

Position Papers 2020 UNSC

The following documents are the official Position Papers for the countries represented in the UN Security Council meeting concerning the use of chemical weapons and crimes against humanity in Syria. The papers are drafted for the use in this MUN. It is of great importance that you have read the position paper of your designated country before the sessions begin. The following states are members of the council during the conference. Along with the elected members of the council, the Syrian Arab Republic has been invited to the meeting, since the situation in Syria is the agenda of the council. Furthermore, the Republic of Brazil, the Italian Republic, the State of Kuwait, and the Republic of Turkey have been invited to participate in this meeting, to ensure the best solutions possible be found regarding these problems.

Countries of the committee:

Kingdom of Belgium

Federative Republic of Brazil

People's Republic of China

Dominican Republic

Republic of Estonia

Republic of France

Federal Republic of Germany

Republic of Indonesia

Italian Republic

State of Kuwait

Republic of the Niger

Russian Federation

Republic of South Africa

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Syrian Arab Republic

Republic of Tunisia

Republic of Turkey

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

United States of America

Socialist Republic of Vietnam

Kingdom of Belgium

The Kingdom of Belgium (Belgium) is a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). As it is not one of the P5-countries, Belgium is leaving the UNSC in 2020 and does not have veto power.

Belgium takes its responsibility as a member of the UNSC very seriously and intends to do its best to act in line with the United Nations Charter, to act in the name of the whole international community. Belgium focuses on multilateral diplomacy and vision in its foreign policy, and during its time in the UNSC, the country wants to promote dialogue as a solution instead of military action. As the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation states, the Belgian strategy in the UNSC should be “building consensus, acting for peace”. It is therefore quintessential that Belgium strives to create peaceful solutions and acts as a neutral country in the UNSC - also when the future of Syria is discussed.

Belgium frowns upon the actions of Assad’s government as the civilian population of Syria has suffered and endured unacceptable political and military behaviour from that very government. As a democratic country, Belgium wants to keep a strict observance to make sure that the UNSC fights for human rights.

Belgium encourages all countries to help Syria and its population through humanitarian aid and that countries should help e.g. provide medical equipment, train medical personnel and protect medical facilities. Peacekeeping is important, but when handling conflict like the Syrian Civil War, it is important to make sure that disagreements and conflicts do not increase again.

Federative Republic of Brazil

The military conflict in Syria is of the greatest concern to the Federative Republic of Brazil. We strongly condemn all use of chemical weapons, and the crimes committed against the Syrian population. We are also firmly interested in the investigations of the use of these on the Syrian population be carried out, in order to in the end bring justice and punish those responsible.

Brazil has been strongly engaged in the humanitarian crisis, and with aiding the Syrian civilians. We are very invested in keeping the Syrian population safe and wish to de-escalate the conflict as severely and as soon as possible to mitigate the human cost of this conflict. Furthermore, we call for a cease of military activities in order to provide secure access to humanitarian aid and to protect the infrastructures of the Syrian Arab Republic. Brazil stresses the need for creating long-lasting stability and peace in Syria and the neighbouring countries and believes it is within the powers of the UN and the UNSC to ensure this. Brazil stresses the need for a diplomatic solution to solve the conflict and find lasting solutions based on international law.

The Brazilian Government welcomes the decision of the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to accede to the Convention on the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (CWC) and to apply it immediately. As one of the original signatories of the Convention, Brazil expects the accession of Syria to the CWC to boost the universalization of this instrument and lead to the achievement of the goal of a world free of all chemical weapons.

The Federative Republic of Brazil stands for a Syrian-negotiated political solution that preserves the country's territorial unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity, in strict compliance with the relevant resolutions of the Security Council. Brazil also calls for all member states to combat terrorist groups, such as ISIS, in accordance with international law, but with all means possible. Brazil stresses the importance of an independent Syria, that preserves its national integrity.

Still, Brazil would rather see a diplomatic end to all conflict in Syria and its neighbouring countries, and condemn all indiscriminate violence and use of force against the civilian population. Brazil believes that military solutions alone, will not end the problems in the middle east, and create the stability we all strive for.

People's Republic of China

China is deeply worried about the current situation in Syria. The continued conflict has brought sufferings to the Syrian people and impacted peace and stability in the Middle East. China is certain that political settlement is the only realistic way out of the Syrian crisis.

China is a permanent member of the UNSC. In the UNSC China is a part of the neutral bloc of the council and will most likely find allies among other countries from the neutral bloc. However, China has on a few occasions found an ally in the Russian Federation, especially when dealing with the Syrian issue.

China is not willing to condemn states of their actions when they are protecting its civilian population. China believes in condemning terrorist attacks by military factions that are trying to make a state insecure. This is seen in the light of China's national situation – with many different ethnic minorities, where some, according to the Chinese government, are trying to cause instability in the country. In these cases, China does not frown upon neutralizing the opposition. China does, however, frown upon any resolution that infringes on a country's national sovereignty.

China strongly condemns the use of chemical weapons and attacks against civilians by any country, organization, or person under any circumstances. However, China believes that no state can be blamed for a chemical attack before substantive evidence and a conclusion that can stand the test of time is available. China does not believe in unilateral responses and calls on all parties to refrain from such actions. However, it does not believe in condemning the US attack. However, China passionately believes that any state, organization, or individual who uses chemical weapons should be brought to justice. But facts are needed to find the perpetrator and China, therefore, cannot support charging any state or head of state for war crimes or crimes against humanity until impartial investigations have been conducted and reported to the council. Following this, the Chinese delegation does not believe in sanctioning any state at an early stage.

China has kept a responsible attitude on the Syrian issue. China is committed to protecting the fundamental interests of the Syrian people, keeping peace and stability in the Middle East, and upholding the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and basic norms governing international relations. China has made consistent efforts to promote peace and encourage dialogue, and has adamantly supported and actively promoted the political settlement of the Syrian issue. China will respect and support any settlement plan on the Syrian issue if it is widely accepted by all relevant parties in Syria. China has watched closely the humanitarian situation in Syria. China has given humanitarian aid to the Syrian people, including Syrian refugees in other countries, as our ability permits, and will continue to do so.

Dominican Republic

The Dominican Republic is a first time elected member of the UNSC with its term ending in 2020. The Dominican Republic has strong ties to the United States and often follow their initiatives in the United Nations. The Dominican Republic has recently, in 2018, changed its stance on China, formerly having relations with Taiwan (the Republic of China), but the country severed these ties in favour of the People's Republic of China.

The Dominican Republic has previously expressed its support for increased humanitarian efforts in Syria in the Security Council. José Singer Weisinger expressed grave concern that most of Syria's population live in extreme poverty and the humanitarian situation "is on its knees" as the humanitarian appeals of 2019 had only been met with 20% financing so far. The Dominican Republic supports ending the fighting in the region as soon as possible as airstrikes continue. Further, José Singer Wiesinger has also stated that the country is appalled by the weak response from the Security Council so far. "We cannot continue to fail those that depend on us for their lives and their futures." It supports the continuation of the Idlib ceasefire agreement that made cross-border humanitarian aid possible in the northern parts of Syria. Therefore, one of the main priorities for the Dominican Republic is to increase UN access to the area.

Regarding the future political structure in Syria, the Dominican Republic backs the so-called Pedersen proposal which aims for "constitutional reform and comprehensive elections under the supervision of the United Nations". The goal is for the Syrian people to be able to recreate their political system in a new, democratic fashion to ensure lasting peace in the region which necessitates constitutional reform made by a constitutional committee. This means that negotiations between the government and the opposition must be held and a new transitional government must be convened, one that is inclusive and non-sectarian, ensuring support from all sides. First and foremost, however, the country is concerned with the humanitarian efforts and the protection of civilian Syrians.

Republic of Estonia

The Republic of Estonia believes the Syrian civil war poses a strong threat not only to the region but also to the security situation in Europe, as it is one of the bloodiest conflicts of recent times. We believe it is vital to prevent new recruitment of foreign fighters and bring an end to the supply chain of the terrorist groups in the Syrian region. It is furthermore essential that we all support the neighbouring countries in accepting Syrian refugees.

Estonia expressed clear concern about the continued deterioration of the humanitarian and security situation and condemns the cruelties and human rights violations committed by the Assad regime, ISIL and other terrorist groups. As long as repressions continue, we will continue pursuing our policy of imposing and enforcing sanctions on the Syrian regime and its supporters and hope others we support us in this.

Estonia fully supports the findings of the recent report and its research into the use of chemical weapons in Syria, and we strongly condemn the Syrian regime for its involvement. The use of chemical weapons cannot be tolerated. We believe that without accountability, the horrors of this war will just continue. If not by the Syrian regime, then by others emboldened by the ability to use these terrible weapons to hold onto power. We, therefore, call on the States Parties of the Chemical Weapons Convention and the Security Council to act decisively and in a united manner to respond to the findings of this report.

We continue to call on Syria to fully cooperate with the OPCW Technical Secretariat as required under the Chemical Weapons Convention. It is regretful that there was a complete lack of cooperation from the Syrian part regarding the IIT investigation. The team was refused access to the Syrian territory as well as to the relevant files and information in a blatant attempt to undermine its work. Finally, the OPCW Director-General's monthly report, once again, states that outstanding issues remain in relation to the Syria chemical weapons Declaration. We cannot be certain that Syria has destroyed all of its chemical weapons and their production facilities. We also cannot be certain that the Assad regime will not use again chemical weapons against its own people. The attacks in Ltamenah are, in fact, much to the point: they occurred after the regime had formally renounced chemical weapons and declared that all its stockpiles were destroyed.

Furthermore, we also believe that it is vital to continue to pay serious attention to the broader situation in Syria, including the provision of humanitarian aid. Enduring peace in Syria can only be accomplished through a political agreement, and in order to resolve this security crisis dialogue of all involved parties is necessary.

French Republic

France is one of the five permanent members of the UNSC and thus holds the veto power. This should be used sparingly, and it is not a tool to trump one's own views in the council. Vetoes do not replace diplomacy. France has been one of three countries in strong opposition to the Syrian Government and the Russian Federation's defence of Syria in the council through its use of vetoes. Therefore, the delegation of France might turn to the UK and the US when looking for support among the council members.

France condemns the use of chemical weapons and firmly believes the UNSC should condemn the Syrian Government and the clear violations of its responsibility to protect its population, on several occasions (e.g. the attack in Kahn Shaykun or the one in Douma). Further, France might even support charging the Syrian Government in the International Criminal Court for constituting war crimes and crimes against humanity.

France also believes it is far beyond the time of action and justifies its participation in airstrikes on Syrian military installations following the CW attack in Douma, in 2018, as a clear sign that breaches of international law. The use of Chemical weapons will not be tolerated under any circumstances. It further echoes the message from the United Kingdom and the United States that these attacks are not about regime change, but about sending a strong signal regarding the use of chemical weapons.

Following this, France argues that any nation using or protecting nations using chemical weapons should be sanctioned by the international community. These sanctions should also be imposed on the Russian government for protecting the Syrian government.

France believes that the current political situation in Syria is so unstable that it, therefore, is crucial to find a solution that can secure stability. France believes that this can only be done if the current government is dismissed and a new one is inaugurated.

Federal Republic of Germany

Germany is an elected member of the UNSC with its term ending in 2020. Germany, partially due to mutual EU-membership, is close to France. It is historically close to the United States as well, however, on questions relating to the Syrian conflict, Germany has been less favourable to the US solutions as it is against. Germany believes that politicising humanitarian efforts in order for countries to look good while also prolonging the conflict and pressuring Syria further is wrong. This was seen at the recent Brussel Conference where some countries, mainly the major interest holders such as the US and Russia, did this. There should be no political conditions associated with humanitarian help to innocent civilians.

Syria and its allies must attempt to facilitate the safe return of refugees to Syria as soon as possible and Germany has a big stake in this, as the country currently hosts hundreds of thousands of Syrian refugees. Germany thinks it has done more than plenty in this regard and that it has taken up responsibility, where others in the Security Council and indeed in the international community have not.

Germany, like many others, supports a political solution to the conflict through a constitutional committee, but Germany also believes that there must be an extra priority in this work: accountability. Those from the Syrian regime who have caused harm and broken international law must be prosecuted, and Germany has already begun this process in its home country. Germany therefore fully supports the International Impartial and Independent Mechanism to Assist in the Investigation and Prosecution of Persons Responsible for the Most Serious Crimes under International Law Committed in the Syrian Arab Republic. This is an important step for the future of Syria and reconciliation in the country for Germany.

The constitutional committee that is meant to come up with a future political structure for Syria must include at least 30% women as well, although 50% would be the best solution, as women have suffered to a great degree in the conflict as well. Germany also believes Russia is halting the peace process as it has rejected the Special Envoy to Syria's proposal for 50 independents to the constitutional committee.

Republic of Indonesia

Indonesia is an elected member of the UNSC, and the only other member from East Asia apart from the permanent member China. However, the country has a Muslim majority and due to this it also enjoys a strong connection to other Muslim countries, especially in the Middle East and North and East Africa. Its term ends in 2020.

Indonesia believes a negotiated political solution is the only sustainable solution to the conflict, and this process should be achieved through continued talks led by the UN Special Envoy to Syria. The humanitarian situation is near-impossible to improve before a political solution has been reached and as such, this is a priority for Indonesia. Indonesia also believes that such a process should be Syrian-owned and Syrian-led as otherwise, it will not be a lasting solution. Other countries should respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Syria, this especially includes the P5. This includes the rejection of the US trying to recognise Golan Heights, which was captured from Syria in the 1967 Six-Day War, as part of Israel.

This is especially due to its somewhat strained relationship with Israel like most other Muslim majority countries, although Indonesia mainly maintains an indifferent attitude towards Israel. Indonesia has received humanitarian and development aid from the UN since 1966, but recently the country has expressed its interest in becoming an aid donor rather than a receiver. This would be a prime opportunity for Indonesia to do so, as a lot of Muslims are suffering due to the Syrian conflict.

Italian Republic

The Italian Republic recognises the international evidence that the Syrian government uses chemical weapons, which the Italian former prime minister Paolo Gentiloni called unacceptable.

Italy does not believe that military force alone is the solution, and sees that they want the bloodshed to stop: *"We have made clear to our allies that we are opposed to any escalation and that it is impossible to bring the conflict to end only with the use of force and the idea of deposing the dictator President Bashar al Assad by military means,"* Gentiloni said.

Italy has its closest ally in the United States, and would, therefore, work closely with the US, France, and the United Kingdom. Furthermore, Italy strongly believes that the importance of diplomacy from all members of the Security Council is a key factor to find a solution.

The Italian Republic is one of the European countries that has a warmer relationship with the Russian Federation. This means that Italy believes that they must engage in a dialogue with Russia, but Italy's closest allies are the US and its other partners in NATO. Therefore, Italy does not choose to side with Russia, but with the US. However, Italy will not join the US, France, and the United Kingdom in bombing Syria, nor allow American bombing missions to leave from Italian soil, which hosts an estimated 13,000 US Soldiers.

Italy will continue to provide logistical support in the north-east - especially from the NATO airbase in Aviano.

State of Kuwait

The situation in Syria is very serious. The Syrian people is facing a catastrophic humanitarian situation and the international community must act to help civilians. Being located close to Syria, Kuwait is concerned that the unrest in Syria will spread to the rest of the region. The refugees from Syria has challenged several neighbouring countries. Therefore, Kuwait praises the humanitarian help given by countries like Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq and Egypt. To stop the suffering of the Syrian people a political solution needs to be found and Kuwait supports the UN in its efforts to obtain such a solution.

Kuwait was a non-permanent member of the UNSC until 2019. Even before becoming a member of the UNSC Kuwait played an important role in dealing with the humanitarian situation in Syria. The country has been a driver of humanitarian assistance both by providing funds itself and by organizing conferences that bring together the international community to coordinate relief efforts. The first annual conference was in 2013 and together with the two following ones it was hosted by Kuwait. In the UNSC Kuwait worked together with Sweden, since both countries focus on the humanitarian situation for the Syrian people. Kuwait is normally allied with USA and Kuwait is part of the US-led coalition against ISIS, but Kuwait condemns the airstrikes committed by the USA since the strikes undermined the process of reaching a political solution. Such actions must be coordinated by the UNSC so on some issues Kuwait will disagree with the USA.

At several occasions, Kuwait has stressed its support for the independence, unity, and integrity of Syria. The Syrian people are to decide their future themselves. Kuwait welcomes the contributions of the opposition group the National Coalition for Syrian Revolutionary and Opposition Forces. Kuwait believes the international community should make the parties end their fighting and start negotiating. A future government needs to include everyone no matter their religion or ethnicity. Kuwait shows a good example with its inclusion of minority Shia Muslims.

A ceasefire will also help the Syrian people. They are suffering, and their suffering has only been aggravated by the use of chemical weapons. The use of chemical weapons is unforgivable and the parties responsible for these actions must be held accountable.

Kuwait emphasizes the importance of finding a solution to peace. A solution can bring stability to Syria and the region, and peace will stop the suffering among the Syrian people.

Republic of the Niger

The Republic of the Niger (hereinafter Niger) is a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council (hereinafter UNSC). Niger took a seat in 2020 as one of two African countries. Niger will often look to other developing countries for allies in the UNSC.

When discussing the Syrian conflict, the top priority for Niger is the protection of civilians. Being located in the Sahel region Niger has close experience with civil conflicts and terrorist groups that has destabilized neighbouring countries. These conflicts have both been a security threat and a humanitarian burden for Niger. Niger has and will continue to condemn any attacks in Syria against civilians but especially those targeted against schools and hospitals as has been seen recently.

Niger recognizes though that the humanitarian and political situations are deeply intertwined. A long term improvement in conditions for the civilian population will require progress in the political situation. Niger thus calls on all involved parties to commit to and uphold a ceasefire. Most urgent is it for the Russian Federation, Syria and Turkey to find a compromise and stop escalating the conflict in the Idlib region.

Niger also supports the important work done by the Secretary-General and the Special Envoy in bringing the parties together and leading peace talks. The UNSC must continue to support this essential process.

In the meantime, Niger supports humanitarian efforts like the Cross-Border Mechanism that can help bring aid to the suffering civilian population and would like to see such initiatives expanded.

Russian Federation

The Russian Federation is primarily concerned with keeping the current regime in power and stabilizing the situation in Syria without military interference against the regime. So far it has vetoed every resolution by the UNSC calling for military action against the Assad regime as well as a resolution to grant UN investigators a wider mandate on chemical weapons in Syria as it can be seen as the UNSC simply looking for an excuse to topple the current government.

Syria is currently Russia's most important ally in the Middle Eastern region, and the Russian Federation will go to great lengths to protect the current regime. If the regime loses power, Russia risks losing its foothold in the Middle East as well as Tartus, which is its only military port accessing the Mediterranean Sea. Thus, a replacement of the current regime could result in serious strategic losses for the Russian Federation and western domination in the region.

So far, the Russian Federation has backed diplomatic solutions rather than military ones trying to de-escalate the conflict through destruction of Syrian chemical weapon deposits. There is currently some common ground between the Russian Federation and its opposing bloc regarding the counter-terrorist activity. However, the Russian Federation takes a broader view of what it considers terrorist groups than many other nations in the council and is firmly against the rebel groups involved in the Syrian Civil War such as the Free Syrian Army and YPG. Because the Syrian government is defending itself against terrorist groups, the regime is not committing war crimes but is acting accordingly considering the immense threat to itself and its people. Furthermore, it is not entirely certain that the chemical attacks were carried out by regime forces and may be a ploy to escalate the conflict conducted by other parties. The Russian Federation, therefore, condemns unnecessary aggression against the current power-holders as well as the funding and training of rebel groups.

The Russian Federation wishes for the current diplomatic de-escalation to continue and for the chemical weapons to be rounded up and destroyed. It recognizes that this will be difficult in a time of civil war and will, therefore, opt for a fairly flexible deadline for the destruction. It also wishes for the UNSC to primarily focus on the threat of dangerous terrorist groups to the Syrian people.

Republic of South Africa

South Africa is an elected member of the UNSC, whose term ends in 2020. South Africa is a staunch supporter of a political solution such as the one set out in resolution 2254 (2015) currently being led by Special Envoy Geir Pedersen. It supports its full implementation to protect the citizens of Syria. Therefore, a Syrian-led constitutional committee must also be formed and its rules of procedure must be finalised so the process can be started as soon as possible. South Africa is also glad to see and further encourages the consultation and inclusion of the Syrian Women's Advisory Board, as especially women and children are vulnerable under the current circumstances.

South Africa condemns the dire humanitarian situation in Syria, especially in the north-east and north-west. The situation must be improved and all parties must make a full commitment to supporting and allowing the efforts led by the United Nations to improve the humanitarian situation. It believes that further convoys should be allowed and are greatly needed since many Syrians do not receive the aid they so desperately need. South Africa also mourns and condemns the death of hundreds of aid workers in the devastating conflict and it calls for the protection of all humanitarian personnel, in line with international humanitarian law.

South Africa finds the withdrawal of all troops from the Israeli-occupied Syrian Golan Heights, which Israel occupies, in violation of the Council's former decision (resolution 242 (1967)). The annexation of territory seized through the use of force is a violation of international law and must be condemned. For long-term peace and security in the Middle East region, it is vital to ensure that international law is upheld. South Africa sees this as an opportunity for Syria to regain control of its land. South Africa and Israel have had no diplomatic ties since 2018 when South Africa withdrew its Ambassador to Israel indefinitely.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG) is a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) representing Latin America and the Caribbean. The country took a seat in 2020 as the smallest nation ever. In the UNSC, SVG is guided by their core principles of Sovereign equality, respect for international law, non-interference & non-intervention. When discussing Syria, SVG has often found allies in Germany and Belgium, since they support a similar strong humanitarian agenda.

SVG believes the situation in Syria is only to be resolved through a Syrian-owned and Syrian-led credible, balanced and inclusive political process. This is well-aligned with the core principles for the UNSC membership of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines of non-interference and non-intervention. The country, therefore, welcomes the efforts by the Special Envoy to engage parties in discussions and urges all members of the UN to reaffirm their support for the reconstruction of Syria.

Before such a process can occur it is necessary for all involved parties to cease hostilities and commit to a lasting ceasefire. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines recognizes that a need for counter-terrorist operations, especially in Northern Syria, might exist, but echoes that such operations should be guided by international law. Military operations should never be placed above the wellbeing of citizens. The protection of civilians and civilian infrastructure is paramount.

SVG is a strong believer in international law. The atrocities that have been committed in Syria cannot be ignored, and impunity cannot be encouraged. As such, the country welcomes the Board of Inquiry, established by the Secretary-General, to investigate a series of incidents that have occurred in northwest Syria.

Reconstruction in Syria will help improve the humanitarian situation that the Syrian people are facing by providing secure access to basic necessities. It will also allow for the safe, dignified and voluntary return of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs). Until this is achieved it is essential that the necessary humanitarian aid can reach the Syrian people who need it. In the light of the recent COVID-19 pandemic, SVG applauds the work done by WHO to aid the Syrian people, as their health care sector has also been severely hurt by the ongoing conflict.

SVG believes countries enforcing sanctions should engage in talks to lift these if it can in any way improve the humanitarian situation. SVG supports the cross-border mechanism through and wish to see it extended and expanded to include more border crossings. In addition, SVG calls on those actors that hold influence over Damascus to guarantee safe, comprehensive and unobstructed humanitarian access throughout the entire Syrian territory.

Syrian Arab Republic

The Syrian Arab Republic is only partaking in these discussions after an invitation by the council, as they are a party to the dispute, one of the main actors in the situation under discussion, and not an elected member of the Security Council. Syria finds several voices in the Council which are sympathetic for its policies, namely Russia, to which they will turn to ensure their views are represented in votes.

The Syrian government is fighting insurgencies in the form of rebels, actively trying to overthrow the government, terrorists actively perpetrating heinous crimes inside and outside of Syria, and faces a humanitarian crisis of wild proportions. However, international actors acting in the country are clearly not helping the situation. Syria reminds all nations that the government complied fully with the destruction of its chemical stockpiles and therefore doesn't have the capabilities to conduct CW attacks.

Syria believes the US, France and the UK should be condemned for its aggression towards another sovereign state, a clear violation of the UN charter. Syria is against condemning the Syrian Government for the chemical weapons attack on Khan Shaykun, as it is the belief of the Syrian government that the attack was a story made up by the Americans to authorise a military attack. further, it argues that the most recent attack in Douma was carried out by the aforementioned rebels.

The Syrian government strongly believes, in line with the condemnation of the US, that sanctions should be put in place against the US for aggressions towards a sovereign member of the UN. The Syrian government does not believe sanctions should be put in place against their government as it is not the Syrian army who has used chemical weapons, but instead it is either the armed rebels or the stories of other states.

Accordingly, Syria is against charging any nation with crimes and against humanity.

Syria is of the belief that the most stable political solution is with president Bashar Al-Assad as the leader of the Syrian Arab Republic. It is the stance of the Syrian government that no foreign power or the UN should interfere with the internal political solution of any nation-state, including Syria, and it is thus continuing its work in improving the lives of all Syrians instead of interfering with the legitimate business of a sovereign nation-state.

Republic of Tunisia

The Republic of Tunisia stands in strong opposition to the ongoing conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic. Tunisia has for a long time been divided on the question of who to support within this conflict, and some of these divisions are still strong, but what remains is that the stability and security of Syria are of our highest priority.

Tunisia believes it is of greatest interest that we keep diplomatic ties with the Syrian government. We hope to see Syria welcomed back in the wider international community, in order to create the stability this region needs through a network of support instead of isolating the recovering country. We also believe stronger diplomatic ties with Syria, will help the process of keeping track of foreign recruited militants within the country, and in the end, it will mitigate the violent attacks still happening.

The Republic of Tunisia greatly sympathises with the Arab Republic of Syria, who usually is our ally in The Arab League and we hope to see an end to this horrible war as soon as possible with the combined efforts of the UNSC. Tunisia is an elected non-permanent member of the security council, with its term ending in 2021. Within the committee, the Republic of Tunisia finds its views aligning with those of the Russian Federation, as well as other Arab countries and usually turn to these for allies.

We believe that reaching a diplomatic solution within the UNSC is of utmost importance. Tunisia strongly urges for all fighting within the region to come to an end, and that we instead find a political solution to create a more, long-lasting stability. We hope that the Syrian authorities will pledge to end all violence and allow the delivery of foreign humanitarian aid to civilians in the regions most affected.

Republic of Turkey

The Republic of Turkey is a neighbour country to Syria, and they are therefore deeply involved in the conflict. The Turkish president, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, condemns the Syrian president, Bashar al-Assad, for his actions against the Syrian population. Turkey has launched a military offensive against the Syrian regime, while the country also supports the rebels, for example, the Free Syrian Army (FSA).

There is a possibility that an internal war between Russia and Turkey will occur because of the conflict in Syria. Russia and Turkey have two different interest in the country, which means that Russia supports the Syrian government while Turkey, as mentioned before, supports the rebels. However, the two countries have many mutual interests as well, and they made an official ceasefire in March 2020 in the Syrian city Idlib. However, the Syrian regime and Turkey is in an open military conflict in Idlib, which makes the crisis even more precocious.

Turkey has accepted over 3,6 million Syrian refugees, and they hope by supporting the rebels that the number of refugees will decrease. Erdogan has stopped hosting new refugees because of the economical struggle Turkey is facing at the moment. This means that millions of refugees are trapped in Idlib unable to find refuge in Turkey, and they are being closed in by Assad.

Turkey has invaded the Northern part of Syria in order to fight against the Kurdish YPG and Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF). Erdogan believes that the Kurdish rebels are a national threat against the Republic of Turkey and the YPG is considered a terror group in Turkey.

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

The UK strongly condemns the brutal actions the Syrian regime has committed against their own people. The UK urges the UNSC to find a solution that can bring peace and stability to Syria. The UK is a permanent member of the UNSC. In the UNSC, the UK will most likely find the United States of America and France to be their closest allies as these three nations have already worked together in preventing chemical weapon attacks. The UK might also find allies among the other EU and NATO members.

The UK is already taking action to aid the Syrian people. This includes providing medical equipment, training medical personnel and protecting medical facilities. The UK hopes the international community will protect humanitarian workers and help them gain access to those in need. Also, the international community needs to come together to establish a corridor through which civilians can escape.

The UK has acted to stop the use of chemical weapons in the conflict. After the horrific chemical weapon attack in Douma, the UK joined the USA and France in an airstrike targeting chemical weapons facilities. The airstrike aimed to degrade the chemical weapons facilities controlled by the Syrian regime. The UK joined the airstrike as no other alternative was possible. The UK fears further use of chemical weapons. The UK hopes the airstrike will deter any party from using chemical weapons again. To prevent another use of chemical weapons the UK suggests strengthening the OPCW. The UK believes that the parties responsible for the chemical weapons attacks are of course to be punished and sanctioned properly for their monstrosities.

The UNSC should however not forget the importance of finding a long-lasting solution that will bring peace to Syria and give the Syrian people the democracy they are entitled to. The UK strongly consider the need for a regime change. The UK supports the High Negotiation Committee. The HNC is an organization that represents the opposition to the regime. The new government need to include and represent everyone no matter their religion or ethnicity as this is seen to be the only government that can bring lasting stability to Syria.

United States of America

The Syria conflict has killed many people in the last years. People have been killed with weapons and chemicals weapons. The United States of America commands that the Syrian Government has to stop using Chemicals weapons. Chemicals weapons should and will not be allowed in this conflict. The Syrian population has the right to be protected. They have the right to be protected by their government, but the Syrian Government has attacked its own population.

The US government wants the Syrian government to hand over all their chemical weapons to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW). It wants, together with its alliances, to press the Syrian government to fully cooperate with the OPCW, destroy remaining chemical weapons and dismantle the chemical weapons program entirely.

However, if the Syrian government does not stop using chemical weapons the United States of America and its alliances will take action again. Accordingly, the US does not believe it should be condemned for the missile strike as it acted in accordance with statements by US officials and according to its international responsibility regarding the breaches of R2P and previous UNSC resolutions.

The United States of America believes that any nation-state which aids the Syrian government in committing war crimes and crimes against humanity should cease such operations or meet pressure from the council. As the US government believes the supportive countries of the Syrian Government are accessory to this war crime, the US wants everyone to rethink what they are doing and stop this mass murder. Likewise, the United States of America finds that states using chemical weapons against its own population is in clear violation of its Responsibility to Protect and should, therefore, face sanctions under Chapter VII of the UN charter.

The US does not believe the current political landscape in Syria is suited for the future and therefore believes the Syrian government and President Assad should step down and allow a new democratic government to lead Syria. Therefore, the US strongly requests the Syrian army stops its use of force against its own citizens to allow for humanitarian relief, and a political solution. However, The US has shown that it is willing to and capable of using military force if the Syrian government does not obey the UNSC resolutions.

Socialist Republic of Vietnam

Vietnam is an elected member of the UNSC and took a seat in 2020 representing Asia. The country will likely seek alliances with other developing countries.

Vietnam is deeply concerned with the current situation in Syria. The conflict has cost countless civilian lives and many more live under critical humanitarian circumstances. Vietnam condemns any action that may harm civilians and reminds the parties of their obligations under international law to do their utmost to protect civilians. Vietnam is, of course, opposed to the use of chemical weapons and is a party to the Chemical Weapons Convention.

Vietnam calls for the parties to the conflict to immediately engage in dialogue in order to ensure a lasting ceasefire. A ceasefire will not only help the political process but also help humanitarian organisations to better reach those in dire need for help.

Vietnam believes the conflict needs to be resolved in a peaceful manner with respect for international law. The parties must take into consideration the relevant UNSC resolutions. It is essential that a resolution respects the sovereignty, integrity and independence of Syria as it is outlined in the UN Charter itself.

Many civilians in Syria are in need of humanitarian help and the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic has only worsened the situations. Humanitarian organisations will have to prioritize those in emergency situations. All countries in the regions need to do their part to allow free movement of humanitarian need including medical resources across borders.