

# JOSMUN VIII

## 2025

Camila García | Luciano Cruz



# JOSMUN

Topic A

Humanitarian Crisis in Latin America

Topic B

Political Instability in Congo

# TABLE OF CONTENTS:

1. WELCOMING LETTER
2. ABOUT THE COMMITTEE
  - 2.1. GENERAL INFORMATION
  - 2.2. VOTING PROCEDURE
3. TOPIC A: HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN LATIN AMERICA
  - 3.1 WHAT IS A HUMANITARIAN CRISIS?
  - 3.2. HISTORICAL CONTEXT
  - 3.3. HOW HAVE HUMANITARIAN CRISES BEEN HANDLED.
  - 3.4. USEFUL LINKS
  - 3.5. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR
  - 3.5. QARMAS
  - 3.6. DELEGATION INDEX
4. TOPIC B: POLITICAL INSTABILITY IN CONGO
  - 4.1. WHAT IS THE POLITICAL INSTABILITY
  - 4.2. HISTORICAL CONTEXT
  - 4.3. HOW HAVE POLITICAL INSTABILITY BEEN HANDLED
  - 4.4. USEFUL LINKS
  - 4.5. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR
  - 4.6. QARMAS
  - 4.7. DELEGATION INDEX

## 1. WELCOMING LETTER

Dear Delegates,

It's a pleasure for us Camila García Serna and Luciano Cruz Lopez to be your presidents in this Security Council of Josmun VIII.

We're deeply honored that you chose this committee for you Josmun VIII experience. These topics represent the challenging and almost inhumane conditions that people from all around the world have to sadly try to survive in. We hope you use all of your resources, and become empathetic of their situations as you work together towards a solution.

We invite you to harness the spirit of collaboration and diplomacy when participating in our model. We have crafted this committee with love, sweat and tears, and we hope you thoroughly enjoy each and every session.

We encourage you to give the best of yourselves, to research and prepare yourselves for this experience and to remember that as delegates, your duty is not to outshine others, but to defend your position as long as it takes, showing your best image and improving yourself as a critical thinker and empathetic leader.

We will always be just a text message away, don't be scared to ask us any questions, we're here for you, and you can count on us for everything you may need.

With enthusiasm,

Camila García Serna

3107141494

Luciano Cruz Lopez

3102049593

## 2. ABOUT THE COMMITTEE:

### 2.1. GENERAL INFORMATION:

First of all, it is essential to know Security Council has primary for the maintenance of international peace ( UN, 2012, page 2 ).



that "The responsibility and security"

“The Security Council takes the lead in determining the existence of a threat to the peace or act of aggression. It calls upon the parties to a dispute to settle it by peaceful means and recommends methods of adjustment or terms of settlement. In some cases, the Security Council can resort to imposing sanctions or even authorize the use of force to maintain or restore international peace and security.”

(<https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en> )

### 2.2 VOTING PROCEDURE

Each of the 15 delegations have to vote for a working paper or a decision to be approved, a minimum of nine votes must be obtained, including the 5 votes of the 5 permanent members of the committee. Another aspect is that the 5 permanent members (China, Russia, Great Britain, France and the United States) have a special veto vote; if any of them votes against any working paper or substantive resolution, it will be invalidated.

### **3. TOPIC A: HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN LATIN AMERICA**

This topic seeks to explore and explain the causes and effects of the ongoing issues all along Latin America in countries such as Colombia and Venezuela. Furthermore we seek to look for solutions in order to face this problem.

#### **3.1 WHAT IS A HUMANITARIAN CRISIS?**

There are three different types of humanitarian crises:

natural disasters

man-made emergencies

complex emergencies.

[...]

Man-made emergencies are extremely dangerous events that are caused by human beings. Such emergencies include:

- Conflict
- Environmental degradation
- Pollution
- Fires
- Plane and train crashes
- Industrial accidents
- Weapons of mass destruction

The UN considers a humanitarian crisis a situation in which basic human needs are sufficiently large and complex that they require significant external help to acquire them.

### 3.2. HISTORICAL CONTEXT:

Latin America has experienced several humanitarian crises throughout its history, often tied to political repression, civil wars, economic collapse, and natural disasters.

Throughout the past years, many Latin American countries have been in what's considered a humanitarian crisis.

Some key ones have been:

- Chile, who had political repression under a dictatorship that lasted from 1973 to 1990. It started after the 1973 coup led by General Augusto Pinochet (overthrowing socialist president Salvador Allende), the country faced mass human rights violations. It was a humanitarian crisis because people faced torture, executions and forced disappearances

There was an international response which was condemnation from the UN and some countries granted asylum to refugees.

- Argentina faced state terrorism under military dictatorship through the years 1976–1983. The "Dirty War" involved systematic persecution of left-wing activists and civilians under a military junta. It was a humanitarian issue because about 30,000 people disappeared, thousands were tortured and killed.

- Nicaragua went through a civil war and a Cold War proxy conflict in the 1970s–1980s. The Sandinista revolution overthrew the Somoza dictatorship (1979), but was followed by the Contra War, funded by the U.S. to fight the Sandinista government. Its

humanitarian issue was that tens of thousands were killed or displaced, which caused economic collapse.

A long term effect that it left behind is ongoing political tension and instability.

- El Salvador had a Civil war in 1979–1992. This war was between a U.S.-backed military regime and leftist guerrillas (FMLN) which caused immense suffering and the civilians. It left behind over 75,000 dead, countless disappeared and mass displacement. Thankfully, there was a peace accord signed in 1992 with UN mediation.

- Haiti has had various humanitarian crises, most of them being caused by natural disasters and political instability. Most began in 2010, and are ongoing. A notable natural cause was a 7.0 magnitude earthquake in 2010 that killed over 200,000 people. This compounded decades of poverty, corruption, and instability. There was also the Cholera outbreak which was introduced by UN troops, gang violence and hunger. Right now there is a state collapse and security vacuum.

- Venezuela has been facing crises since 2014 until the present day. These crises have been politically, economically and humanitarianly caused. The context for these comes from economic mismanagement, hyperinflation, repression under Nicolás Maduro and the collapse of public services. The humanitarian issues revolve around the fact that they have over 7 million migrants and refugees, lack of medicine and food shortages. These situations were recognized internationally as humanitarian emergencies, the UN and NGOs provided aid, but everything caused a regional burden on its neighbours: Colombia, Peru and Brazil.

- Colombia: 1960s–present.



The humanitarian crisis that Colombia has faced is centered in Internal armed conflict. For decades, the government, FARC guerrillas, paramilitaries and narco groups were in belligerent conflict. Thanks to this, there are over 9 million victims of forced displacement, killings, and disappearances.

There was a peace treaty signed with FARC in 2016, but violence continues in some regions.

### **3.3. HOW HAVE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS BEEN HANDLED**

Humanitarian crises in Latin America have been addressed through a combination of national responses, international intervention, and civil society activism, though often reactively and with mixed results. Responses have ranged from direct foreign intervention and refugee aid to transitional justice mechanisms like truth commissions. However, long-term solutions have frequently been hindered by institutional weakness, corruption, and geopolitical interests.

In the Cold War era, many Latin American countries—such as Chile, Argentina, El Salvador, and Nicaragua—faced severe humanitarian crises rooted in political violence and authoritarianism. These crises often involved state terrorism: for example, Argentina's Dirty War (1976–1983) led to the disappearance of an estimated 30,000 people. In response, domestic groups like the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo played a critical role in demanding justice. Internationally, organizations like Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch raised awareness, while the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) documented abuses (IACHR Report on Argentina, 1980). However, during the 1970s and

1980s, many Western governments—particularly the U.S.—supported or overlooked these regimes for geopolitical reasons, undermining accountability.

In the post-dictatorship period, Latin America saw the rise of truth and reconciliation commissions as a method of dealing with past atrocities. For instance, Chile's Rettig Report (1991) and Argentina's CONADEP (1984) provided comprehensive documentation of human rights violations, contributing to transitional justice. While some perpetrators were eventually tried—like Chile's Augusto Pinochet—many others escaped justice due to amnesty laws or lack of political will. The role of the United Nations grew stronger in this period, especially in countries like El Salvador, where the 1992 peace accords were brokered under UN auspices.

In the 21st century, humanitarian responses in Latin America have increasingly addressed complex emergencies that combine political instability, economic collapse, and mass displacement. Venezuela, for example, has experienced one of the largest displacement crises in modern history, with over 7.7 million people fleeing the country since 2014 (UNHCR, 2024: source). International bodies such as UNHCR, the World Food Programme, and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) have coordinated regional humanitarian responses, while neighboring countries like Colombia have granted temporary protected status to migrants. Despite this, funding gaps and host country fatigue have strained these efforts.

Natural disasters have also triggered humanitarian crises, most notably in Haiti, which—though not technically Latin American due to its Francophone culture—is regionally linked. After the 2010 earthquake, over 200,000 people died and over 1.5 million were

displaced. The UN launched a major peacekeeping and aid mission, but was later implicated in introducing cholera, causing nearly 10,000 deaths (NYT, 2016: source). This sparked debate over accountability in international interventions.

Overall, while international aid and regional cooperation have played essential roles in addressing humanitarian crises in Latin America, challenges remain. Structural inequality, impunity, and corruption continue to undermine long-term recovery. Moving forward, strengthening local institutions, ensuring accountability, and promoting inclusive development are key to more sustainable crisis management in the region.

### **3.4. USEFUL LINKS**

- <https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/content/repertoire/research-tools/protection-civilians-armed-conflict>
- <https://www.hrw.org/world-report/1992/country-chapters/chile>
- <https://www.usip.org/publications/1991/10/truth-commission-chile>
- <https://www.usip.org/sites/default/files/file/ElSalvador-Report.pdf>
- <https://www.unhcr.org/venezuela-emergency>
- <https://www.unidadvictimas.gov.co>
- <https://www.jep.gov.co>
- <https://www.nytimes.com/2016/08/18/world/americas/united-nations-haiti-cholera.html>
- <https://www.oas.org/en/iachr/>
- <https://haiti.un.org>

### **3.5. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR**

This topic can be very developed. You can choose different routes for the committee, either way that you choose, we're sure that it'll be a richening experience. Try to include information about other countries too, so you can compare the situation of your country to others and how they've solved their issues, or haven't. This way, you can all work together and find a way to intervene in each others' countries, of course with agreements, and that way, use your resources, and negotiate in a way that all of you benefit from.

### **3.6. QARMAS**

- 1) Has your country ever suffered a humanitarian crisis? How has it affected other countries?
- 2) Has your country taken part in purposefully creating a crisis for another?
- 3) What national emergency resources do you have available?
- 4) How has your country responded to previous humanitarian crises? What consequences did they face?
- 5) How has your country apprehended or stopped humanitarian crises from happening? What consequences have instigators of these such as paramilitant or belligerent groups suffered?

### **3.7. DELEGATIONS INDEX**

- United States of America
- Russia
- United Kingdom
- France
- China
- Colombia

- Venezuela
- Argentina
- El salvador
- Haití
- Chile
- Ecuador
- México
- Paraguay
- Cuba

## **4. TOPIC B: POLITICAL INSTABILITY IN CONGO**

Recently this African nation has been involved in internal governmental issues that have affected not only the stability of the country but its population. In the security council the objective is to not only look for solutions but to look at the impact of this situation for the international community.

### **4.1. WHAT IS POLITICAL INSTABILITY?**

Political instability is the situation in which a government is unable to maintain itself in a stable state and also unable to guarantee basic resources for the population, security and law enforcement, this can cause it to become a failed state, usually due to economic, social or political factors that affect the development and welfare of society. Political instability can manifest itself as violent regime change, political violence, revolts, or frequent changes in fundamental policies. It can also be related to ungovernability, which is when a government cannot implement its plans or cannot be sustained, which leads to social and economic uncertainty.

### **4.2. HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

All the political instability in the Congo began when it gained independence from Belgium in 1960. From that moment on, the new Congolese state faced great difficulties in consolidating itself as a stable government, such as the lack of Congolese officers in the army and the persistence of foreign

officers, which led to a military mutiny and the intervention of Belgium, violating Congolese sovereignty.

In addition, the province of Katanga, known to be rich in minerals, declared independence, being supported by several foreign powers and miners fearful of nationalization, which seriously weakened the Congolese economy. Prime Minister Patrice Lumumba, after being rejected by the United States, tried to get the support of the Soviet Union to recover the Katanga province, which intensified the political crisis and led to his overthrow and assassination in 1961, in which both Belgian agents and the CIA were directly involved.

General Mobutu Sese Seko was also directly involved in the assassination of Lumumba. He also led the Congolese armed forces until 1965, when he staged a coup d'état against President Joseph Kasa-Vubu and installed a dictatorship in the Congo that lasted 32 years. This dictatorship was strongly supported by the CIA and several foreign powers. During his mandate Mobutu kidnapped, tortured and even killed several political opponents or people who went against the interests of the dictatorship. In 1971 he changed the name of the country to Zaire (being his first and only president).

In 1994 the Tutsis invaded the eastern Congo, the Tutsis were against Mobutu because he had supported the Hutus, in 1996 Mobutu threatened the Tutsis with the death penalty if they did not leave their territory, this is what triggered the first Congolese war in which Tutsi revolutionary groups, other revolutionary groups and other countries allied to overthrow Mobutu. This war ended in 1997 when the rebels took the capital, Kinshasa, forcing Mobutu to flee the country leaving Laurent-Désiré Kabila as the new president of the Republic of Congo.

One year later, the second Congolese war began because President Laurent Kabila ordered Ugandan and Rwandan troops to withdraw from the Congo, causing great discontent on the part of both nations. On August 2, 1998, both nations took advantage of a mutiny that began in the city of Goma to support rebel groups, in addition to occupying the northwestern part of the Congo, which

generated a violent response from Kabila ordering the killing of the Tutsi who were in Congolese territory. The government's call for the civilian population to kill the Ugandan and Rwandan governments began a joint attack with the rebel groups against the Congolese government. During the course of the war several nations such as Zimbabwe, Chad, Namibia, Libya and Sudan joined in; in turn Uganda betrayed Rwanda and joined Kabila. In 1999, the deployment of blue helmets in the Congo by the Security Council began. In 2001, President Kabila was assassinated by a bodyguard and this brought great uncertainty within the Congolese armed forces and within the entire social aspect of the country. 2002 a peace agreement was reached with Rwanda in which the war would end and they would stop supporting the guerrillas, however even though a peace agreement was signed and support for the guerrillas was weakened, the violence and foreign debt of the Congo has continued to increase significantly, giving it the title of failed state.

#### **4.3. HOW HAVE POLITICAL INSTABILITY BEEN HANDLED.**

Political instability is managed through various strategies that seek to anticipate, reduce and respond to threats that may affect governments, organizations or businesses. First, it is essential to conduct a continuous risk analysis, constantly assessing the local and global political context, as well as economic, social and regulatory factors, to anticipate potential crises or changes that affect stability.

In addition, collaboration with local partners is key to better understand the political environment and minimize financial and operational risks. To this end, early warning systems are implemented to monitor legislation, news and social networks, allowing us to detect signs of instability and act quickly.



Another important measure is diversification and contingency planning, which consists of diversifying supply chains, suppliers and operations to reduce dependence on volatile regions, as well as developing plans to respond to different political scenarios.

In addition, political risk insurance provides protection against financial losses arising from adverse events, offering greater security for investments and operations in unstable areas. To coordinate these actions, many organizations form specialized political risk management teams to monitor, assess and respond to crises.

Finally, rapid response capability and effective communication are essential to minimize negative impacts when political risk arises, through negotiations, communication strategies and mobilization of support.

#### **4.4. USEFUL LINKS**

- <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2023/11/06/the-lumumba-plot-the-secret-history-of-the-cia-and-a-cold-war-assassination-stuart-a-reid-book-review>
- <https://www.britannica.com/story/how-did-patrice-lumumba-die>
- <https://www.brusselstimes.com/753176/the-life-and-cruel-death-of-patrice-lumumba>
- <https://kulpologika.hu/the-leopard-of-zaire-a-dictators-rise-and-demise/>
- <https://courses.lumenlearning.com/suny-worldhistory/chapter/33-2-3-mobutu-and-zaire/>
- <https://www.cfr.org/global-conflict-tracker/conflict/violence-democratic-republic-congo>

- <https://pragmora.com/conflicts/drcongo/timeline/timeline3/>
- <https://pragmora.com/conflicts/drcongo/timeline/timeline3/>
- <https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/monthly-forecast/2025-03/democratic-republic-of-the-congo-29.php>
- <https://africacenter.org/spotlight/drc-conflict-new-phase/>
- <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2025/3/24/mapping-the-human-toll-of-the-conflict-in-dr-congo>

#### **4.5. COMMENTS OF THE CHAIR**

First of all, we hope that everyone can have an enriching experience and a respectful, fluid debate. We chose this topic because we believe that you can have a very interesting debate about it. We also hope that you have a great previous preparation because to understand this topic you will need to look up a lot about the historical context of your delegation, in order to know which choices would be the best to solve the problem.

#### **4.6. QARMAS**

- 1) What role has your delegation played in the political instability in Congo?
- 2) Historically speaking, has your delegation ever been politically unstable? Why?
- 3) How has your country recovered from political instability? What measures have worked globally?

- 4) What domestic reflection has political instability had on your country?
- 5) How can political instability permanently affect the outside perspective and relations of your country?

#### **4.7. DELEGATIONS INDEX:**

- United States of America
- Russia
- United Kingdom
- France
- China
- Republic of the Congo
- Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Rwanda
- Uganda
- Belgium
- Zimbabwe
- Namibia

- Sudan

- Angola

- Chad