



FIRAMUN '26

FIRA MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE 2026

**SPECIAL POLITICAL
AND
DECOLONIZATION
COMMITTEE**

AGENDA ITEM: IRAN CRISIS
AND THE FALL OF KHAMENEI
REGIME

UNDER SECRETARY
GENERAL:
BEDIRHAN CURA &
BEGÜM DEMİRÖRS
ACADEMIC ASSISTANT:
ATA YANKI KILINÇ

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1. Welcoming Letters

a. Letter from the Secretaries General

Dear Participants,

As the Secretaries-General of FIRAMUN'26, we are very happy to welcome you to Antalya for the first edition of our conference, which will take place from September 1st to September 3rd, 2026.

When we first started planning FIRAMUN'26, we had a simple goal: to organize a conference that we would enjoy attending ourselves. Since then, our executive, academic, and organization teams have spent months working on every part of the event. There have been long meetings, difficult decisions, last-minute changes, and a great deal of excitement. Now, we are finally ready to share the result with you.

During these three days, you will discuss real problems, defend your country's position, disagree with one another, and hopefully find solutions together. Some moments may be challenging, especially for those attending their first MUN conference. That is completely normal. Nobody enters their first committee knowing exactly what to say or when to speak. What matters is having the courage to participate.

For experienced delegates, we hope FIRAMUN'26 gives you something different to remember. For first-time delegates, we hope it becomes the beginning of a much longer MUN journey. Either way, do not spend the whole conference worrying about awards. Take the floor, meet the people around you, make mistakes, and enjoy the experience.

A conference is shaped by the people in its committee rooms. We have done our best to prepare those rooms for you. What happens inside them is now in your hands.

We hope you leave FIRAMUN'26 with good memories, new friends, and at least one story you will still be telling months later.

Lastly, we want to finish our letter with Father of Turks, our visionary Mustafa Kemal Atatürk's delightful phrase:

"You, the young people of the new Türkiye! Even if you grow exhausted, you will follow me. Those who resolve to keep walking without resting will never, ever grow tired."

Welcome to FIRAMUN'26. Requiem Aeternam!

Sincerely,

Baran İNCE & Doruk ŞENTÜRK
Secretaries-General of FIRAMUN'26

b. Letter from the Co-Under-Secretary Generals

My lovely delegates,

My name is Bedirhan CURA, and I am honored to be your Under-Secretary-General for the SPECPOL committee in this incredible conference. I truly hope we will be able to produce some meaningful and educational debates throughout our three days together. I will be assisting you in any way that I possibly can, as I have always done with my previous delegates and committees. Nevertheless, I am able to provide you with every little bit of information regarding this topic, so I will be helping you throughout the committee. Before concluding, I would like to express my gratitude towards the executive board of this conference for giving me the opportunity of being an Under-Secretary-General for this conference, since I have missed being one. Those who are in need of guidance regarding this committee and study guide, can contact me in any way possible, I will return to you when I am available.

Kindest Regards

Bedirhan CURA

Under-Secretary-General of SPECPOL

c. Letter from the Co-Under-Secretary Generals

My name is Begüm Demirörs, and I am honoured to serve as your Under-Secretary-General for the SPECPOL Committee at FIRAMUN'26. I am currently a second-year student at Antalya Bilim University, studying Political Science and International Relations. It is my great pleasure to welcome each and every one of you to this committee.

In this session, SPECPOL will address the agenda item “The Iran Crisis and the Fall of the Khamenei Regime.” This agenda invites delegates to examine the political, social, humanitarian, and geopolitical developments surrounding the crisis in Iran and the implications of the fall of the Khamenei regime. The committee will explore the causes and consequences of political instability, the role of domestic and international actors, Iran’s

regional influence, questions of sovereignty and self-determination, and the potential implications for regional and international peace and security.

This agenda requires critical thinking, comprehensive research, diplomatic negotiation, and a nuanced understanding of Iran's political history and its position within the international system. I encourage each of you to approach the debate with open-mindedness, professionalism, and a commitment to developing balanced, practical, and sustainable solutions to the challenges facing Iran and the wider region.

Should you have any questions before or during the conference, please do not hesitate to reach out. I look forward to witnessing your diplomacy, dedication, and enthusiasm throughout our committee sessions.

Kindest regards,

Under-Secretary-General of SPECPOL
Begüm Demirörs

d. Letter from the Academic Assistant

Esteemed Secretariat, Honourable Delegates and Fellow Academic Team Members;

I, the Academic Assistant of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee - GA-4, welcome you all to our committee. My name is Ata Yankı KILINÇ and I will serve my duty as an academic assistant as aforementioned in these 3 days.

As you may know during the first and the second period of 2026 the US-Israeli collaboration against the Middle Eastern soils has eventually hit Iran which was being governed by Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. But the attacks did not begin with Iran as you may remember the continuing attacks on Gaza during the writing period of this study guide. Our committee will focus on this occasion to the human welfare, crisis of Hourmuz Straight, US-Israeli Government Illegal Interventions to the region and much more.

If you have questions in your mind about what we expect from you or how to write solutions, please look at the “What We Expect From You” part in our study guide. In the case of your questions continuity, you may contact me via,

+90 549 477 74 64

kilincatayanki@gmail.com

Ata Yankı KILINÇ
Academic Assistant of SPECPOL

2. Introduction to the Committee

Our committee SPECPOL which is an abbreviation of Special Political and Decolonization Committee focuses on decolonization, peacekeeping operations, outer space & atomic radiations, and Middle East & Human Welfare. SPECPOL is the 4th General Assembly committee of the United Nations. Since this fact, we are going to use a full GA procedure, probably the one that the United Nations applies. All 193 UN member states are represented in SPECPOL. Unlike the UN Security Council or the International Court of Justice, SPECPOL cannot authorize punitive measures or sanctions. Its resolutions are recommendations rather than legally binding laws, though they carry heavy moral and political weight.

The Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) considers a broad range of issues covering a cluster of five decolonization-related agenda items, the effects of atomic radiation, questions relating to information, a comprehensive review of the question of peacekeeping operations as well as a review of special political missions, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), Israeli Practices and settlement activities affecting the rights of the Palestinian people and other Arabs of the occupied territories, and International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space.

3. Introduction to the Agenda Item

Our committee's agenda item does not belong to a time far far away. Actually not the crisis but the war's official start was on 28th of February 2026. Before talking about the start of the war we have to focus on the Khamenei regime and its fall. Although most people think that this regime fell after the assassination of their supreme leader Ali Khamanei, the fall

completion was much more different. The Khamenei regime did not collapse following the death of Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei, who was assassinated in Tehran on February 28, 2026, during a joint US-Israeli military operation. Instead of the regime falling, the Assembly of Experts swiftly appointed his 56-year-old son, Mojtaba Khamenei, as the third Supreme Leader.

The main factors of this regime and the Islamic Republic's itself to continue was because of their institutionalization, succession, and state crackdowns. In order to deeply detail these factors we may start with the factor, institutionalization. The Iranian state is a deeply entrenched theocracy. The power structure extends far beyond a single figure, relying on extensive economic patronage networks and the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) to maintain control. After detailing Institutionalization, we may continue with succession. State institutions and the 88-member clerical body quickly mobilized to manage the transition and suppress potential uprising attempts, ensuring continuity of the state. After this now it's time for state crackdowns. The regime continues to utilize intense security measures, mass arrests, and internet blackouts to quell domestic opposition.

Now we have finished the core factors of the continuity for a bit more time of the regime. Now we may continue with the death of Ali Khamenei and the fall of the regime. While the death of Ali Khamenei marked the end of an era, the core machinery of the Islamic Republic remains firmly in power under the new leadership.

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the leader of the regime which was the leader of the dominant regime, was assassinated in February 2026 during joint US-Israeli military strikes. Rather than collapsing, the regime's institutional machinery held firm. By early March 2026, the Assembly of Experts appointed his son, Mojtaba Khamenei, as the new Supreme Leader, cementing continuity for the Islamic Republic. The political and economic climate in Iran remains highly volatile, shaped by the following recent developments such as Leadership Transition, Economic Crisis, Civil Unrest, and Axis of Disarray

The February 2026 decapitation strikes eliminated the Supreme Leader and dozens of top officials, deeply shocking the establishment. However, the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) intervened to swiftly install Mojtaba Khamenei, maintaining the regime's control over the country.

Iran's economy is currently in a severe downward spiral, heavily worsened by the reimposition of UN sanctions by European powers and broader international blockades. The resulting inflation and currency devaluation continue to fuel widespread poverty and public discontent.

The economic collapse and wartime conditions have triggered massive, ongoing domestic protests. The demonstrations, which originated with bazaar merchants in Tehran, have expanded into broader anti-government uprisings, with citizens actively demanding the fall of the regime.

The loss of Khamenei has heavily disrupted Iran's regional network. The government is struggling to balance survival at home while managing fragmented and isolated proxy groups abroad.

Despite intense domestic and international pressure, the regime's security apparatus has thus far prevented a full-scale collapse.

4. Historical Background and Current Status of the Region

The region's escalations did not start with these events. The roots of instability in the region date back thousands of years, long before the modern nation-state system emerged. The trade routes, massive petroleum reserves, other countries' war of intervention and occupation; religious routes and temples of Jew's, Muslim's and Christian's created an unstable environment over the Arab Peninsula and Persian Region. The region is home to some of the holiest sites of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, making religious disputes another contributing factor to regional tensions.

Because of these basic reasons this region was always a problem for worldwide peace.

The Persian Region after and during Israel's attacks on Gaza was becoming a more unstable region. Before all of these there were already blockades and American mandate advocacy, hardline Islamism, and American embargoes. So Iran and the USA already had conflicts going on.

After the attacks which were determined as illegal by most of the Muslim countries and made protest upon this topic, Iran significantly increased its support for regional proxy groups and

exchanged direct military strikes with Israel, their best ally USA in 2024. After this declaration the string was pulled and then snapped.

The region's escalations did not start with these events. The roots of instability in the region date back thousands of years, long before the modern nation-state system emerged. The Middle East and the Persian Region have always been among the most strategically important areas in the world because of their geography, resources, and religious significance. Throughout history, this area has been shaped by empires, trade routes, foreign interventions, and ideological competition.

a. Ancient Roots of Regional Instability

i. Ancient Persia

Persians are one of the most important nations in history who evolved into Iranians. Ancient Persia was one of the earliest civilizations in world history. The Achaemenid Empire, followed later by the Parthian and Sassanian Empires, created a strong political tradition which influenced not only the close region but the world for centuries. Persia was not only a military power but also a cultural and economic center connecting Asia, Europe, and Africa. Its location made it a bridge between civilizations, and this strategic position later became one of the main reasons why the region remained contested by outside powers.

The history of Ancient Persia still matters today because modern Iran sees itself as the heir to a long civilizational history. This history of them continues to shape their national identity and political discourse. In many ways, modern Iran cannot be understood without understanding the deep historical roots of Persian statehood and regional influence.

ii. Ottoman Empire

For many centuries, the Ottoman Empire was among the major empires in the Middle East. The Ottoman-Persian rivalry was among the most prominent features that defined the region politically. Apart from being the territorial rivalry between the two empires, this rivalry included religious and ideological conflict as well, which took the form of Sunni-Shia struggle for power and dominance. Such rivalry led to the division of power in the region and to the creation of patterns of competition that have persisted until today.

Afterwards, the weakening of the Ottoman Empire resulted in its demise during World War I. It brought about the process of border changes and state formation within the region. As a result, the power vacuum created after the fall of the empire was filled with European intervention, national movements, and other factors that helped to create today's picture of the region and its political structure.

iii. Colonial Influence

Colonization is another major factor responsible for the present day unrest in the region. After the end of the Ottoman Empire, Britain and France strengthened their control through mandates, protectorates, and other political influence. These foreign powers usually overlooked the identity, tribe, sectarian balance, and historical background of the areas under their control. Hence, most of the states established in this manner had poor institutions and internal conflicts.

Like many other countries of the region, Iran has also been subjected to foreign influence in terms of control over oil, economic leverage, and political meddling. Competition amongst the world powers over the availability of raw materials and strategic territories in the region has always ensured that this area remains under the influence of foreign powers. Thus, a deep mistrust prevails against the western nations in the region, particularly Iran.

iv. Trade Routes

Trading routes have always been one of the main reasons why this region had international significance. Historical trading routes linking Asia, Europe, and Africa ran through or close

to the Persian Gulf, the Levant, and the Arabian Peninsula in ancient and medieval times. In later periods, maritime routes via the Strait of Hormuz, the Red Sea, and the eastern Mediterranean became crucial for international trade.

Due to these trading routes, the region was never isolated from the rest of the world; it was always linked to larger economies. Control of the routes could impact international trade, movement of armies, and energy supply. Such strategic value meant that the region became a permanent focus of rivalry among regional and international players.

b. Foreign Intervention and the Rise of Modern Iran

i. 1953 Coup

Tensions in the modern period increased drastically in the twentieth century. One of the key moments that can be cited in this regard is the 1953 coup in Iran, when Prime Minister Mohammad Mossadegh was overthrown following his decision to nationalize the country's oil industry. This coup was backed by foreign spy agencies and helped restore the Shah back into power.

The 1953 coup was seen as a symbol of foreign intervention in the affairs of Iran for many citizens in the country. It led to the building up of strong resentments towards the US and Britain and became one of the key pillars of the anti-western ideology of the Islamic Republic.

ii. Shah

After the coup, Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi tightened his grip on power and sought to modernize the country through economic growth, military build-up, and social reform; but his government was also authoritarian and politically repressive, as well as being dependent on outside support. The Shah's system of internal security, which included SAVAK, squashed opposition groups and restricted political liberty.

While the Shah worked towards modernizing the country, the Iranian people saw him as alienated from them and too much under foreign control. As time went on, the issues of

economic disparity, political repression, and cultural conflict all built up into discontent with the monarchy.

iii. Revolution

In 1979, the Islamic Revolution in Iran resulted in the fall of the monarchy and the creation of the Islamic Republic led by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini. The Islamic Revolution in Iran was not merely political, but it was also ideological since it led to the replacement of the pro-Western monarchy regime with a revolutionary theocracy that saw itself as anti-American, anti-Israel, and anti-West in general.

The Iranian revolution brought changes both to Iran's internal situation and to its foreign policy. It created a new political identity for Iran based on Islamic government, revolutionary identity, and anti-domination. Iran has become one of the major players in the Middle East ever since.

c. Iran-US Relations

i. Hostage Crisis

The post-revolution relations between Iran and the United States went sour due to the U.S. Embassy Hostage Crisis, economic sanctions, and ideological differences. In 1979, Iranians stormed the U.S. Embassy in Tehran and took U.S. diplomats hostage for 444 days.

This act has become one of the most pivotal events in recent history of Iran-U.S. relations. The crisis shattered any remaining diplomatic confidence and made the relations confrontational. To the U.S., it was an embarrassment and a trauma. To Iran, this became a symbol of their revolutionary struggle against foreign interference.

ii. Sanctions

Sanctions were one of the most prominent mechanisms of influence on Iran by the US and other countries allied to it. Throughout the years, sanctions affected Iran's economy, banks, oil exports, arms purchases, and political structures. They grew in intensity in response to disagreements on terrorism, intervention in the region, and above all, to the issue of the nuclear program.

The effects of sanctions were significant both for the people and the state. They harmed the economy, decreased foreign investments, caused inflation, and restricted access to world markets. On the other hand, sanctions also reinforced the narratives of the hardliners within Iran as sanctions were seen as a tool of weakening the country politically and economically.

iii. Nuclear Issue

Thus, the nuclear question became one of the major points of conflict between Iran and the world community. There were years of negotiations, inspections, and sanctions because of fears about uranium enrichment, nuclear weaponization, and lack of transparency. At the same time, Iran assured the world community that its nuclear program is peaceful and was needed for generating electricity.

Nevertheless, the 2015 Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) managed to mitigate some tensions, imposing limitations on the nuclear program of Iran in exchange for lifting the sanctions. The situation changed again in 2018 when the US pulled out of the deal. Since that moment, the nuclear issue is still one of the major sources of instability in the region.

d. Regional Proxy Conflicts

i. Hezbollah

Iran has been using proxy forces in Lebanon, Iraq, Syria, Yemen, and Gaza to expand its influence in the region. Hezbollah, which has played a very significant role in the balance of powers on Israel's northern borders, is one of these proxy forces. Hezbollah, apart from being a militia, is a political actor with significant political influence within Lebanon.

The relation between Hezbollah and Iran has provided Tehran with a strategic foothold in the Levant. Thus, the relation between Hezbollah and Iran has helped Tehran exercise its power in the region without conventional military means. Therefore, Hezbollah has become an integral part of Iran's regional strategy.

ii. Hamas

Hamas has at times been a part of the larger Iran network in the region despite political disagreements and shifting regional dynamics. Iran has aided Hamas as a means of opposition to Israel and in order to exert its influence on the Palestinian question. The alliance between Hamas and Iran thus makes the Gaza situation very significant for Iranian regional politics.

Iran's ties with Hamas have added further tension with Israel and America. While their relationship might not be in perfect harmony ideologically, their cooperation fits into Iran's greater plan of exerting pressure on Israel through its allies.

iii. Houthis

Yemen is yet another case where the Houthis are a rising power whose actions in the region and Red Sea have contributed significantly to Iran's influence in the area. Different levels of political and military backing by Tehran have been seen as part of the Houthi movement, which has resulted in serious international consequences for their actions in the Red Sea and against rival countries in the region.

Red Sea operations have clearly demonstrated that a local conflict can turn out to be an international security threat very fast. Therefore, the Houthi issue cannot be considered exclusively as the problem of a Yemen civil war, but also as an international maritime and strategic issue.

iv. Iraqi Militias

The militias of Iraq have also constituted an important part of the regional network of Iran. The overthrow of Saddam Hussein gave Iran considerable influence in the country via political allies, militia organizations, and through religious relations. Some of these militias joined the Popular Mobilization Forces while some were directly linked to the Iranian strategic interests.

The presence of these militias proves that the Iranians have developed a system of influence that is extending from their borders to other neighboring countries.

e. Israel-Iran Rivalry

i. Shadow War

The feud between Iran and Israel has matured into a prolonged shadow warfare. The two countries have been engaged in activities that do not involve an open confrontation on any front for many years now, but they are involved in secret missions, cyberattacks, sabotage, spying and proxy fights. The shadow war has occurred on many fronts, particularly Syria, Lebanon, Iraq and maritime.

Shadow war is significant since it is evidence that this conflict goes beyond mere threats and words; it is a serious strategic conflict which involves military strategies and intelligence networks.

ii. Syria

Thus, Syria became one of the key battlefields in the confrontation between Iran and Israel. At the time of the Syrian civil war, Iran backed the Assad regime in Syria to improve its influence and provide assistance to its allies using Syrian territory. For its part, Israel bombed the targets associated with Iran in Syria to impede the development of military infrastructure close to its borders.

In this way, Syria was the battlefield for indirect conflicts. The situation in Syria combined elements of local civil war and regional competition and was one of the most dangerous conflict zones in the Middle East.

iii. Assassinations

Moreover, assassinations were a common tool of the long-lasting struggle of Iran against its opponents. Throughout many years, Iranian nuclear scientists, generals, and regional military leaders have become victims of covert operations organized against them. Those actions were usually blamed on Israel or on parties acting in favor of Israel's interests.

Such assassinations contributed to mutual distrust and intensification of the circle of retaliations. At the same time, they showed that the conflict has evolved from diplomatic actions to extremely dangerous espionage activities.

iv. Missile Exchanges

In 2024, Iran dramatically escalated its support for its proxies in the region and engaged in direct military strikes against Israel. The two states had never experienced such escalations in their relationship in the last few decades, which demonstrated that the shadow war could easily become an open confrontation. The use of missiles and drones made this rivalry more evident and more dangerous.

As the closest ally of Israel in the region, the United States increased its involvement in military activities and support of Israel, increasing worries about a regional conflict. This development brought the region to a new level of tension and made it closer to interstate war than it was in the last decades.

f. Domestic Situation

i. Economy, Inflation and Sanctions

Economy

On the other hand, the internal environment of Iran has been defined by economic difficulties, political isolation, and structural issues. In this case, the Iranian economy has been affected by sanctions, reduced revenue from oil, financial instability, and inability to access foreign markets. The problems mentioned above have led to a decrease in people's trust and increased difficulty in their everyday life.

It is important to note that economic problems can result in political outcomes. In particular, if there are issues like unemployment, a decline in the purchasing power of money, or an uncertain future, people's dissatisfaction with the government grows. At the same time, the economy has become one of the most crucial internal threats for Iran.

Inflation

One of the most obvious problems related to economic difficulties in Iran was the growth of inflation. As a result, prices for food, housing, transportation, and different products rose. Moreover, inflation worsened due to the depreciation of the national currency.

Apart from negative effects on living standards, the high rates of inflation contributed to people's frustration with the political system.

Sanctions

The use of sanctions has affected the stability in Iran internally. They have restricted the flow of business, limited access to technology, and hindered efforts by the Iranian government to develop the economy. Even though the reason for imposing sanctions on Iran is usually linked to the country's foreign policies and nuclear projects, they affect the ordinary people the most.

However, this has served to reinforce the government's claim that Iran is under attack by the world powers. The government can thus easily convince the hardliners that unity and resistance matter more than any compromises. This means that sanctions have now become a political as well as an economic issue.

ii. Mahsa Amini

The killing of Mahsa Amini in 2022 led to one of the most significant protests in modern Iranian history. The death of this woman under arrest by the morality police acted as an impetus for large-scale nationwide protests against social oppression, gender discrimination, and repressive policies.

Protests in this case were about far more than one tragic event. They reflected deep dissatisfaction with the political system on the part of youth, women, and city population. The Mahsa Amini protests proved the existence of the lack of domestic legitimacy as one of the main issues that Iranian authorities face.

iii. Political Opposition

Although political opposition in Iran has been limited by the country's security apparatus, it still exists in various forms. There have been numerous reformist, activist, student, feminist, ethnic and diasporic opposition movements to the existing political regime. However, the government responded to this opposition with persecution and oppression.

In such a way, there is a certain political opposition in Iran, which is divided but active. It does not have the opportunity to take control of the state, but it is capable of influencing public debates and questioning the legitimacy of the political elite.

g. Current Status of the Region

i. Gaza Conflict

In the wake of the Israel-Hamas War that broke out in October 2023, there was a significant rise in regional tension. Many countries in the region with majority Muslims denounced Israel for its military attacks in Gaza and urged for an immediate halt of hostilities. The ongoing conflict worsened the rivalry in politics, religion, and militarily across the Middle East.

This conflict in Gaza also had a direct impact on Iran's policy in the region. It has led to increased pressure on Iran in terms of political and military response through proxies, along with the danger of a wider escalation with Israel and the USA. The humanitarian disaster in Gaza has raised international worries and made the conflict an important diplomatic matter around the world.

ii. Red Sea Crisis

The Red Sea crisis is also a consequence of the regional instability. The disruption of the sea route by attacks caused grave concerns for international trade and energy supply. Since the Red Sea and Bab el-Mandeb Strait are critical for international business, any instability in this region turns into a global issue instantly. The crisis showed how regional conflicts can spread beyond their original borders. What begins as a local or ideological confrontation can affect shipping, insurance, energy prices, and military deployments across multiple continents.

iii. US Military Deployments

The United States raised its level of military activity in the area in response to tension, attacks on ships, and threats of war escalating to a larger scale. These included naval operations, air

defense systems, and military deployment in the region, all of which were part of the strategy of deterrence used by Washington in an effort to prevent escalation.

The very presence of American forces in the area complicated the situation even further, since any military engagement between Iran or Israel or their proxies could have easily involved American military might.

iv. Regional Alliances

Furthermore, there are also new alliances that characterize the present regional dynamics. First, the strategic alliance between Israel and the USA continues to be one of the most significant alliances in the region. In the meantime, Iran continues to use its regional allies and proxy forces to exercise its influence and deterrence.

Other regional powers like Gulf countries, Iraq, Lebanon, Syria, and Yemen have been impacted by the emerging alliances and rivalries. While some countries try to de-escalate and engage in diplomatic activities, others prefer security alliances and military deterrence. It makes the region very fragmented and politically unstable.

Currently, the Persian Region continues to be the most unstable area in the international system where the escalation of economic sanctions, political instability, proxy wars, humanitarian crisis, nuclear crisis, and strategic rivalry among regional and global powers have become a serious threat to international peace and security.

As far as the committee is concerned, delegates will discuss a fictional situation where the escalating crises lead to the collapse of the Khamenei regime and the emergence of a new political reality in Iran and the whole Middle East region.

5. The Khamenei Regime

Khamenei regime is the regime which was in power before the Iran crisis. The Khamenei regime refers to the supreme leadership in Iran, originally established by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and led by his successor, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, from 1989 until his death in February 2026. It is an authoritarian theocracy governed under the Islamic principle of *Velayat-e Faqih* (Guardianship of the Islamic Jurist). This regime is operated under a specific structure of power and institutional control which are the supreme leader, control of state apparatus and the core ideology.

As we mentioned, the Supreme Leader of a regime is one of the core structures of a regime. This position sits at the apex of the Iranian power structure. The Supreme Leader is the Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces, controls intelligence operations, and sets all major domestic and foreign policies. Ayatollah Ali Khamenei ruled for 36 years. Following his death in 2026, he was succeeded by his son, Mojtaba Khamenei. The regime maintains control over the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), the judiciary, the state media, and the Guardian Council.

Through these bodies, it heavily restricts democratic participation, vets political candidates, and suppresses political dissent. The government's ideology blends Shia Islam, anti-Western sentiment, and state control over the economy.

The regime has been heavily criticized globally and within Iran for its suppression of civil liberties, crackdowns on protests, and strict enforcement of social and religious laws. For

further context on how the regime's power centers operate, see the Council on Foreign Relations overview of Iranian governance. The Khamenei regime refers to the Islamic Republic of Iran's authoritarian, theocratic system of governance, which was shaped and led by Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei from 1989 until his death in early 2026. Following his death, his son, Mojtaba Khamenei, was appointed to succeed him.

In order to understand the regime better we may overlook their ideology khomeinism. The state of this ideology was a radical, Twelver Shi'a Islamist doctrine established by the 1979 Islamic Revolution's founder, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini. There are some core words and definitions you need to know for better understanding of the topic.

- Velayat-e Faqih (Guardianship of the Islamic Jurist): The ideological cornerstone of the regime. It dictates that a supreme religious jurist holds absolute political and religious authority over the state, acting as a divine representative on Earth.
- Anti-Imperialism: Guided by a "Neither East, Nor West" policy, the regime strongly rejects Western influence, particularly from the United States, which it views as the ultimate oppressor and global adversary.
- Hostility Toward Israel: The regime places staunch anti-Zionism at the center of its foreign policy, actively funding militant proxy groups—collectively referred to as the "Axis of Resistance"—with the ultimate aim of the eradication of Israel.
- Exporting the Revolution: The ideology emphasizes spreading the Islamic Revolution and awakening Muslim populations across the Middle East and globally against secular or Western-backed governments.

Another important subtopic that shall be mentioned for further detailing is the structure of this regime: the Khamenei Regime.

Structure of the Khamenei Regime

While the country has nominally elected institutions like a president and parliament, real power sits in the hands of a cleric-led apparatus. Its structure was mainly of the supreme leader which was lastly Ali Khamenei whose role was being the ultimate head of state and commander-in-chief of the armed forces, who controls the judiciary, the military, and foreign policy. The other part of the structure of the regime was IRGC(The Islamic Revolutionary

Guard Corps) which was the regime's elite military and security branch. Under Khamenei, the IRGC became a powerful tool for maintaining domestic control, suppressing dissent, and projecting regional influence.

a. The Elimination of Ali Khamenei

On 28 February 2026, Iran's Supreme Leader, Ali Khamenei, was killed in Tehran during a series of coordinated Israeli airstrikes targeting senior Iranian political and military figures. According to official Iranian sources, his death was confirmed on 1 March 2026. The operation formed part of a broader joint campaign conducted by Israel and the United States, reportedly relying on intelligence provided by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) to identify the locations of key Iranian leaders. Satellite imagery released after the attack indicated that Khamenei's residence had suffered extensive damage.

Following early reports from Israeli officials, both U.S. President Donald Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu publicly stated that Khamenei had been killed. Shortly afterward, Iranian state media officially confirmed his death. The Iranian government declared forty days of national mourning and announced a seven-day public holiday. Iranian media outlets also reported that several members of Khamenei's immediate family, including his daughter, granddaughter, son-in-law, and daughter-in-law, were killed in the strikes. Initial reports claimed that his wife, Mansoureh Khojasteh Bagherzadeh, had died from injuries sustained during the attack; however, later reports stated that she had survived.

The assassination of Ali Khamenei marked one of the most significant turning points in modern Iranian history. As Supreme Leader since 1989, Khamenei had exercised ultimate authority over Iran's political system, armed forces, judiciary, and foreign policy. His sudden death created an unprecedented leadership vacuum within the Islamic Republic and immediately raised questions regarding constitutional succession, political stability, and the future direction of the Iranian state. The event also intensified concerns over the possibility of broader regional conflict and increased tensions between Iran, Israel, and the United States.

Public reactions inside Iran reflected the country's deep political divisions. While many opponents of the Islamic Republic celebrated Khamenei's death in several cities, viewing it as the end of decades of authoritarian rule, thousands of supporters gathered to mourn him and participate in official memorial ceremonies. The contrasting public responses highlighted the

polarized nature of Iranian society. At the same time, demonstrations both supporting and opposing the military operation took place in numerous countries, while members of the Iranian diaspora organized celebrations and commemorative events around the world.

The assassination also carried broader geopolitical implications. It represented a major escalation in the long-standing confrontation between Iran and Israel and demonstrated the increasing role of intelligence-driven precision strikes in modern warfare. Analysts noted that the operation reflected close strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel, while simultaneously increasing the risk of retaliation by Iranian military forces and allied regional groups. The event fundamentally altered the balance of power in the Middle East and became a defining moment in the 2026 Iran crisis.

Reports following the operation also revealed that an earlier Israeli proposal to eliminate Khamenei during the Twelve-Day War in June 2025 had reportedly been vetoed by President Trump, according to unnamed U.S. officials. The eventual decision to proceed with the February 2026 operation therefore represented a significant shift in strategic calculations by both Washington and Jerusalem. The elimination of Iran's Supreme Leader not only reshaped Iran's domestic political landscape but also had lasting consequences for regional security, diplomatic relations, and the future of the Islamic Republic.

b. The Interim Leadership Council

The Interim Leadership Council in Iran is a group that has three members. This group takes over the duties of the Supreme Leader when that position is empty. The Interim Leadership Council is formed automatically because of Article 111 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran. This means that the country can still run smoothly while a new leader is being chosen. The council can only make decisions for a time until the Assembly of Experts can meet and choose a new Supreme Leader.

The Assembly of Experts is a group of scholars who specialize in these matters. The Interim Leadership Council only has power until the Assembly of Experts can choose a leader. The

first Interim Leadership Council in the history of the Islamic Republic of Iran was formed on March 1 2026. This was after the death of Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. The council had three members: President Masoud Pezeshkian, Chief Justice Gholam-Hossein Mohseni-Eje'i and Alireza Araf. Alireza Araf is a cleric and a member of the Guardian Council.

The Interim Leadership Council worked for one week. Then it was done. It stopped working on March 8 2026 when Mojtaba Khamenei became the Supreme Leader of Iran. The Interim Leadership Council did its job. Then a new leader took over. The Interim Leadership Council, in Iran is a part of the country's government because it helps the country keep running while a new leader is being chosen.

c. Mojtaba Khamenei & The Clerical Shift

The appointment of Mojtaba Khamenei as Supreme Leader on March 8, 2026 represents an important change for Iran. Mojtaba Khamenei became the new leader of the Iranian state, but his position is different from the Supreme Leaders before him. Traditionally, the Supreme Leader was expected to be an important and highly experienced cleric with significant knowledge of Islamic law. Mojtaba Khamenei, however, does not have the same position within the clerical establishment as some previous religious leaders.

The Assembly of Experts was responsible for choosing Mojtaba Khamenei as the new Supreme Leader. Instead of choosing a Grand Ayatollah or another highly senior cleric, the Assembly chose Mojtaba Khamenei, who was a mid-ranking cleric. This was an important shift because it showed that political stability and security had become more important during the leadership transition. In other words, the decision was not only about religious authority, but also about maintaining control over the Iranian state.

The Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, also known as the IRGC, played an important role during this transition. The IRGC had already become one of the most powerful institutions in Iran, with influence over domestic security, military affairs, and the political system. Its involvement in the succession of Mojtaba Khamenei demonstrated the growing importance of military and security institutions within the country. This also created questions about how much independent authority the new Supreme Leader would have and whether the IRGC could become even more influential in the future.

The appointment was also significant because Mojtaba Khamenei succeeded his father, Ali Khamenei. One of the principles of the 1979 Islamic Revolution was opposition to the previous monarchical system, where political power could be passed through a family. The succession of Ali Khamenei by his son therefore created concerns about whether Iran was developing a form of hereditary political leadership. This decision also caused tension among some religious and political figures who questioned Mojtaba Khamenei's experience and ability to lead the country.

For these reasons, the appointment of Mojtaba Khamenei was not simply a change of leadership. It represented a larger shift in the balance between religious authority, political power, and military influence in Iran. The consequences of this decision may become increasingly important as the new Iranian leadership attempts to maintain stability during the continuing crisis.

d. Reasons and Outcomes of the Fall of the Khamenei Regime

The severe fracturing of the Iranian state in early 2026 was driven by a catastrophic convergence of wartime devastation, economic ruin, and an unprecedented crisis of domestic legitimacy. The initial catalyst was a series of devastating joint U.S. and Israeli airstrikes that systematically decapitated Iran's core command infrastructure, culminating in the assassination of Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and multiple top military

commanders. This sudden power vacuum triggered immediate, widespread popular uprisings across all 31 provinces, as a population pushed to the brink by hyperinflation and the collapse of basic food subsidies took to the streets to demand the fall of the clerical system. The regime, however, enacted strict survival protocols to avoid total collapse, using the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) to violently suppress dissent and forcefully engineer the immediate succession of Mojtaba Khamenei. This move itself sparked a secondary internal crisis, as forcing a hereditary succession and elevating a lower-ranking cleric directly violated the foundational anti-dynastic principles of the 1979 Revolution, deeply alienating traditional religious factions and the standard clerical establishment.

The immediate outcome of this turbulent transition was not an outright revolution, but rather the structural transformation of the Islamic Republic into a highly militarized and deeply isolated security junta. While Mojtaba Khamenei was successfully installed as the third Supreme Leader, he has largely functioned as a fragmented, isolated figurehead, with his prolonged public absences following reports of injuries in the compound strikes sowing severe doubts about his actual stability and control. In reality, executive power has shifted entirely away from traditional religious consensus and into the hands of hardline IRGC commanders who now run the state through a strict wartime cabinet. Rather than bending to international pressure or offering diplomatic reforms to ease its geopolitical isolation, this new leadership has closed in on itself, reorganizing the state apparatus to prepare for prolonged regional confrontation. Consequently, the regime remains standing but severely exhausted, presiding over a ruined economy and an intensely hostile population while depending exclusively on raw military force to maintain its grip on power.

6. Crisis of Hourmuz Strait

Now we come to one of the main topics of the crisis in the MENA region, especially in Iran. In order to understand this crisis thoroughly we have to understand why the Hourmuz Strait is important in the global economic trade routes. The Strait of Hormuz is widely considered the world's most critical maritime chokepoint because it serves as the primary gateway for global energy supply. Located between Iran, Oman, and the United Arab Emirates, this narrow waterway connects the Persian Gulf to the open ocean. It handles roughly 20% to 25% of the world's seaborne oil trade and approximately 20% of global liquefied natural gas (LNG) exports. Because the surrounding Gulf nations have limited alternative routes to move their resources, any blockade or disruption instantly spikes global fuel prices, disrupts manufacturing, and threatens international energy security.

The Strait of Hourmuz' importance can mostly be seen in the worldwide energy market. Because it is close to the Arabian Peninsula the petroleum route goes through this strait and branch to every corner of the world. An average of 20 million barrels of petroleum and crude oil flow through the strait daily. As aforementioned, the Strait of Hourmuz is dominant in LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas). It handles nearly 20% of the world's liquefied natural gas, predominantly sourced from Qatar and the UAE. With these reasons that increases the vulnerability of the area, the waterway facilitates roughly \$600 billion worth of energy trade annually.



The 2026 Strait of Hormuz crisis is an ongoing geopolitical and economic crisis in the Strait of Hormuz, a waterway of vital importance to global energy trade. The crisis began on February 28, 2026, following a joint US - Israeli military attack on Iran , which resulted in the assassination of Iran's Supreme Leader, Ali Khamenei . In retaliation, Iran launched missile and drone attacks on Israeli territory and US military bases in the Gulf, while the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) issued warnings prohibiting ships from passing through the strait, effectively halting maritime traffic.

a. Strait's Importance in Petroleum Trade

Most of the global economy in petroleum routes rely heavily on this single waterway to maintain energy equilibrium and prevent catastrophic market shocks.

An average of 21 million barrels of liquids of petroleum transit the strait every day. This also refers to the fact that it is a crucial waterway for not only regional trade but for every country too. Any hitch in transit causes inflation in the world. With the dominating effect, oil prices and the transportation of daily necessities thus lead to an increase on supermarket shelves. This includes roughly 15 million barrels of crude oil and 5 million barrels of refined products.

To be more precise in dependency to this strait for Asia this strait is vital as roughly 80% to 89% of the crude oil passing through the channel is destined for Asian refineries. China receives over a third of its oil via this route, while Japan and South Korea rely on it for 95% and 75% of their total crude needs, respectively.

Lastly we have to mention the unmatched financial value which also gives an advantage to Iran of blockades to specific countries. Also this financial value makes this waterway vulnerable to petroleum predators. The daily passage of tankers represents nearly \$800 billion in annual energy trade. Even brief, multi-week disruptions can paralyze global manufacturing, spike Brent crude prices well past \$100 a barrel, and trigger severe worldwide inflationary pressures.

b. Strait's Geographical Vulnerability for the Conflict

The Strait of Hormuz is one of the world's most geographically vulnerable maritime chokepoints. Its natural features make it easy for regional actors to threaten international shipping while making military operations extremely complex for outside powers.

The Strait of Hormuz owes its extraordinary strategic importance not only to the volume of energy resources that pass through it but also to its unique geographical characteristics. Geography itself functions as a powerful strategic weapon in the Middle East, as the physical features of the Strait provide regional actors with significant military and political leverage during times of conflict. Serving as the only maritime gateway connecting the Persian Gulf to the Gulf of Oman and the wider Indian Ocean, the Strait forms the sole sea route through which the Gulf's naval forces and commercial shipping can access international waters. This creates one of the world's most critical maritime chokepoints, forcing virtually all regional naval and commercial traffic into a single, highly confined corridor. As a result, any disruption within the Strait immediately affects both regional military operations and global maritime trade.

The Strait's vulnerability is further intensified by its extremely narrow navigational space. Although it extends approximately 167 kilometers (104 miles) in length and reaches only about 33 kilometers (21 miles) at its narrowest point, the actual shipping lanes available for large commercial vessels are significantly smaller. International maritime traffic is restricted to two unidirectional navigation channels, each approximately 3.2 kilometers (2 miles) wide and separated by a similarly narrow buffer zone. This limited maneuvering space leaves commercial tankers and military vessels with virtually no flexibility to evade threats, making maritime traffic highly predictable and exceptionally vulnerable to blockades, naval mines, missile attacks, or the deliberate sinking of vessels intended to obstruct navigation.

Iran's geographical position along the northern coastline of the Strait provides it with an exceptional degree of strategic leverage. The country's coastline directly overlooks the internationally designated shipping lanes, allowing Iranian military forces to monitor and potentially threaten nearly every vessel transiting the waterway. This proximity enables Iran to implement an Anti-Access/Area Denial (A2/AD) strategy that relies not on large conventional naval fleets but on relatively inexpensive asymmetric capabilities. Coastal anti-ship missile batteries, extensive naval mine inventories, fast-attack craft, unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), and swarm tactics can collectively threaten technologically superior naval forces while significantly increasing the risks and costs of maintaining freedom of navigation. Furthermore, strategically located islands such as Qeshm, Larak, Hormuz, Abu Musa, Greater Tunb, and Lesser Tunb provide elevated surveillance positions, missile deployment sites, radar installations, and logistical bases that effectively function as unsinkable military outposts overlooking the Strait.

The Strait also represents a broader strategic vulnerability because it forms part of a larger network of global maritime chokepoints. During periods of major geopolitical confrontation, simultaneous instability in both the Strait of Hormuz and the Bab el-Mandeb–Red Sea–Suez Canal corridor can create what strategic analysts describe as an "escalation trap." If both routes become inaccessible due to military conflict, commercial vessels are forced to reroute around the Cape of Good Hope in southern Africa, adding thousands of kilometers to shipping routes, dramatically increasing transportation costs, delaying global supply chains, and stretching international naval forces across multiple maritime theaters. Consequently, the geographical characteristics of the Strait of Hormuz transform it from a simple passageway

into one of the world's most strategically decisive military and geopolitical locations, where even limited regional confrontations can rapidly generate global economic and security consequences.

7. The Surge of the IRGC and the Rise of a Military Junta

The Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, shortly known as the IRGC, is one of the most important military and political institutions in Iran. It was established after the 1979 Iranian Revolution with the main purpose of protecting the revolutionary system and the Islamic Republic. However, throughout the years, its role became much larger than that of a conventional military organization. The IRGC became an important actor in domestic security, intelligence, military operations, missile capabilities, and regional influence. Especially under Khamenei, the IRGC became a powerful tool for maintaining domestic control, suppressing opposition, and projecting Iranian influence throughout the Middle East.

In order to understand the importance of the IRGC, it is first necessary to examine the military structure of Iran. Iran has more than one major military institution. The regular Iranian military, known as the Artesh, mainly functions as the conventional armed forces of the country. The IRGC, however, was created specifically to protect the revolutionary order and the political system established after the Iranian Revolution. Because of this difference, the IRGC developed a unique position within the Iranian state. Over time, its responsibilities expanded into domestic security, intelligence, missile development, and regional military activities, making it much more than a conventional military organization.

Another important aspect of the IRGC is its role in domestic control. During periods of political instability and public protests, the Iranian government has relied heavily on security institutions to maintain control over the country. Measures such as arrests, security operations, and internet restrictions have been used against opposition movements. This demonstrates how important security institutions have become for the continuation of the political system. If the political leadership becomes weaker, institutions that control significant parts of the country's security structure may become increasingly influential. Therefore, the weakening of political leadership does not necessarily mean the immediate collapse of the state. Instead, it may create an opportunity for powerful security institutions, particularly the IRGC, to gain greater political influence.

The influence of the IRGC is also not limited to the borders of Iran. Iran has developed relationships with several armed and political groups throughout the Middle East, including Hezbollah, Hamas, the Houthis, and Iraqi militias. These relationships have allowed Iran to project its influence throughout the region without directly participating in every conflict. This regional network has also increased tensions between Iran and countries such as Israel and the United States. Therefore, any major political or military instability inside Iran could have consequences outside the country as well. The future of the IRGC is not only an Iranian domestic issue, but also an important question for regional and international security.

The position of the IRGC became especially important following the death of Ali Khamenei and the resulting leadership crisis. However, the death of one political leader does not automatically mean the destruction of the Islamic Republic. The Iranian state has already developed institutions, security structures, and political networks capable of continuing to operate even after a change in leadership. As mentioned previously, the Assembly of Experts appointed Mojtaba Khamenei as the new Supreme Leader, while existing political and security institutions remained active. This demonstrated that the political system had the ability to continue despite the death of its previous leader.

At this point, the importance of the IRGC becomes much clearer. If the new political leadership becomes weaker, the institution with significant military, intelligence, and security capabilities may gain more influence over the future of the country. This creates an important question for the international community: will the IRGC remain under political authority, or could it gradually become the dominant political power in Iran?

One possible outcome is the rise of a military-dominated political system. A military junta can generally be described as a political system in which military leaders or military institutions become the main authority controlling the state. However, it is important not to immediately describe Iran as a military junta simply because the IRGC has significant power. There is a major difference between having a powerful military institution and having a government directly controlled by the military. The main question is whether the IRGC remains under the authority of Iran's political institutions or whether it begins to control these institutions itself.

If the IRGC begins to determine political leadership, domestic policies, foreign policy, and national security without meaningful political control, Iran could gradually move toward a military-dominated political system. This possibility becomes especially important after the fall or weakening of the Khamenei regime. A weak government could create a power vacuum, and such a vacuum could either create an opportunity for a peaceful political transition or allow a military institution to gain greater control over the state.

Following the fall of the Khamenei regime, several political outcomes may be possible. Existing political institutions could continue under new leadership, creating a form of political continuity. Another possibility is that the IRGC becomes the most influential institution in Iran while other political institutions continue to exist formally. A more serious possibility would be the establishment of a military junta in which military leaders directly control the government. However, another possible outcome is a peaceful and inclusive political transition, in which different political groups, civil society, and representatives of Iranian society participate in creating a new political structure.

The growing influence of the IRGC is also directly connected to the Strait of Hormuz. During the 2026 crisis, the IRGC issued warnings against ships passing through the Strait, contributing to interruptions in maritime traffic. The Strait of Hormuz is one of the most important energy routes in the world, and a significant amount of global oil and LNG trade

passes through the region. Because of this, any military decision concerning the Strait can affect not only Iran but also international energy prices, maritime trade, and global economic stability.

For these reasons, the rise of the IRGC should not only be considered an internal Iranian political issue. The future position of the IRGC could directly affect the security of the Middle East, international energy markets, maritime trade, and the wider global economy. The question of whether the organization remains a powerful institution within the existing political system or becomes the dominant force controlling the state may therefore become one of the most important issues shaping Iran's future.

8. Past Diplomatic Realignments and Peace Movements

The Iran crisis and the ongoing regional war cannot be understood without looking at the diplomatic changes that reshaped the Middle East over the last twenty years. Iran, the United States, Israel, the Gulf States and other regional actors have moved back and forth between confrontation, negotiation, normalization and new conflict. Many diplomatic attempts tried to ease tensions. Most did not create a lasting regional security framework.

One of the important diplomatic moves was the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action or JCPOA also called the Iran Nuclear Deal. The JCPOA was signed in 2015 by Iran and the P5+1. This agreement was an effort to solve worries about Iran's nuclear program through talks instead of war. Later when the United States left the JCPOA and sanctions were put back trust between the United States and Tehran fell apart. The collapse of the JCPOA led to confrontation and showed how hard it is to keep agreements when governments and priorities change.

Another big change happened with the Abraham Accords in 2020. The Accords made Israel and several Arab states the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain official friends. This was a

shift because Israel and some Gulf states began working together over common security worries, especially about Iran's influence. The Accords also caused splits in the Middle East. The Palestinian question stayed unsolved. Iran strongly opposed the new political and security ties between Israel and those Arab governments.

The Middle East did not go only toward conflict. A new diplomatic trend appeared from 2021 to 2023 especially as rivals tried to calm tensions. The Saudi-Iranian rapprochement, announced in 2023 with help from China was an example of this change. It showed that even countries with political, religious and strategic differences can talk when ongoing conflict threatens stability. Other moves, such as lifting the Qatar blockade and Turkey's steps to normalize with regional actors also pointed to a wider push for calm.

The Israel-Gaza war that began after October 2023 broke apart these efforts. The Palestinian issue returned to the center of Middle East diplomacy making Arab-Israeli friendship harder politically. At the time Iran's ties with regional partners and armed groups raised fears that a small conflict could grow into a bigger regional fight that would involve Israel, the United States, Lebanon, Yemen, Iraq and the Gulf. Old diplomatic wins were now under pressure.

The Iran crisis in 2026 has produced a round of diplomatic change. New talks led by Pakistan, Egypt, Qatar and Oman show that regional actors still look for ways to connect the United States and Tehran. Yet fights over sanctions, military presence, the Strait of Hormuz and wider security promises make a settlement very hard. These diplomatic moves stay fragile with talks fighting against flare-ups and deep mistrust.

For SPECPOL the past diplomatic changes matter a lot because they reveal that the Iran crisis is not a fight between two sides. The Middle East has overlapping alliances, rivalries, normalizing steps, proxy ties and mediation attempts. Any future peace plan must tackle not Iran's ties, with the United States and Israel but also Gulf States security worries, the Palestinian and Lebanese situations, regional economic steadiness and the chance to build a long-term diplomatic framework that can survive political shifts and future emergencies.

9. Problem of Foreign Illicit Intervention of US-Israeli Governments

As you see quite frequently, the United States and Israel continue to intervene in the rights of Iran and most Middle Eastern nations through deeply controversial and illicit means. A review of this critical topic is necessary for you, as delegates and board members, to fully comprehend the severe implications of the ongoing geopolitical situation.

The most visible baseline of this intervention began with Israel's military campaigns, directly challenging the independence, sovereignty, and borders of Palestine. Because Palestine lacks formal recognition from several global powers—most notably the United States and Israel—the territory has structurally been treated by their governments as an ungoverned expanse. For the US-Israeli alliance, this perceived lack of a legitimate governing authority has served as a justification to launch operations and dismantle local infrastructure under the public banner of establishing “world peace”.

Simultaneously, the rhetoric surrounding Iran has intensified under a similar premise of forced democratization. The United States government, led by President Donald J. Trump, has repeatedly declared intentions to bring "freedom" to Iran. However, critics argue this interventionist narrative masks a deeper, unstated strategic objective focused on securing control over regional petroleum and vital economic corridors.

The direct nature of these military threats is evident in recent escalations. President Donald Trump issued a severe warning targeting Iran's underground nuclear infrastructure. He explicitly declared that the U.S. military would launch powerful strikes against Mount Kazma (Kuh-e Kolang), a heavily fortified granite mountain site near the Natanz nuclear facility where Western intelligence alleges Iran is hiding advanced uranium centrifuges. In making these assertions, Trump frequently references his close alignment with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, whose political survival and standing have faced constant speculation in international media throughout these escalating regional conflicts.

Furthermore, the dynamic of foreign intervention reveals that the US-Israeli strategy functions on dual fronts, simultaneously utilizing institutional erasure in Palestine and active military degradation in Iran. In Palestine, the structural withholding of diplomatic recognition by Washington and Tel Aviv serves as a foundational lever. By legally delegitimizing Palestinian governance and classifying sovereign territories as disputed or "vacant" spaces, the alliance facilitates ongoing settlement expansion and continuous border realignments under international immunity. This systematic fragmentation effectively paralyzes the realization of Palestinian self-determination, framing intensive security crackdowns and territorial seizures not as unilateral acts of aggression, but as defensive security protocols designed to maintain stability.

In parallel, the geopolitical focus has shifted heavily toward the physical destruction of Iran's military and energy infrastructure, highlighting how economic and security interests intersect. The recent warnings delivered by President Donald Trump regarding Mount Kazma (Kuh-e Kolang Gaz La) underscore this aggressive enforcement strategy. Intelligence reports from Western and Israeli agencies claim that Tehran has hidden advanced nuclear centrifuges deep within this heavily fortified granite mountain near the Natanz facility, attempting to shield its uranium enrichment capabilities from standard airstrikes. By publicly threatening to strike this highly protected underground complex, the U.S. administration aims to fundamentally dismantle Iran's strategic deterrent.

However, the international community continues to voice sharp concern over the true long-term motives driving these sweeping campaigns. While the public narrative centers heavily on regional stabilization, counter-proliferation, and cross-border security, critics argue that the underlying intent is deeply tethered to securing total hegemony over Middle Eastern oil reserves, critical supply lines, and the highly strategic Strait of Hormuz. The joint operational coordination between the United States and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government bypasses standard United Nations oversight, leaving regional civilian infrastructure fractured and escalating the risk of an unmanageable all-out regional war. For delegates and board members, evaluating these interventions requires analyzing how

the combination of military dominance and resource control alters the balance of international law and global sovereignty.

10. Ensurement of Lasting Peace in the Region

Just like any other conflict in a region exacerbating human welfare and economies throughout the world, politicians and governors always chose a temporary peace and then with a treaty or something else for lasting peace. Surely, the same thing has to be done for this conflict too.

Since a couple of months there has been a temporary stop at the armed conflict. The first necessity for a lasting peace is done but lasting peace has to be ensured before the fire of the past conflicts gets again out of control. There are a bunch of methods that the delegates may encourage the governments to proceed with. These procedures are usually ensured by a treaty with unbiased and fair articles for both of the sides.

These are:

- Clear Territorial Demarcation & Buffers
- Institutional Architecture & Alliances
- Imposed Regime Change & Occupation
- Economic Interdependence & Reconstruction
- Strategic Marriages & Hostages (Pre-Modern)

Clear Territorial Demarcation & Buffers

These solutions usually are determined in treaties. Also the demarcation of the territories are usually although not entirely determined with the outcomes of the conflict.

- **Demilitarized Zones (DMZs):** Creating physical, heavily monitored buffer strips between opposing forces to prevent accidental skirmishes.

- **Definitive Border Treaties:** Drawing exact, mutually agreed-upon geographic boundaries to eliminate future territorial ambiguities.

After the Korean Armistice Agreement ended active fighting in the Korean War in 1953, a 4-kilometer-wide Demilitarized Zone was established along the Military Demarcation Line. The DMZ acts as a heavily monitored buffer between North Korea and South Korea, significantly reducing the risk of accidental military clashes. Although no formal peace treaty has been signed, the DMZ has remained one of the most effective examples of a buffer zone preventing renewed large-scale conflict for decades.

Institutional Architecture & Alliances

- **Binding International Alliances:** Integrating former adversaries or neighbors into collective defense pacts (like NATO post-WWII) to deter future aggression.

West Germany joined NATO in 1955, placing its security within a collective defense alliance. This discouraged future aggression and reassured neighboring states that Germany would not become a unilateral military threat again.

- **Supranational Integration:** Merging critical economic resources to make war materially impossible, which was the foundational logic behind the European Coal and Steel Community (the precursor to the EU).

France, West Germany, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg pooled control over coal and steel production—the key resources needed for war. This economic integration made another Franco-German war far less likely and eventually evolved into the European Union.

Imposed Regime Change & Occupation

- **Demilitarization & Democratization:** Stripping the defeated nation of its offensive military capabilities and rewriting its political system from the ground up, as seen in post-WWII Germany and Japan.

Under Allied occupation, Japan's military was dismantled, a new democratic constitution was introduced, and democratic institutions replaced its wartime political system, contributing to long-term peace.

- **Extended Allied Occupation:** Maintaining a foreign military presence for years after hostilities end to enforce treaty compliance and stabilize local governance.

The United States, United Kingdom, France, and the Soviet Union occupied Germany to supervise reconstruction, enforce disarmament, and ensure compliance with postwar agreements.

Economic Interdependence & Reconstruction

- **Massive Foreign Aid Packages:** Funding the rapid rebuilding of a devastated opponent's economy (like the U.S. Marshall Plan) to prevent desperate populations from turning back to radicalism.

Beginning in 1948, the United States provided over \$13 billion in aid to rebuild Western European economies, reducing political instability and helping prevent the resurgence of extremist movements.

- **Trade Integration:** Establishing deep commercial ties so that the economic cost of breaking the peace far outweighs any potential gains from resuming war.

ASEAN members expanded trade and economic cooperation, increasing the economic costs of conflict and strengthening regional stability.

Strategic Marriages & Hostages (Pre-Modern)

- **Dynastic Alliances:** Marrying royal family members from opposing kingdoms to politically bind two dynasties together.

Catherine's marriage to the English royal family was intended to strengthen the alliance between England and Spain and reduce the likelihood of conflict between the two kingdoms.

- **Exchange of Hostages:** Exchanging high-ranking nobles or royal children as legal guarantees that neither side would violate a peace pact.

His presence in Constantinople served as a guarantee of his father's loyalty to the Eastern Roman Empire. Such exchanges were common in the medieval and ancient worlds to secure peace treaties and alliances.

These were the examples for lasting peace in the past. Some of them were pre-modern, some of them are still applicable. You may also find more applicable policies and bring up to the debate but you may also use these with giving a quite big amount of details.

11. Note from the Academy of the Committee

Esteemed Representatives and Academic Team Members,

To read this study guide is essential for the effectiveness during the sessions but this study guide won't be %100 enough for a delegate who aims to be active. Your research and your study guide reading has a 60-40 percentage for a representative to receive an award. This study guide only ensures you the outlines of the committee.

Also another important point is the next part, "What We Expect From You?". Reading this part will ensure a better understanding about our expectations of you. You may also find a link leading to a website about resolution papers. If you haven't written any resolution paper or written but not very active, it would be better if you look at this website.

You may also see that our QTBA number is 8 which is a hard number to conquer nowadays but not a very big number for our delegate times. The solutions for each QTBA might be quite similar so your -delegate or board members- decision comes to play here. If it is too similar to write it again there is no one stopping you from emerging these two without really exceeding the limit. Also you may use the word "aforementioned" if you don't want to emerge but also want to use the details of before.

12. What We Expect From You?

Representatives, one of the core factors which will absolutely enhance the speed of improvement of our committee is your study guide reading rate. Another main factor is the rate of delegates who did their duty in researching upon their allocation and their agenda item. These rates will not only increase the possibility of an award but also the fun that you will have throughout the conference and the effectiveness of our final document.

With mentioning the final document our final document will be a resolution paper. But do not get anxious as we will give a workshop about our final document as we will give the other procedures workshop. You may find a link below about our final document if you'd like to look at it before our procedure workshop.

<https://bestdelegate.com/model-un-made-easy-how-to-write-a-resolution/>

Your allocations will be countries so there will not be any personal allocations in our country. We would like to advise you to behave and research not upon your personal thoughts but your allocated country. You may find dozens of qualified websites on the internet and in our study guide's bibliography part. If you had a hard time finding these websites we will be happy for you to ask us about these websites.

13. Questions to be Addressed (QTBA)

1. How can the international community prevent further foreign military intervention and regional escalation while respecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Middle Eastern states?
2. What measures can be taken to restore stability in the Strait of Hormuz and ensure the uninterrupted flow of international maritime trade, energy supplies, and freedom of navigation?
3. How can the influence, armament, and military activities of regional non-state armed groups, including Hezbollah, Hamas, the Houthis, and Iraqi militias, be reduced while addressing the root causes of regional instability?
4. What actions can be taken to prevent further civil unrest, militarization, and the consolidation of military rule in Iran following the growing influence of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC)?
5. How can diplomatic relations between Iran and the United States be improved to address long-standing disputes, including sanctions, hostage-related issues, and regional security concerns?
6. What long-term diplomatic, economic, and humanitarian measures should be adopted to ensure lasting peace, regional stability, and the protection of civilians throughout the Middle East?
7. What mechanisms can be established to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and ensure transparency regarding Iran's nuclear program?

8. How can the international community support a peaceful, legitimate, and inclusive political transition in Iran while preventing a power vacuum and further regional instability?

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