

AFRICAN UNION STUDY GUIDE

Welcome Letter from the Committee Directors

Dear Participants,

As the committee directors of the African Union, it is our utmost pleasure to welcome you all to the second annual session of the Nevzat Ayaz Model United Nations Conference.

In this Committee you will re-enact the African Union and try to solve the problems the continent faces. Rather if it is a cruel genocide or a possible Chinese threat you have to do your best for the prosperity of Africa.

If you have any questions regarding the agenda items, you can contact us via our emails: altuntasceren04@gmail.com and m.arda.yildiz@hotmail.com

We look forward to meeting and working together with you.

Best of Luck,

Mehmet Arda Yıldız & Ceren Altuntaş

Introduction to the Committee

"Today Africa has emerged from (its) dark passage. Our Armageddon is past. Africa has been reborn as a free continent and Africans have been reborn as free men. Today, we look to the future calmly, confidently and courageously. We look at the vision of an Africa not merely free but united."



Emperor Haile Selassie 1 May 25, 1963

The African Union (AU) is a continental body consisting of the 55 member states that make up the countries of the African Continent. It was officially launched in 2002 as a successor to the Organisation of African Unity (OAU, 1963-1999).

The AU is guided by its vision of “An Integrated, Prosperous and Peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the global arena.” The Constitutive Act of the African Union and the Protocol on Amendments to the Constitutive Act of the African Union lay out the aims of the AU such as but not limited to:

- Achieve greater unity and solidarity between African countries and their people
- Defend the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of its Member States;
- Accelerate the political and socio-economic integration of the continent;
- Promote peace, security, and stability on the continent;

For more information about African Union’s background, aims and organs make sure to check out their [website](#).

Agenda Item 1: Darfur Genocide In Sudan

Definition of Key Terms

Genocide: the deliberate and systematic extermination of a national, racial, political, or cultural group.

Janjaweed: an armed tribal militia group in the Darfur region of western Sudan

Sudanese Liberation Movement/Army (SLM/A): originally known as the Darfur Liberation Front, the Sudanese Liberation Movement/Army is a Sudanese rebel group that is currently active in Darfur, Sudan. It was established by members of three indigenous ethnic groups in Darfur: the Fur, the Zaghawa, and the Masalit.

Justice and Equality Movement (JEM): known as the most powerful anti-government organization in the Darfur Genocide, The Justice and Equality Movement is a Sudanese opposition group founded by Khalil Ibrahim. The political agenda of the group includes issues such as: “radical and comprehensive constitutional reform to grant Sudan's regions a greater share of power in ruling the country, the replacement of social injustice and political tyranny with justice and equality, and basic services for every Sudanese.”

Apartheid: any system or practice that separates people according to colour, ethnicity, caste, etc.

Ethnic cleansing: the elimination of an unwanted ethnic group or groups from a society, as by genocide or forced emigration.

Transitional Military Council (TMC): the TMC was the military council governing Sudan. It was established on the 11th of April 2019, after the 2019 Sudanese coup d'état that occurred during the demonstrations in Sudan in 2018–19. The TMC is formally headed by the Inspector of the Armed Forces, Abdel Fattah al-Burhan.

Coup D'état: a sudden and decisive action in politics, especially one resulting in a change of government illegally or by force.

Demonstration/Protest: an expression or declaration of objection, disapproval, or dissent, often in opposition to something a person is powerless to prevent or avoid.

Introduction to the Topic

The Darfur Genocide, known as the first genocide of the 21st century, refers to the ongoing mass slaughter and rape of the Darfuri people in Western Sudan as a result of the War in Darfur. This massacre, which started in the year 2003, has led to the death of an estimated 300,000 people and the displacement of an estimated 3,000,000 others.



The genocide is being carried out by the Janjaweed, which is a group of Arab militias with funding and armed backup from the government. These militias carry out said genocide by murdering, torturing, and raping civilians in the Darfur region, along with burning their villages and limiting their resources. They are the significant rivals of the two main rebel groups involved in the conflicts: the Sudanese Liberation Movement (SLM), and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM).

The aforementioned rebel groups have executed numerous attacks on the police and military in Sudan. The rebel groups, which consist of non-Arab Darfurians, started carrying out these attacks as a way to rise against the government, which they accused of oppressing them and other indigenous people. Such accusations have come from not only the members of the rebel groups but also from the indigenous civilians in Darfur. The non-Arab citizens' claims of apartheid date back as far as early 1991, a year in which they started claiming that the government of Sudan was "deftly manipulating Arab solidarity" to carry out policies of apartheid.

When the attacks by the rebel groups intensified from attacking police stations and turned into major terrorist attacks, the government didn't respond by taking down the rebel groups, instead, they started carrying out a campaign of ethnic cleansing against non-Arabs in the Darfur region. This was what formally started the genocide, resulting in the death of thousands and the impeachment of Omar al-Bashir, Sudan's president, in 2009 and 2010 by the International Criminal Court (ICC) for counts of genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity.



In 2010, the year after the first arrest warrant of Omar al-Bashir was issued, The Justice and Equality Movement-the leading rebel group at the time- signed a peace accord with the government. In doing so, the aim of JEM was to provoke the president to declare the end of the war. While this deal was seen as a possible end to the war, it didn't last long. The two sides had several disagreements over the specifics. Along

with that, even though the larger rebel groups were idle during negotiations, the clashes with the smaller ones put the deal and possible peace in danger.

For over fifteen years, conflict raged on as the ethnic cleansing got worse, economic tensions rose and the rule under the president Omar al-Bashir got stricter. The public grew tired of the hardships they were facing due to the war in Darfur, and on the 19th of December, 2018, protests broke out in various different cities in Sudan, with demands for economic reforms in the country, the end of the ethnic cleansing and President Omar al-Bashir's resignation.

The protests grew even bigger over the next few months, and while they were done in peaceful means, they were met with violent reactions from the government. Protestors were arrested, assaulted and even killed. Due to these demonstrations, on 22 February 2019, President al-Bashir declared a state of emergency. In doing so, he dissolved the national and regional governments, replacing them with intelligence-service and military officers.

The state of emergency being declared did calm down the protests to a certain extent. The protests were smaller and the public got calmer for a while until the weekend of 6–7 April, in which there were massive protests for the first time since the declaration of the state of emergency. Following the massive outrage from the people of Sudan along with those of the people of the international community, on the morning of 11 April 2019, the Sudanese Armed Forces removed al-Bashir from power in a coup d'état.

The Current Situation

After Omar al-Bashir was removed from power, the military came into power, dissolving the government bodies. A three-month state of emergency was announced, which was to be followed by a two-year transition period. The international community reacted to the development with statements regarding the importance of monitoring the state, along with



urging both the military and protestors to refrain from violence. The African Union condemned the coup, stating that the move taken by the military was "not the appropriate response to the challenges facing Sudan and the aspirations of its people".

Following the coup, street protests arranged by the Sudanese Professionals Association along with other democratic opposition groups continued. The opposition groups, just as the African Union had stated, believed that the military being in power was not what the public had been asking for. In doing so, they called upon the ruling Transitional Military

Council (TMC) to "immediately and unconditionally" step down in favour of a civilian-led transitional administration and urged other reforms in Sudan.

During the period between late April and May, negotiations



between the civilian opposition, mainly the Sudanese Professionals Association, took place regarding the formation of a joint transition government. However, these negotiations came to an end when the Khartoum massacre of June 3rd took place.

This massacre, known as the Khartoum massacre, occurred when the military forces of the TMC, overseen by the Rapid Support Forces-the immediate successors to the Janjaweed militia-used heavy gunfire and teargas against unarmed civilians in Khartoum, killing 128 people, raping 70 and injuring many others. Following the massacre, the Internet was almost entirely blocked in Sudan, therefore spreading awareness about the tragedy and finding out about the exact casualties was extremely difficult.

Following the massacre, a 3-day strike was executed by the opposition groups. These groups also called upon civilians to portray nonviolent resistance and disobedience until a civilian government comes into power. This strike was put to an end on the 12th of June when the TMC agreed to release political prisoners.

Along with the response from the opposition in Sudan, there were many international reactions from various countries and organizations including the African Union condemning the massacre. On the day of the massacre, the African Union issued a



statement in which the Chairperson of the African Union, Moussa Faki, stated his concerns upon the issue and condemned the Massacre.

Once the general strike was over, the TMC and the opposition groups had a renewed set of negotiations. During these negotiations, the two sides made a verbal agreement called the Political Agreement, which would later be

signed by both parties in written form on 17 July. The sides announced that they had made a final power-sharing agreement, paving the way for a transition to a civilian-led government.

Conclusion / Summary

For many years now, Sudan has been facing major hardships due to the Darfur Genocide. The acts of the Janjaweed and the government has caused the citizens of the country great distress, and during the sixteen years that it has been going on for, it has caused the death of thousands.

The protests that broke out all across the country in late 2018 due to the deteriorating state of the economy were a turning point in the crisis. The people of Sudan showed their empathy for their brothers and sisters in Darfur, demanding al-Bashir to be overthrown and economic reforms to be made. In the midst of these demonstrations, the president was in fact overthrown, but the results were not satisfactory. The military took down the president in a coup, but the way they handled the situation by not allowing a civil government caused severe distress in the country, resulting in the Khartoum Massacre.

This massacre resulted in the deaths of hundreds and was deeply condemned by the opposition groups along with the international community. The opposition responded with a peaceful strike which ended up calming the situation down to a certain extent, as the two sides have had negotiations and are now working together to ease the transition to a civilian-led government.

Omar al-Bashir, the man behind all of the destruction that the country has faced, is now being trialled for his crimes after being overthrown. It is expected that he will be in jail for many years.

In the African Union committee, the events that have taken place during the 16 years of war, their effects and what the African Union can do to solve the issues that have risen from the destruction will be debated upon.

Points That Should Be Considered

What are the actions that the African Union could take to ease the transition to a civilian-led government in Sudan?

How can the damage that was done by the Janjaweed be amended?

What are the actions that the African Union could take to help those who have suffered in the genocide?

What are the steps that should be taken for Sudan to be able to solve the financial crisis which caused the protests?

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Agenda Item 2: China's Growing Impact on Africa

Definition of Key Terms:

Infrastructure: the basic physical and organizational structures and facilities (e.g. buildings, roads, power supplies) needed for the operation of a society or enterprise.

Interest: money paid regularly at a particular rate for the use of money lent, or for delaying the repayment of a debt.

Loan: a thing that is borrowed, especially a sum of money that is expected to be paid back with interest.

Chexim: The Export–Import Bank of China is one of three institutional banks in China chartered to implement the state policies in industry, foreign trade, diplomacy, economy, and provide policy financial support so as to promote the export of Chinese products and services. Established in 1994, the bank is subordinated to the State Council

BRI: The Belt and Road Initiative is a global development strategy adopted by the Chinese government involving infrastructure development and investments in 152 countries and international organizations in Asia, Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and the Americas. "Belt" refers to the overland routes for road and rail transportation, called "the Silk Road Economic Belt"; whereas "road" refers to the sea routes, or the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road.

FOCAC: China-Africa Cooperation Forum The China-Africa Cooperation Forum is a platform established by China and friendly African countries for collective consultation and dialogue and as a cooperation mechanism among developing countries. The characteristics of the Forum are twofold. First, it is to strengthen consultation and expand cooperation within a pragmatic framework and second, to promote political dialogue and economic cooperation with a view to seeking mutual reinforcement and cooperation. The Forum, which was established at Ministerial level, has held four sessions in Beijing, China, from 10-12 October 2000; in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 15-16 December 2003; again in Beijing, from 4-5 November 2006; and in Sharm El Sheikh, Arab Republic of Egypt, on 8 November 2009. The 2006 session was at the level of Heads of State and Government to celebrate 60 years of diplomatic relations between Africa and China.

Introduction to the Topic:

China's economic growth over the past two decades has created interesting effects in the world economy. As seen with every developing country, China is looking for natural resources and cheap labor. This may sound odd considering that China is known for its

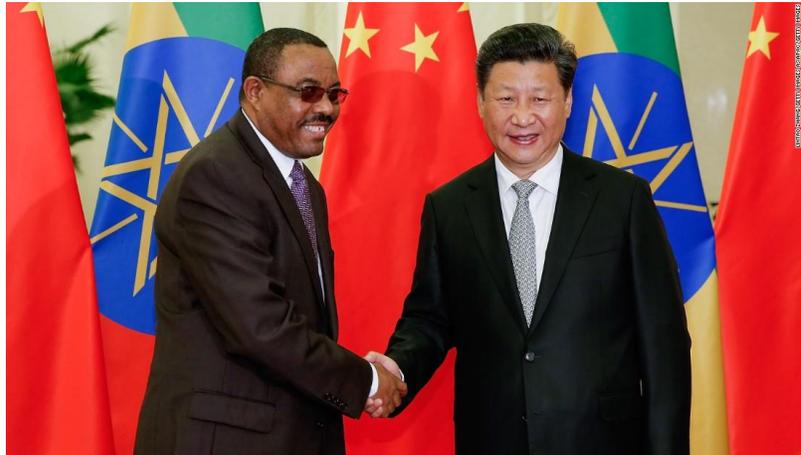
large population and cheap workforce but lately its population's education level and standard of living gets higher and higher everyday and this results in labor to increase in price. To counter these effects China has set their eyes on Africa, an underdeveloped continent filled with natural resources and inexpensive labor.

Under the name of Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), China is cooperating with local governments and private

businesses and slowly taking a grip on the continent. The Chinese government calls the initiative "a bid to enhance regional connectivity and embrace a brighter future."

Some observers see it as a push for Chinese dominance in global affairs with a China-centered trading network. The project has a targeted

completion date of 2049, which coincides with the 100th anniversary of the People's Republic of China.

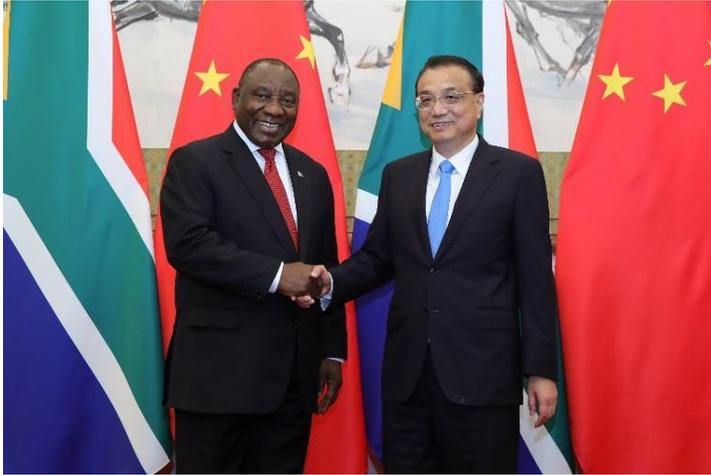


China also has other advantages from investing in Africa rather than its workforce or resources, it buys allies. China is trying to expand its sphere of influence in order to compete with the United States of America in the international area. Considering that the countries on other continents are already under the influence of either U.S.A or China, African countries have importance. China establishes that by spending billions of dollars on building infrastructure and lending loans which are funded by Chexim to several countries in Africa. These projects are of course, not free. Local governments that receive the help from China, are expected to pay back the expenses with low interest or no interest and also support China in the international arena.

The Current Situation:

China is currently dominating the African market. For example, in 2016 the exchange of goods between the United states and Africa was worth 48 billion dollars whereas between China and Africa the amount was 128 billion dollars, almost three times as much.

Most of the countries that China trade with in Africa, are Nigeria, Angola, South Africa



and Ethiopia. Usually this trade relies heavily on imports from Africa which are consisted of natural resources such as crude oil, cotton and iron ore; and the exports from China which are typically machinery, electronics and textiles.

China has also signed cooperational document on the BRI with 126 countries and 29 international

organisations. In terms of infrastructure construction, China and the countries along the Belt and Road have carried out effective cooperation in ports, railways, highways, power stations, aviation and telecommunications. This cooperation can be spotted especially in Africa. The most important projects are stated below with their locations and their necessary side notes;

Djibouti

Djibouti's Doraleh Multi-purpose Port and the Hassan Gouled Aptidon international airport.

Ethiopia

Ethiopia's Eastern Industrial Zone is a manufacturing center outside Addis Ababa that was built by China and occupied by factories of Chinese manufacturers.

According to Chinese media, there were 83 companies resident within the zone, of which 56 had started production. However, a study noted that this is due to many factors including poor infrastructure outside the zone.

From October 2011 to February 2012, Chinese companies were contracted to renovate the century-old Ethio-Djibouti Railways. The new railway line, stretching more than 750 kilometres and travelling at

120 km/h, shortens the journey time between Addis Ababa and Djibouti from three days to about 12 hours. The first freight service began in November 2015 and passenger service followed in October 2016.



On China–Ethiopia cooperation on international affairs, China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi said that China and Ethiopia are both developing countries, and both countries are faced with a complicated international environment. He stated that the partnership will be a model at the forefront of developing China–Africa relations.



Kenya

In May 2014, Premier Li Keqiang signed a cooperation agreement with the Kenyan government to build the Mombasa–Nairobi Railway connecting Mombasa to Nairobi. The railway cost US\$3.2bn and was Kenya's biggest infrastructure project since independence. The railway was claimed to cut the journey time from Mombasa

to Nairobi from 9 hours by bus or 12 hours on the previous railway to 4.5 hours.

In May 2017, Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta called the 470 km railway a new chapter that "would begin to reshape the story of Kenya for the next 100 years". According to Kenya Railways Corporation, the railway carried 1.3 million Kenyans with a 96.7% seat

occupancy and 600,000 tons of cargo in its first year of operation. Chinese media claim that the railway line boosted the country's GDP by 1.5% and created 46,000 jobs for locals and trained 1,600 railway professionals.

Nigeria

On 12 January 2019, Nigeria's first standard gauge railway, which has been successfully operated for 900 days, had no major accidents since its inception. With the successful completion of the railway construction by China Civil Engineering Construction Company (CCECC), the Abuja Kaduna train service began commercial operation on 27 July 2016.

The Abuja-Kaduna Railway Line is one of the first standard railroad railway modernization projects in Nigeria. This is the first part of the Lagos-Kano standard metrics project, which will connect the business centres of Nigeria with the economic



activity centres of the northwestern part of the country.

In a resolution of the Johannesburg Summit of the China-Africa Cooperation Forum in 2015, the Chinese government promised to provide satellite television to 10,000 African villages. It is reported that each of the 1,000 selected villages in Nigeria, the most populous country in Africa, will receive two sets of solar projection television systems and a set of solar 32-inch

digital TV integrated terminal systems. A total of 20,000 Nigerian rural families will benefit from the project. Kpaduma, an underdeveloped rural community on the edge of the Nigerian capital of Abuja, is familiar with analog TV and has no chance to see the satellite TV channels enjoyed by people in Nigerian towns. The implementation of the project will create more jobs, 1,000 Nigerians in selected villages have received training on how to install, recharge and operate satellite TV systems.

Sudan

In Sudan, China has helped the country to establish its own oil industry, and provided agricultural assistance for the cotton industry.

Future plans include developing railways, roads, ports, a nuclear power station, solar power farms and more dams for irrigation and electricity generation.

As seen above cooperation with China has a lot of benefits and it has improved African Countries but of course this is not free. Behind every project there is a political goal benefiting China. For example after years of improving relations with China, Djibouti has allowed a Chinese military base inside its borders. What is more interesting is that this is China's first military base abroad.



Another example can be given by the reduction of the recognition of Taiwan by African countries that China has traded with. After the investments of the Chinese in Africa every other state except for Eswatini has not recognized Taiwan as a legitimate state. It has been found that if an African country recognizes Taiwan as a country they receive on average 2.7 fewer Chinese infrastructure projects each year on the contrary if a country votes along or in favor of China in the United Nations General Assembly they receive 1.8 more Chinese infrastructure projects.

Alongside the political boundaries that come with the BRI there are also economic issues that local governments struggle with. The debt policy that China has established is yet to affect those in debt. Though the debt is almost interest-free and is long dated; without the right policies and sufficient growth, those countries might not pay their debt in time and Chinese government can confiscate important ports, precious material, etc.

Moreover the loans that Chexim lend are not like the loans that International Monetary Fund or World Bank lends. They do not require a certain criteria to be filled by the government, such as respecting human rights and holding democratic elections. Of course this results in more humanitarian crises and violation of human rights.

Although most of the local governments have no problems with Chinese influence on the continent, the public opinion of the Chinese is not particularly great.



Since the Chinese took over the market in Africa, local businesses have a hard time competing with the Chinese private companies that are trying to take advantage of the new sources of revenue. This can be exemplified by the illegal gold rush of the Chinese in Ghana.

Ghana's tradition of artisanal gold mining and the gold price boom which began in 2007 led tens of thousands of Chinese migrants to seek their fortunes in Ghana, obviously these migrants were illegally mining gold and harming the local businesses that relied on gold. Incidents like these and many more exist around the continent and local governments' hands are tied.

As well as the economic problems the public suffers from many other problems caused by Chinese, such as; deforestation and pollution caused by infrastructure projects and illegal gold miners, hunting of endangered species in order to use their parts for manufacturing authentic Chinese medicine or just for luxurious purposes and Chinese fathers that have children while they work in Africa, and abandon their families when they are done.

Conclusion / Summary

Some think that the actions taken by the Chinese government such as; setting up a structure of power over other less developed states in order to gather resources and use their labor are, similar to the idea of colonialism that will lead Africa into another catastrophe, and some think that Africa is entering a new age of prosperity and wealth. Whatever anyone thinks the future is undecided and Africa must be ready for anything.

Points That Should Be Considered:

How can the negative social effects of the Chinese migrants be reduced?

How can the negative economic effects of the Chinese migrants and private businesses be reduced?

What actions should be taken in order to reduce deforestation and hunting of endangered species caused by the Chinese?

How can countries pay back their debt to the Chinese?

How can the communication between China and African Union be improved in order to tackle the ongoing problems in the most beneficial way?

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