approval through a referendum passed by the French National Assembly. This accord marked the transition from an overseas territory to an overseas country, and laid the groundwork for a self-determination referendum. In the event of failure, it allowed for the possibility of two more referendums to be conducted.

As a consequence of the Nouméa Accord, two referendums were held; however, both resulted unsuccessful. The first, conducted in November 2018, obtaining 56 percent of votes against independence, an unexpected outcome for the pro-independence group. The second referendum, held in October 2020, resulted in a rejection of independence, with 53 percent of votes against, expressing support for the collective decision to remain part of France. In their struggle²⁴ to separate from the French administration and dominion, pro-independence supporters successfully scheduled a third referendum for december, however, the specific date remained under discussion, with pro-independence groups advocating for 2022 due to the Covid-19 pandemic, consequences on their communities, while those opposing independence preferred it to take place in 2021.

Following the anticipation of the third referendum, which has not yet taken place, the French President, Emmanuel Macron, has announced several new policies. These include the

²³ **Independence:** freedom from being governed or ruled by another country. (Cambridge dictionary, n.d)

²⁴ **Struggle:** to experience difficulty and make a very great effort in order to do something. (Cambridge dictionary, n.d)

intentions to enhance military presence in New Caledonia, with the establishment of a defense academy aimed at training local military personnel. Additionally, he proposed a new political statute, involving a constitutional amendment²⁵ in France to limit voting rights in local elections exclusively to long-standing residents. Furthermore, he addressed the issue of isolation and separatism resulting from non-participation in discussions.

Nickel protests

New Caledonia, is the fourth-largest producer of nickel around the world, and plays a crucial role in providing national economic stability. The Goro Nickel-Cobalt Mine is an integrated mining operation located on the Goro Plateau, in the southern region of New Caledonia. This operation is managed by *Vale-Nouvelle-Calédonie* (VNC), a subsidiary of *Companhia Vale Do Rio Doce*, commonly known as *Vale*, a Brazilian mining company that dominates 95% of the monetary profits. The remaining 5% is managed by the *Société de Participation Minière du Sud Calédonien* (SPMSC), a holding company representing three local provinces. However, the Kanak population, mainly represented by FLNKS, advocates for complete control over their natural resources, claiming that it is a crucial factor for maintaining financial autonomy.

In response to this rupture, the Kanak group engaged in violent protests in New Caledonia's rich nickel deposit. Demonstrations led by independence parties (FLNKS) escalated to road blockages and the stoning of police. The situation became an international concern as local residents were interested in foreign investments. In response to these concerns, Sébastien Lecornu, the Minister of Overseas France, initiated an international round table on nickel. However, protest leaders accuse France and loyalists of hindering a predominantly local interest in the project.

²⁵ **Amendment:** A change to a law that is not yet in operation and is still being discussed. (Cambridge dictionary, n.d)

The decisions made by politicians in relation to diplomatic, financial, and legal matters have led to widespread discontent. Consequently, the Kanak people continue to express their dissatisfaction through ongoing, violent protests on the streets of New Caledonia against the French government. They argue that the proposed constitutional reform should not be approved, as it disproportionately affects pro-independence groups. The legal policies implemented have resulted in economic destabilization and severe human rights violations against indigenous groups. The current protests are primarily taking place in front of the parliament.

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XXXVII TECMUN
Glossary of Forbidden Words

Forbidden Words

Defined by the United Nations, are non diplomatic terms participants must avoid to mention during their speeches on the debate and in the writing of resolution projects.

Forbidden Words	Permitted equivalents
First world countries	Developed countries
Third world countries	Developing countries
Gay	Member of the LGBTIQ+ community
War ²⁶	Belic conflict
Rape	Sexual Harassment
Terrorist	Extremist
Kill or murder	Deprive someone of their life
Death	Casualties
Assassination	Homicide
Army	Military forces
Money	Economic resources
Poor	Lack of resources
Okay	Yes or agree
Black ²⁷	African American

²⁶ The word war can be used in order to refer to historical contexts, such as the Cold War, the First World War, etc. It can only be used in the Security Council to refer to armed conflicts.

²⁷ The word black, with regard to race, is not forbidden but it is recommended to limit its use and refer to this sector as African American or Afrodescendants.

XXXVII TECMUN
Glossary for Resolution Projects

Preambulatory Phrases

Preambulatory Phrases are used at the beginning of every Resolution Paper in order to give context about the resolutions made for the topic. Preambulatory Phrases must be written in italics followed by a sentence that gives said context. For each Resolution Paper there must be five sentences beginning with a Preambulatory Phrase.

Affirming	Desiring	Noting with deep concern
Alarmed by	Emphasizing	Noting with satisfaction
Approving	Expecting	Noting further
Bearing in mind	Expressing its appreciation	Observing
Believing	Fulfilling	Reaffirming
Confident	Fully aware	Realizing
Contemplating	Further deploring	Recalling
Convinced	Further recalling	Recognizing
Declaring	Guided by	Referring
Deeply concerned	Having adopted	Seeking
Deeply conscious	Having considered	Taking into consideration
Deeply convinced	Having examined	Taking note
Deeply disturbed	Having received	Viewing with appreciation
Deeply regretting	Keeping in mind	Welcoming

XXXVII TECMUN
Glossary for Resolution Projects

Operative Clauses

Operative Clauses are used at the beginning of every resolution within the Resolution Paper on the debated topic. They must be written in italics and bold.

Accepts	Endorses	Notes
Affirms	Draws the attentions	Proclaims
Approves	Emphasizes	Reaffirms
Authorizes	Encourages	Recommends
Calls	Expresses its appreciation	Regrets
Calls upon	Expresses its hope	Reminds
Condemns	Further invites	Requests
Confirms	Further proclaims	Solemnly
Congratulates	Further reminds	Affirms
Considers	Further recommends	Strongly
Declares accordingly	Further requests	condemns
Deplores	Further resolves	Supports
Designates	Has resolved	Takes note of
		Transmits
		Trusts

