



UNSC

Specialized Committees

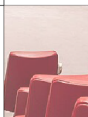
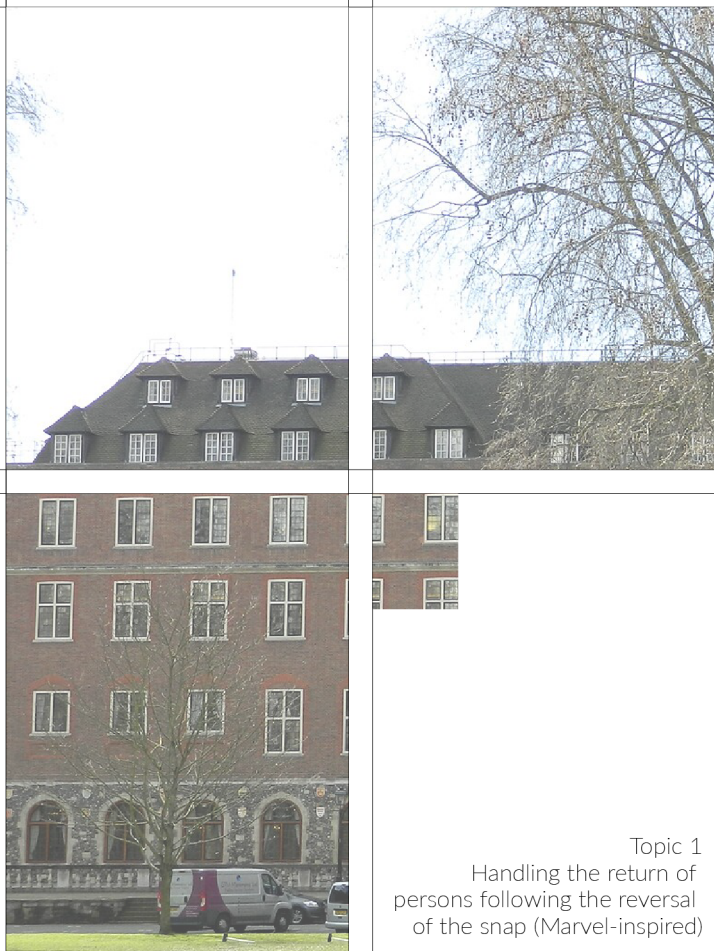
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Topic 1
Handling the return of
persons following the reversal
of the snap (Marvel-inspired)

October 5-6, 2026

Committee
Security Council

Georgia Tech
Model United Nations



Bridging technology and diplomacy.



Georgia Tech
Model United Nations

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#GTMUN2026



Letter from the Secretary General



Esteemed delegates,

My name is Henry Bui, your Secretary General for the 2026 edition of the Georgia Tech Model United Nations Conference, also lovingly known as GTMUN. As your Secretary General, I would like to give you all a warm welcome as you begin your journey this conference cycle.

Every year at GTMUN, we see hundreds of you delegates spend hours speaking about your ideas, deliberating with others about the efficacy of solutions, and collaborating with compatriots to draft extensive resolutions. It is always impressive to see each delegate's ability to tackle these very significant issues affecting the real world today, proposing novel solutions, creatively applying international policy, and synthesizing resolutions that solve these urgent questions comprehensively and on a global scale.

I am especially excited to see everything you all will achieve this October. With over 1,000 delegates attending, this will be the largest GTMUN to date, and with it, we are bringing you 18 diverse committees to further test your abilities. Each committee has been carefully crafted to open unique perspectives and to allow each delegate to apply their skills in possibly new, unique ways. I hope that in the midst of being lost in deep research rabbit holes and hours of debate in each session, you all are satisfactorily challenged and that you all leave with joy and excitement in the work you accomplish.

Outside of the Scheller building where you will debate for two days, you will find that many of the skills you have used will be applicable to other aspects of your professional career: your ability to speak publicly, to improvise and adapt, and to act diplomatically. As a computer science student and teaching assistant, I have found that my experience in Model UN has been some of my most valuable. It has taught me to be confident in what I say, and it has taught me how to work with people with all different kinds of backgrounds and perspectives. One of our core values at Georgia Tech is that we thrive on diversity, and that is something that shines strongly at GTMUN.

As you prepare for committee, I want you to remember the most important thing you should get out of GTMUN—even more important than demonstrating your abilities or honing your skills for your professional career—is having fun. Not every speech has to be perfect, and not every unmoderated caucus has to go your way! Take the opportunity to try eccentric things in your speeches and diplomatic approach, and take the opportunity to meet new people. Do not forget that you are surrounded by many others who have similar goals, aspirations, and interests as you do! You might find a future close friend. Though competing is quite fulfilling (and the prospect of awarding is exciting), it can also be very stressful, so it is critical to find joy in what you are doing.

Once again, we, the GTMUN Secretariat, are excited to see everything you will achieve.

Good luck & have fun,

Henry Bui

Secretary General of GTMUN 2026



What is a *Position Paper*?

A position paper is a paper which describes how a country intends to address the topics of the committee, detailing tangible solutions to committee issues and connection to the country's policies. A position paper should contain details for each topic that will be addressed by the committee.

Formatting Requirements

- 12-point font, double spaces Times New Roman
- 1-2 pages per topic (excluding Works Cited page)
- A Works Cited page with citations in MLA format
- Files submitted in .pdf format with title "GTMUN26_COMMITTEE_COUNTRY.pdf"
- e.g., "GTMUN26_DISEC_Germany.pdf" or "GTMUN26_UNEP_United_States.pdf"

Start Each Topic Page With

- Committee: [Name of committee]
- Delegation: [Name of delegation]
- Topic: [Topic name/decription]

Position Paper Rubric

In order to be eligible for awards, delegates must submit a position paper and receive a score of at least 12/20 (for single-topic committees) or 24/40 (for double-topic committees). Refer to the next page for the exact scoring guidelines.

Our AI Policy

Delegates are expected to be drafting documents during the span of the conference using their own thoughts and ideas. As such, GTMUN **does not permit** plagiarism, pre-writing, or the use of generative AI during conferences.

- Plagiarism is the act of using another individual's work or writing and passing it as one's own without proper citation or credit. This includes writing from other delegates in the committee or from online sources.
- Pre-writing is the act of writing material for in-conference documents (e.g., working papers, draft resolutions, crisis directives) ahead of the conference. While doing prior research and bringing research notes is permitted (and encouraged), these notes should not contain text that is intended to be directly copied and pasted into a document. Suspicion of pre-writing is subject to the chair's discretion.
- Generative AI tools (such as ChatGPT, Claude, and Gemini) cannot be used to partially or wholly write a conference document. GTMUN recognizes the rapidly evolving landscape of artificial intelligence engines as a tool for research. Though discouraged, GTMUN accepts the use of such tools to locate resources and brainstorm starting solutions. However, generative AI must not be used to generate content for the conference, such as in-conference documents and position papers. GTMUN encourages the development of creative, unique solutions in committee and knows delegates are more than capable of producing such ideas without relying on generative AI.

Delegates that violate the writing policy will face consequences that may include disqualification from awards.

	Great (5)	Good (4)	Adequate (3)	Poor (1)
Background	- Detailed description of the topic (including dates and stakeholders) - Several facts and statistics - Discusses many relevant UN documents and resolutions	- Basic description of topic (including some dates and stakeholders) - Some facts and statistics - Discusses some relevant UN documents and resolutions	- Minimal description of topic (with no or few dates and stakeholders) - Few facts and statistics - Misses some key relevant UN documents and resolutions	- Unclear or incorrect description of topic - Incorrect or missing facts or statistics - No mention of relevant UN documents and resolutions
Policy	- Country's detailed history with issue - Detailed present position (or a strongly-defended inferred position) of country - Several references to statements from appropriate officials or documents - Several facts and statistics	- Country's basic history with issue - Present position (or reasonable inferred position) of country - Some references to statements from appropriate officials or documents - Some facts and statistics	- Sparsely describes country's history with issue - Present position (or basic inferred position) of country - Few references to statements from appropriate officials and documents - Few facts and statistics	- Incorrect or missing description of country's history with issue - Incorrect present position (or unreasonably inferred position) of country - No references to statements from appropriate officials and documents - Incorrect or missing facts and statistics
Solutions	- Detailed personal objectives - Proposes well-supported potential solutions - Identifies delegates to work with and provides strong reasoning for selections - Actionable, reasonable solutions which are within the scope of the committee	- Expresses personal objectives - Proposes reasonable potential solutions - Identifies delegates to work with and provides reasonable justification for selections - Actionable solutions within the scope of committee	- States personal objective - Proposes potential solutions - Identifies delegates to work with - Actionable solutions	- No proposed goals or plans - No potential collaborators mentioned - Implausible or missing actionable solutions
Mechanics	- No grammar, spelling, or punctuation errors - Numerous and diverse citations from appropriate sources	- Few grammar, spelling, or punctuation errors - Citations from appropriate sources	- Some grammar, spelling, or punctuation mistakes - One or two citations from inappropriate sources	- Many grammar, spelling, or punctuation mistakes - No citations from appropriate sources

Intro to Committee

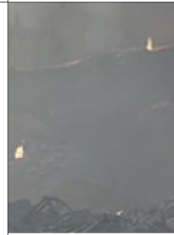
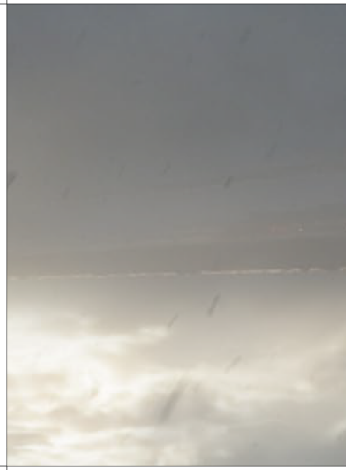
This committee is a meeting of the UNSC (United Nations Security Council). Though the UNSC is a body of the United Nations, it operates quite differently from the General Assembly. The UNSC consists of 15 member states: 10 members rotate every 2 years, and 5 are permanent members with veto rights (how this will work for the purposes of this committee is explained further in the committee mechanics section). The resolutions adopted by the UNSC are binding on the members of the UN. Powers this committee has include, but are not limited to, enforcing economic sanctions, approving military action, providing humanitarian aid in the form of supplies, and establishing peacekeeping operations. The goal of this body is to take the necessary actions to keep international peace by preventing and resolving conflicts of all kinds.

Disclaimer

Model United Nations provides an opportunity for delegates to engage diplomatically with topics of global importance and explore possibilities for conflict resolution in a meaningful way. Many of the topics at hand may involve sensitive or controversial subject matter. We ask delegates to be respectful and professional when engaging with their committee and communicating with fellow delegates and GTMUN Conference staff. The content warning below is meant to warn you of potentially controversial topics that are present in the content of this background guide, as well as content that may appear in other aspects of the committee (e.g. debate, speeches, directives), so that you can prepare yourself before reading this background guide and participating in the committee. At GTMUN, we take equity violations very seriously and require delegates to fully comply with our equity guidelines. Failure to do so will result in an immediate disqualification from awards, and you may be asked to leave the conference. Please remain respectful in committee, and avoid overgeneralizations as well as take into account individual differences and contexts during your speeches. If you have any questions regarding our equity guidelines, we encourage you to contact one of our staff members. If, because of this committee's content warning, you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to our staff via email at gtmunconference@gmail.com.

Committee Mechanics

This committee is a double-delegate Security Council. While this is a double-delegation committee, both members of each delegation will remain in the room the entire time. Because this is a Security Council, instead of working towards writing resolutions over the course of the conference, the committee will flow in cycles. Each cycle will begin with a crisis update (a series of developments and issues that have come up due to actions of the committee and the movement of time). Then, through formal debate, the committee will work to write directives (shorter form papers that take action to address the problems at hand). The directives that pass will influence the next crisis update. Unlike typical crisis committees, there will be no JPDs (Joint Personal Directives) or backroom crisis notes. During voting, directives will pass by a simple majority unless the directive is vetoed. The vetoes will operate as follows: if a majority of permanent member states choose to enact veto power, then the directive will fail immediately. This power will be limited to one directive per session.



Topic

Handling the return of
persons following the
reversal of the snap

Topic Overview

Though this topic is inspired by the events of the Marvel Cinematic Universe, debate should be grounded in realism. In particular, the committee should specifically focus on the issues of the world today and not those of the superhuman population. The topic at hand is the world's response to "The Blip."

In 2018, Thanos, a resident of the moon Titan, collected the 6 Infinity Gems and wiped away half of all life in the universe. Following this, Earth slowly crumbled in every sector. Economies took drastic hits with lower workforces, food supplies dwindled, and technological developments stagnated (Blip, 2026).

This catastrophic recession lasted for 5 years, until in 2023, a superhuman group known as the Avengers reunited to defeat Thanos and restore the life that had been wiped away. Many had hoped this victory would lead to a return to prosperity; however, the path to recovery has been significantly more challenging than anticipated. The 50% of life who were brought back are returning to a world that moved on without them. People returned to occupied homes, replaced jobs, and family and friends who were now 5 years older. While families rejoice at the return of their long-lost loved ones, governments are now faced with the challenges of dealing with the unexpected influx in population. The Security Council, in the current year of 2023, is tasked with tackling the issues from the 5-year recession and the sudden reappearance of over 4 billion people.

History of the Committee

- **1945 *The formation of the UNSC*:** The Security Council was established as a body within the UN that could take stronger actions to respond to crises and prevent global conflicts.
- **1950-53 *The Korean War*:** The UN made its first response to military action. The UNSC responded to the Korean War by declaring North Korea an aggressor, authorizing military assistance for South Korea, and uniting military command under the USA. All of these actions were taken via resolutions 82-84.
- **2018 *The Snap*:** Thanos wiped out half of the life in the universe using the Infinity Gauntlet, sending the world into disarray. Economies and governments quickly fell apart in response to the massive change in population.
- **2023 *This Committee's meeting*:** The members of the 2023 Security Council have convened to address the issues caused by “the blip” with the goals of preventing global conflicts and aiding nations through the recovery process from the issues mentioned above.

Relevant actions taken by this body will be discussed further in later sections of this guide.

Key Terms and Acronyms

<i>Humanitarian terms</i>	
<i>Asylum seeker</i>	An individual who has left their home country, crossed an international border, and applied for recognition as a refugee in a new country, but is still awaiting a final decision on their claim.
<i>Peacekeeping operations</i>	International efforts authorized by the UN Security Council to help countries navigate from conflict to peace
<i>NGO (Non-governmental organization)</i>	A non-profit, voluntary citizens' group, organized on a local, national, or international level to address issues in support of the public good
<i>Economic terms</i>	
<i>Hyperinflation</i>	Rapid, out-of-control price increases, typically exceeding 50% per month, which destroy currency value and devastate economies
<i>Economic collapse</i>	A widespread, severe, and often sudden breakdown of normal market mechanisms, commerce, and financial systems
<i>GDP per capita</i>	A key economic metric measuring a country's total economic output (GDP) divided by its total population, representing the average economic contribution or income per person

Power Structure Terms

<i>Power Vacuum</i>	A political or organizational situation where a central authority or leadership has been removed, lost, or weakened, creating a dangerous void that various factions vie to fill. It implies a lack of control, often leading to instability, conflict, or chaos as new forces emerge
<i>Failed State</i>	A sovereign entity with a broken government that can no longer provide basic services, maintain security, or exercise monopoly over the legitimate use of force. It is characterized by severe instability, high levels of crime, and the loss of control over its territory to rival factions
<i>Insurgency</i>	A violent, organized, and often long-term rebellion by a group against an established government or authority, aimed at challenging its control and legitimacy
<i>Non-State Actors</i>	Entities—including organizations, groups, or individuals—that operate independently of any national government, possessing significant influence in international politics, economics, or security
<i>Conflict Zone</i>	A geographical area characterized by ongoing armed hostility, violence, or severe instability, where peace is absent and daily life is severely disrupted

Introduction to Topic

The Security Council is tasked with tackling all kinds of issues that have arisen from “The Blip.” While the world is currently dealing with a great many issues, it is the Security Council’s goal to target those that can be solved with direct, strategic intervention (i.e., deployment of humanitarian aid and resources, placement of economic sanctions to alleviate trade concerns, investigation of disputes that may spin out into larger global conflict). The issues at hand can be broken down into two key issues: (1) damages incurred by the original loss of population and (2) issues incurred by a sudden spike in population.

Loss of Population

This includes economic crashes caused by the lack of workforce and governmental collapse caused by the death of world leaders. With a significantly reduced workforce, many businesses were unable to continue functioning. Major corporations closed, and with little demand, the global economy experienced a depression magnitudes worse than the Great Depression of the 1930s. Now that the population has returned, these economies need to get back on track. Based on the most recent calculations by global economists, the average national unemployment rate is 55%. Over the past 5 years, GDP has dropped on average by 42%. However, global economies are on the mend.

Economies were not the only thing to be damaged by this population loss. Many governments took drastic hits to their functionality when important figures were “blipped away.” Leaders’ vanishing led to political turmoil and debates over power. At a more drastic level, the “blipping” of government workers resulted in the collapse of many government-provided services. Several countries found their law enforcement divisions becoming too weak and watched their nation devolve into a lawless region. Other nations lost too many military personnel and became extremely vulnerable. Postal services, sanitation services, and other aid also struggled.

One example of a crisis caused by these issues is regarding the German sanitation department. What used to be an incredibly efficient system has all but fallen apart. Without regular inspection and maintenance, the filtration system in the nation’s pipes has begun to fail, making clean water less accessible. Disposal of waste has not been provided for years, leading to the streets filling with garbage. In some rural areas, indoor plumbing itself is no longer an option, with people resorting to other methods of disposing of their bodily waste. All of these issues have compounded into a cholera epidemic.

Another issue plagues the nation of Australia. The once exceptional animal control



A Wild Fox in the Australian wilderness

system has become a thing of the past. Though there are only half as many, invasive species and feral animals have not been kept in check due to a lack of manpower. Cities and towns are slowly being overrun by wild animals. Farmers now find themselves needing to set traps and build fences to protect their crops. Some invasive species, such as foxes, are also posing a danger to urban areas. While there are a few cases of people being lethally attacked by these animals, the disease they bring has become a notable threat. It is currently estimated that 10% of the wild fox population in Australia has rabies. The German sanitation department and the Australian system for animal control are just two of many examples of how government bureaucracies have failed in the wake of the “blip” and have led to mass issues for their people.

In response to these new weaknesses and issues, many non-governmental groups came to power to fill the gaps in governmental power, some of which had predatory motives. Many terrorist organizations attempted to infiltrate collapsing nations to assert their control, and as there is an attempt to return to normalcy, these organizations are fighting as hard as they can to remain in control. In the past, non-state actors who have taken over governments include the Taliban, who, through insurgency, replaced the Afghan government and imposed their own rule on the people for seven years starting in 1994. ISIS in regions of Iraq and Syria controlled citizens with its military force and even collected taxes to fund its regime. In all of these cases, these organizations prioritize their own needs and wants and damage the integrity of the standing government while often hurting civilians.

One new non-state actor that has arisen in this time is known as the Flag Smashers. They are an organization defined by the belief that the world was better after the snap. They wish to return the governments of the world to the state they were in before the mass return of people. They want to keep a borderless world,



A member of the Flag Smashers

but their means of achieving this is through disbanding national governments. Their goal is to destroy the governments of the world (Flag Smashers, 2026). Compounding these problems is the fact that certain nations have given up on border control. Though these open borders have been enjoyed by many, some regions have become a mess of overlapping countries, some fully

collapsed and others run by non-state actors. In some regions, this just means international travel is a free-for-all; in others, it means there are massive areas of the planet where countries once stood that are now only a mix of populations with no clear central authority.

This has even allowed the uber-wealthy to use their wealth to build their own dictatorships, completely ignoring the laws of the nations surrounding them. A prime example of this is the nation of Latveria. Ruled by the dictator Victor von Doom, this state is thought of as a utopia by some and a dystopia by others, filled with a high quality of life and even higher governmental surveillance. While no other individual has officially created their own nation at the level of Latveria at this point, there are some areas of concern. For instance, due to a lack of government control, Northern Chile, Northern Argentina, Southern Bolivia, and all of Paraguay have formed into a large region devoid of an overarching government. Though multiple billionaires have begun buying property in this region in large numbers, no attempt to control the region has happened yet.

Finally, during the Blip, many countries held snap elections to replace their leaders, and now there is the question of who should be in charge: the “blipped” leader or the newly elected one. It is unclear who reigns over these nations, and it is even more unclear as to who should decide the answer to these questions.

All of these issues raise the question of how the world can be put back together and what things need to change. Some nations argue that



An artist's representation of von Doom

the open borders and decreased manufacturing have been beneficial. Decreased manufacturing certainly has improved the state of the environment. Other nations have focused on the issue of these lawless nations and believe that boosting enforcement and peacekeeping actions are a top priority. Whatever is decided, it is clear that action must be taken. It is the Security Council's responsibility to intervene in situations where they can undertake a direct response.

Spike in Population

The main issue at hand in this sector is food supplies. The agricultural industry had adjusted to a global population half its current size and now must determine how to accommodate the sudden increase in numbers. This shortage is leading to the world's largest famine.

Food supplies are not the only issue. Industries such as health care have also adjusted to the much smaller population. Health care is overwhelmed by the now massive need and is facing unsustainable over-demand. Overall, all sectors are responding to a now doubled population and do not have the resources to respond. These issues are also compounded by the economic crisis previously mentioned.

Another key issue at hand with regard to the new population is the massive housing crisis that is now afoot. Billions of people are now unhoused because their place of residence was given to someone else while they were gone. Though there is theoretically enough housing capacity (since houses were not "blipped"), the vacancies during the 5-year period led to a complete lack of property maintenance, making many homes unsafe to live in.

The housing problem can be broken into two major subissues. Firstly, houses are being claimed by both those who originally lived there and those who moved in during the 5-year period. Such legal issues need to be disambiguated and untangled. Secondly, given the lack of sufficient housing capacity for the current demand, additional housing support needs to be created promptly (either through

new construction or through repairing abandoned homes).

In a similar vein, many have returned to their workplace only to find their position replaced or completely eliminated. Though rebuilding the world paves the way for many new employment opportunities, it is still undetermined how to reallocate the unemployed workforce into these new jobs.



An overwhelmed hospital

Historical precedent

Somalia 1990

In the early 90s, the nation of Somalia entered a civil war, which disbanded its current government and led to a failed state. Many groups fought for control, which include guerilla factions. The UN decided to step in by establishing a provisional government and sending peacekeeping troops. While the UN initially only intended to send aid to respond to the drought and famine, Warlords quickly escalated the situation to a military conflict. Conflict still plagues this region, and it is seen by many as a failure of peacekeeping operations (EBSCO, n.d.). This incident shows how power vacuums and humanitarian issues can combine to lead to the instability that collapses a nation. This is exactly what this UNSC is trying to avoid. While the results were not as desired, the action that the UN took during this time can still be considered viable. There are, however, other cases that have seemed to yield more promising results.

Other frameworks

When considering solutions, it is crucial to look towards the example set in the early 2020's regarding Afghanistan. The UN provided aid in the form of payments to boost the economy. By providing funds directly to those in need, spending was increased, which put the economy in a state of growth that was necessary for the nation to survive. This was in spite of the sanctions against the nation. While the UN did not support the government of the nation, it still provided aid to the economy and its people. This set a precedent that aid can be provided to the people of a nation regardless of whether the UN officially supports that nation's government (Al Jazeera, 2021). Whether or not aiding a country that is run by an unsupported or even unrecognized government is ideal is up for debate, but with all of the political turmoil surrounding this committee, this question must be considered.

There is much to be considered regarding these past actions the UN has taken in response to similar crises, and there is much more not mentioned in the guide that can be learned from, but no one action the UN has taken has been perfect in handling these issues. The proper solution is a combination of frameworks and is able to respond to developments. The issues that plague the UNSC are unlike anything it has experienced in history, but some of the recent actions taken can be considered as possible foundations for the solutions that need to be found.

Conclusion

The Blip has brought a massive crisis to every nation on the planet, and the Security

Council has been tasked with addressing these major issues before conflict and chaos lead to Earth's demise. It is important to note that the main goal of the Security Council is conflict prevention. That is, the focus should be more on stopping these issues from leading to international conflicts and wars, and less on fixing every issue that has currently arisen. For example, with regard to food insecurity, while providing relief is an option, the main goal of the council would be to prevent struggling countries from starting a war over agricultural land and focus less on immediately providing food to the struggling people. That being said, the Security Council often takes actions to provide aid to people in conflict zones, and it could be the choice of this council that every nation is a conflict zone. It is important to note that it is likely impossible to aid everyone on the planet, so it must be carefully considered how to use the resources at hand. With so many problems at hand, it seems the greatest question is priority. Everything discussed above is worthwhile to work on, but not everything can be addressed. The questions become which issues are the most vital, and which resources should be devoted to which problems and nations. It is also crucial to keep in mind that most of these issues overlap, and in order to truly tackle one, others must be considered.

Directives / QARMAs

How should humanitarian aid be prioritized for struggling nations?

How should debates of national control be addressed?

To what extent should global regions be considered conflict zones?

How can the global economy and national economies be guided to repair themselves?

Are there areas that need immediate peacekeeping or militant forces?

How should the issue of Non-State Actors taking power be handled?

What measures can delegates take to hold nations accountable for leveraging institutional influence to maintain the status quo?

Can non-state and indigenous groups be adequately represented through state-dominated institutional structures?

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