



NATO 1950 - CBCMUNVII

Academic Background



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## ACADEMIC BACKGROUND



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#### ***I. Introduction and welcoming message***

Greeting delegates,



It is such an honor for me to welcome you all to the VII edition of CBCMUN. Every year we try to exceed all expectations and give participants a unique Model United Nations experience. This year we specifically integrated a new committee that is this the historical one. In an attempt to give many delegates not only a unique but a learning space of cooperation and partnership. My name is Santiago Viaña and this year I will be president to the NATO 1950 Crisis committee where I expect a healthy and learning environment. I hope we all have an experience beyond the academic agenda but a respectful and fruitful encounter.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization was created in the year 1949 By the founding nations: United States of America, Canada, United Kingdom, France, Italy, Norway, Denmark, Iceland, Belgium, The Netherlands, Luxembourg, and Portugal. This treaty served a protective and defensive function against the expansion of Communism in Europe and North Atlantic regions.

Article 5 is the key to the treaty and in the event of an aggression against a member state it commits its members to take the necessary measures "including the use of armed force to restore and ensure security in the North Atlantic region."



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During the cold war and within the framework of NATO, the USA maintained a significant military presence in Europe.

During the 1950's two significant wars exploited. The Korean War and the first Indochinese war. In this background we will explain and give a brief but important highlights and information vital to your formation as a delegate.

## **II. Explanation of the committee's procedures**



The NATO committee isn't a part of the UN so, because of this it doesn't have the same format or procedures like the United Nation General Assembly.

Instead of using the working paper we will use:

- **Executive Orders:** this is a format that will serve the function of doing an immediate action or proposal for the committee. Sometime there will be more than one executive order and will be voted in the order assigned. Executive orders will be used after a crisis or in an extraordinary event to give a solution or proposition. An executive order will be implemented or passed if the voting has most delegates.
- **General Order:** This will be done at the end of the agenda and will serve as a final solution. This has the same procedure as the executive order.



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Note: The orders will be written in the format to UN press release. They must include the name of the signing delegations, the date of the crisis and of course, the text of resolution.

They are orders given for any type of formal, or unformal command.

### ***III. Members of this committee***

#### **Members:**

1. Belgium
2. Canada
3. Denmark
4. France
5. Greece
6. Iceland
7. Italy
8. Japan
9. Luxemburg
10. Norway
11. Portugal
12. South Korea
13. The Netherlands
14. Turkey



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15. United Kingdom
  16. United States of America

#### IV. Key Words

Sphere of influence: an area in which the power or interests of a country or an organization are of greatest importance. (Cambridge, n.d.)

Colonialism: a practice of domination, which involves the subjugation of one people to another. (Plato. Stanford, s.f.)

Imperialism: state policy, practice, or advocacy of extending power and dominion, especially by direct territorial acquisition or by gaining political and economic control of other areas. (The Editors of Encyclopaedia Britannica, s.f.)

Anti-Imperialism: opposition to or hostility toward imperialism. (merriam-webster, s.f.)

Constabulary: A civil, non-paramilitary (police) force consisting of police officers called constables.

Protectorate: a country that is generally controlled and defended by a more powerful country.



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#### V. Topic 1: Korean War

##### **Context:**

After World War II, the United States and the Soviet Union agreed that, in order to maintain stability in Asia, they needed to divide Korea in two. Before this agreement, the Korean peninsula and the Manchurian region (now Chinese territory) belonged to the Japanese empire. In their hurried effort to disarm the Japanese Army and repatriate the Japanese population in Korea (almost 700,000), the Great powers accepted in August 1945 to divide the country for administrative purposes at the 38th parallel. At least from the American perspective, this geographic division was a temporary expedient; however, the Soviets began a short-lived reign of terror in northern Korea that quickly politicized the division by driving thousands of refugees south.

The two newly formed countries could not agree in a way where both were united. In the year 1947 President Truman took the case to the United Nations, where they accepted to assume responsibility for the south of Korea. While internal issues were being fixed and rearranged in south of the 38° parallel (Both the South Korean national police and the constabulary doubled in size, providing a southern security force of about 80,000 by 1947) the former guerrilla leader and member of the communist party Kim Il-sung took control over the north, and aided the guerrilla groups and rearmed and fomented the growth of the country armed forces (now 100,000 men).



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In 1948 the UN granted independence to South Korea, but southern communists and guerrilla groups were in complete disagreement. These groups rose and started to fight in almost every province and region of the newly formed Republic of Korea Army (ROKA). This conflict extended to a small encounter in the border between the South Korean constabulary and the Korean People's Army. The North launched 10 cross-border guerrilla incursions to draw ROKA units away from their guerrilla-suppression campaign in the South. This uprising in the south failed, but unfortunately more than 30,000 civilians died.

#### **Theoretical framework:**

Kim il-sung was a strong believer of a unified communist Korea. North Korea was in the sphere of influence of the USSR meaning that it was dependent in the decisions of the soviet country. Kim il-sung in the year 1949 requested the soviet leader Joseph Stalin to initiate a conventional invasion of the south. Stalin knowing that south Korea was protected by the USA and NATO had no other choice than to refuse the request, because the armament was not enough. The next year Stalin approved due to the weaponry superiority of the north regarding the south, and additionally aided economically and medically the north.

In the predawn hours of June 25, the North Koreans struck across the 38th parallel behind a thunderous artillery barrage. The principal offensive, conducted by the KPA (Korean





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people's army) I Corps (53,000 men), drove across the Imjin River toward Seoul. The II Corps (54,000 soldiers) attacked along two widely separated axes, one through the cities of Ch'unch'ŏn and Inje to Hongch'ŏn and the other down the east coast road toward Kangnŭng. The KPA entered Seoul in the afternoon of June 28, but the North Koreans did not accomplish their goal of a quick surrender by the Syngman Rhee government and the disintegration of the South Korean army. Instead, remnants of the Seoul-area ROKA forces formed a defensive line south of the Han River, and on the east coast road ROKA units gave ground in good order. Still, if the South were to stave off collapse, it would need help from the U.S. armed forces.

Truman's initial response was to order MacArthur to transfer munitions to the ROKA and to use air cover to protect the evacuation of U.S. citizens. Instead of pressing for a congressional declaration of war, which he regarded as too alarmist and time-consuming when time was of the essence, Truman went to the United Nations for sanction. Under U.S. guidance, the UN called for the invasion to halt (June 25), then for the UN member states to provide military assistance to the ROK (June 27). By charter the Security Council considered and passed the resolutions, which could have been vetoed by a permanent member such as the Soviet Union. The Soviets, however, were boycotting the Council over the issue of admitting communist China to the UN. Congressional and public opinion in the United States, meanwhile, supported military intervention without significant dissent. (Millett, 2020)



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The USA faced a reality that it was that ROKA forces and the remaining US Army in Japan and in the Korean peninsula couldn't face the KPA forces. So, at the first week of August the UNC (United Nation Command) and the USA forces slowed the

progression of the North Korean forces.

#### **Thematic focus:**

In 1950 most of countries allied to the United States and In NATO saw the devastation of the South Korean Country so, to stop the communist expansion brigades and medical aids were sent to the Korean peninsula.

It's a crucial moment during the war, all the countries in NATO are seeking to end the war but the delegate must see possible solutions, like: massive intervention, attack the soviets, or just send as much economical and medical id as possible. Every delegation must take in count what the country has done and support that actions or take radical turns for the flow of the debate.

#### **VI. Topic 2: First Indochina War**

#### **Context:**



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In the 19th century, Vietnam and the Indochinese peninsula were gradually conquered by the French, who controlled it as a protectorate (1883–1939) and then as a possession (1939–45). Vietnamese rule did not return to the country until Sept. 2, 1945, when the Nationalist leader Ho Chi Minh proclaimed its independence. From 1946 to 1954, the French opposed independence, and Ho Chi Minh led guerrilla warfare against them in the first Indochina War. (Editors of Britanicca, s.f.)

#### **Theoretical framework:**

The French Indochina War broke out in 1946 and went on for eight years, with France's war effort largely funded and supplied by the United States.

The Viet Minh was national resistance independence coalition founded in 1941 at Pác Bó by Hồ Chí Minh. This group denominated itself as anti-Imperialist, anti-French, and anti-Japanese. After the Japanese left the Indochinese peninsula this group and other nationalist groups opposed to the reoccupation of the peninsula by the French.

In the favor of the Vietminh were the strong nationalist and anti-colonialist sentiments of the population. Further, as the Vietminh hid amongst the population, French use of torture, napalm and attacks that often-killed civilians, fueled insurgent recruitment. The conflict ground to an unwinnable status: neither side able to defeat the other. A turning point came in 1948 when Mao Zedong's forces gained ground in neighboring China. By 1949, The US decided to back France and the Vietminh received support from China. Both sides were now better armed than previously, and the scale of battles increased.



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With new Vietminh victories, the French began arming a national army, and undertook 'cleansing operations' to root out opponents in rural areas. The Vietminh used terrorist tactics to strike within French-held territory. (World Peace Foundation, 2015)



In 1950 after the success of the communists in China, the Viet Minh had an ally in the north. So, it received plenty of supplies that helped the fight against the colonial power, France. This same year Hồ Chí Minh's government was recognized by the

Soviet Union and the Chinese government. In counterpart the French put as ruler of the south, the former emperor Bảo Đại, and was recognized by the USA and the UK.

Intense combat was taken between the two countries, but in an unexpected turn, the Korean war broke. The United States attention was divided on both wars, but one was more needed so, the guerrilla war was more potent.

#### **Thematic focus:**

In NATO there were many opinions against and in favor of colonialism. Many countries in face of the Indochina war took an anti-colonialist stance. But countries like the USA, in fear of communism spread, helped other colonial powers to stop the proliferation.



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As a member of The North Atlantic Treaty Organization your delegation must take a stand based on the country's views. Normally this debate will have to sides that will disagree with each other. Some will agree with the premise of the self-determination of countries and others in a position of fear of communism.

### VII. Quarmas

Korean War:

1. What is the interest of your delegation in this conflict?
2. What type of aid did your delegation supply?
3. Does your delegation agree with a stronger military response?
4. What was your delegation's opinion of the division of the two Koreas?

Indochina War:

1. Your delegation agrees with the idea of colonial powers?
2. What is your delegation's opinion of the independence of the Indochinese peninsula?
3. Your delegation has colonies?
4. What are the intentions of your delegation in the war?



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