

# Arab league

*One language, one civilization: 22 Arab countries*



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# **1. Letter from the Chair**

## ***1.1. Letter from the Presidents***

Honorable delegates,

It is our greatest pleasure to welcome you all to this edition of COSMUN, and most importantly to the Arab League committee. As world citizens, we have a duty to be involved in our world's continuous development. Inevitably, we will be the ones addressing future national issues. The United Nations Models give us the tools and the opportunities to learn from what makes a great world leader, and to deeply understand the best ways to manage our world's global problems. As your presidents we don't expect perfection, on the other hand, we expect for you to make mistakes and for you to be able to surpass them while also learning from them, because this is what leads to a deep understanding of the world and its functioning. This model will give each one of you the platform to excel your potential, to enhance your speaking and problem solving skills as well as surround you with possible future friends. We hope you get the most out of this experience since if you take advantage of it, it could change your life in more ways than you can possibly imagine. We expect the world from you, but most of all we hope for every delegate to be able to enjoy the Arab League committee!

Sincerely,

Emiliana Castaño Moreno

President of the Arab League Committee

## ***1.2. Letter from the Vice President***

Honorable delegates,

Welcome to the Arab League Committee in this year's COSMUN. My name is Akshay Thirukumaran and I am honored to be your Vice President for this version of the Arab League of States, with the help of the President, Emiliana Castaño. Our main goal is to focus on leading and guiding you throughout the model to establish proper and efficient solutions to the discussion topics proper and efficient solutions to the discussion topics.

I would like to start by thanking each one of you for choosing this committee. I assure you that your commitment and dedication to this committee will lead us to be able to meet our objectives and allow the model to flow accordingly. This committee requires each of you to thoroughly read the guide, which contains all the necessary information for debate preparation, which will contain all the important information required for you to be prepared for the debate. It's also highly recommended to do your own research outside of the guide. You can always approach me or the president for any questions or concerns you have.

The Arab League has selected two difficult subjects that deal with current events that have quickly changed and endanger the global community. As delegates from the several countries you have been allocated, it is your responsibility to appropriately prepare and take part

in the commission.

Sincerely,

Akshay Thirukumaran

Vice President of League of Arab States

## **2. Introduction to the committee**

### ***2.1. History***

The League of Arab States, or also commonly referred to as the Arab League, is a coalition of 22 Arab Nations which was founded in Cairo on March 22, 1945. This coalition was created by 6 important countries from the Arabic region which are Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, and Syria. The creation of the Arab League was driven by six main reasons of shared interest among participant countries:

1. Pan-Arabism, the participant countries believed in the ideology that advocated for the unification of Arab countries into a single nation-state, uniting all Arab populations in North Africa and the Arabian Peninsula. They wanted to unify the countries against colonialism and external influences particularly after the war.
2. Opposition to colonialism, the member countries sought to accelerate the decolonization in the Arab world, being against the desire for national sovereignty.
3. Response to the creation of Israel, the member countries wanted to coordinate a response for the creation of Israel and to face the implications this signified for the Palestinian population.
4. Economic and cultural cooperation, the league wanted to coordinate economic policies and initiatives to ensure the growth of the member states and the Arabic world, while also focusing on the joint cultural growth of the nations.

5. Dispute resolution, the countries wanted a platform to address and face conflicts involving the member countries of the league.
6. Collective defense, the League sought to establish mechanisms for mutual defense, culminating in agreements that treated aggression against one member as aggression against all.

“One language, one civilization: 22 Arab countries” sums up the League of Arab States' guiding principles since following the pan-arabism ideals of the member countries of the arab league, they aim to work together in order to make the region thrive in community, solving the common issues they might encounter and ensuring the pursuing of common interests like the ones stated on the 6 main goals.

## ***2.2. Purpose and objective***

The League of Arab States has been a long-standing league dedicating its purpose in seeking close cooperation among its members on matters of common interest. These interests surround factors such as economics, communication, culture, nationality, social welfare, and health. The region has experienced constant issues in the past few decades, resulting in rising wars and conflicts. It's crucial to remember that the world region today has a significant influence on international security, and its conflicts will provide fodder for some very engaging discussions. This will make it more straightforward for everyone to comprehend how the conflicts that are currently taking place in this area affect and change over time. Always attempt

to incorporate elements from previous issues, preferably those pertaining to the Arab League, as this will help the committee advance.

The creation of the Arab League led to the establishment of six main objectives for the organization, aligning with the common ideals the League supports, this being:

1. Strengthening political ties between the member countries, ensuring that this would facilitate the addressing of common issues that affected the Arab world.
2. Providing cultural and social cooperation, programs aiming to foster a sense of cultural and social identity between the Arab nations was one of the main priorities for the creation of the Arab League.
3. Economic cooperation, the league wanted to coordinate economic policies and initiatives to ensure the growth of the member states and the Arabic world.
4. Defense and security, the league wanted to create a framework for collective defense and security between its members as highlighted by the 1950 agreement on joint defense measures.
5. Dispute mediation, the league wanted to create a place to peacefully mediate disputes between the member parties and member parties with non member parties.
6. Support palestinian rights, the league has always stated it advocates for the independence of Palestinians and gives a voice of support to the palestinian cause.

### ***2.3. Relevant Information***

The League of Arab States committee will include twenty-two Arab League delegations. Those being Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, the Palestinian Authority, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, and Yemen. Plus, the committee will also invite two additional delegations, the United States of America, and the European Union (in general). The overall structure of the committee will be similar to that of other committees, with respect to the protocol used during UN sessions. This committee will strictly follow rules such as the use of third-person at all times and the proper use of parliamentary language, which will be mandatory during the course of the model. Following these rules will help you strive as an outstanding delegate, along with helping the committee strive forward.

## **3. Topic A: Addressing the Kurdish dispute in the Arab Countries**

### ***3.1. Introduction to the topic***

The Kurdistan region, traditionally inhabited by Kurds, has been fighting for independence since the 1980s when Turkey initiated a forced assimilation program. The main reason for this attack was to eliminate terrorist attacks against their people and to increase

security forces, as well as protecting the border security. It's important to first understand what the Kurds want, which is absolute independence and political autonomy within Syria.

Kurdistan can be referred to two things: the region itself, which is an autonomous province in Iraq, and the alternative name, Greater Kurdistan, which is a hypothetical country claimed by Kurdish nationalists. This region, located in the north of Iraq, was originally claimed in 1991, when the Iraq war concluded. But it was only later recognized by the government in 2005, right after the fall of Saddam Hussein. After 13 years, they held a referendum, which is basically a direct vote by the electorate on a proposal, law, or political issue, in which they were able to obtain 93 of the votes in favor of independence. The greater Kurdistan is typically comprised of five areas, which are Southeastern Turkey, Northern Iraq, North Western Iran, Northern Syria, and a little bit of both Azerbaijan and Armenia. It's important to understand that the Kurdistan borders are a bit vague due to the fact that they have never existed as a recognized state.



Image: Encyclopædia Britannica. (n.d.). Kurdistan. In *Encyclopædia Britannica*. Retrieved June 18, 2024, from <https://www.britannica.com/place/Kurdistan>

The then-rising issue culminated when the PKK, which is known as the Kurdistan Workers' Party, or Kongra-Gel, began a rebellion against Turkish rule, attacking the Turkish military. It's important to know that the PKK is a completely militant Marxist-Leninist group that was established in 1978 with the sole purpose of creating a unified and independent Kurdistan. Since the start till now of the operation, almost 37,000 people have been killed and with more than 500 thousand plus being injured.

### ***3.2. History***

The last great Seljuq emperor, Ahmad Sanjar, established a province out of these areas and dubbed it Kurdistan in 1150, which is when Kurdistan's history starts. This region encompasses parts of northern Iraq, with Erbil as its capital and the population spanning across countries such as Turkey, Iraq, and Syria, which makes the whole Kurdistan relevant in these countries. The Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG), founded in 1992, was the first democratically elected parliament in Kurdistan (and in Iraq), has a little autonomy from the Iraqi central government, having its own parliament and president ruling over it. The region is also secured with its own military force, which is known as the Peshmerga.

The Kurds wanting to seek greater autonomy as well as independence has caused conflicts with governments of the countries they inhabit, which were mentioned previously. These aspirations have not only been controlled with a degree of resistance and support but also placed regionally and internationally. The long-held dream of having its independence has caused tensions in governments such as the Iraqi central and neighboring countries, with the

significant Kurdish population rising. In 2017, the independence referendum in the Iraqi part of Kurdistan, which was overwhelmed with all the support, has just created governments to worry about, which then resulted in the Iraqi government rejecting the result, and the move faced international opposition.

In terms of resources, it's important to note that the Kurdistan region is rich when it comes to natural resources, and more specifically, oil. There have been many disputes regarding the control and as well as the subsequent sharing of these resources, which always ended up causing conflicts between the KRG and the Iraqi central government. This massive amount of resources in this region has caused many countries to start to be a key player to have control or take a benefit out of it.

### ***3.3. Current Situation***

The Kurdish population consider themselves a nation because according to the definition of a nation they meet all the standards one should have in order to be autonomous and recognized as one, because they have a specific language, set of religion, culture, etc. they have asked the governments of thee different countries their territory is from to recognize them as a nation, however this countries have restrained from doing so and denied their request for decades.

This is why the Kurdistan problematic originates in the 1970s when it entered a civil war against Turkey demanding for the government to respect their rights and autonomy as a nation, during this process the Turkish government made various military operations including air strikes and ground offensives with the intention of stopping the uprisings of the Kurdistan

population. The civil war between Kurdistan and Turkey has not specifically ended but recently in 2023 a cease-fire was declared by Turkey since the government considered that because of other humanitarian crises such as multiple earthquakes it couldn't let them continue with the military operations against Kurdistan.

On the other hand in the 1970s Iraq decided to recognize Kurdistan as an autonomous nation, signing an agreement with the Kurdish leaders after years of heavy conflict. The agreement came in the aftermath of the First Iraqi–Kurdish War (1961-1970), a major conflict led by Mustafa Barzani in an attempt to establish an independent Kurdish state in northern Iraq, this agreement intended the recognition of the Kurdish as a separate nation from the three territories it intersected with, however this agreement was only recognized by Iraq and the other countries which contained Kurdistan population didn't recognize them as a separate nation generating great disconformities with the Kurdish population on territories other than Iraq.

Nevertheless, in the last few years Iraq has been asserting more control over the Kurdistan population and territory, creating heavy tensions and worry about a possible breach of the previously signed agreement. This tension originate mostly to an issue the Kurdistan government and the Iraqi government have had for the past few years since the Iraqi government considers that all of the revenue from the oil exported from the country should be centralized and return to the Iraqi government, while the Kurdish government has sought to maintain control over its oil resources under its 2007 oil and gas law, which the Iraqi Supreme Court later declared unconstitutional. This created a big contradiction since the Iraqi government has recognized Kurdistan to have independence and its own set of norms.

Furthermore, multiple tensions between the Kurdistan parties, The Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) which has its stronghold in the northern part of Iraqi Kurdistan, particularly in the Duhok and Erbil governorate and The Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) which's support is exclusively from the Sorani-speaking areas of Iraqi Kurdistan, especially in the Sulaymaniyah governorate have raised. These disputes originate from the fact that the KDP made an agreement with Turkey to export oil to the country and the PUK wants a part of the revenue which the KDP dismisses. Moreover, another crucial issue to highlight is that both parties haven't been able to resolve the issues about the following elections of Kurdistan, announcing boycotts and demonstrating a lack of transparency in the votes, generating multiple questions about the legitimacy of the Kurdish government and institutions.

Another important aspect to treat is the rivalry with neighboring countries, since countries such as Turkey and Iran have more than once attacked the Kurdistan territory accusing them of harboring terrorist groups. Turkey specifically has made continuous strikes to the mountainous border areas where the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) bases are located. Iran on the other hand, has also continuously made strikes to the capital of Kurdistan Erbil.

In conclusion, the Kurdistan situation continues to be of importance in the Arab region, with the Kurds fighting for independence and recognition, while countries such as Turkey and Iran deny their demands for rights. It is important to note that although Iraq did recognize Kurdistan as an independent nation now that they are exploiting their natural resources and gaining profit out of them, Iraq wants to impose control once again trying to get the revenues

from the Kurdish government. While on the other hand having to deal with the never stopping strikes from the neighboring countries and dealing with its internal issues, Kurdistan is a problem that needs to be addressed urgently by the Arab league.

### ***3.4. Previous Solutions***

Some of the previous solutions that have been proposed through the years is the Right of self-determination, this would mean that the Kurdish people could acknowledge their cultural identity and political aspirations within the framework of existing states. Nevertheless, this solution was denied by the Kurdish people since they state they have every single aspect that makes a state, so that they wish to demand to be identified as such.

Another solution that was explored years ago is the mediation of the European Union with Kurdistan and Turkey, in which it was asked to take the PKK out of the list of “terrorist groups” in order to facilitate mediation between Turkey and Kurdistan, nevertheless the strikes continued to occur, meaning it was not highly successful.

On March 11 of the year 1970, an agreement was signed between Iraq and Kurdistan in which Iraq recognized Kurdistan’s autonomy, however this wasn’t never really fully implemented. However, in 2005 the Iraqi constitution later formalized Kurdistan's status as a federal region with its own government and parliament within Iraq.

Turkey has been part of multiple oil and energy trade treaties with the Kurdistan government despite being in opposition to the independence of Kurdistan. This includes the construction of pipelines for oil exports from the KRG to Turkey without Baghdad's approval.

In March 2023 Iraq and Turkey signed an agreement to combat the PKK which is a Kurdish separatist group based in northern Iraq, recognized as the Kurdistan Workers' Party, this agreement allows Turkey to militarily enter a 300 km by 40 km area within Iraqi territory to combat the PKK, strengthening the ties between both countries. Likewise, Turkey has also had similar agreements with Syria in order to combat the PKK.

### ***3.5. Debate expectations***

In the debate sessions, it is highly expected for all delegates to be mindful and highly informed about the various situations that have occurred in the course of Kurdistan's conflicts. It's important to know how this conflict has affected their respected country and all the methods it has taken to address this issue. For instance, it's important to know whose side it is on, what they are willing to do about these types of issues, and what they are currently facing. Another recommendation is to research the relationships between different delegations to fully understand different points of view in the committee.

### ***3.6 Useful resources***

The following sources could provide a good overview of the history of the kurds as well as help you understand on a higher level what their requests and lives are like:

1. <https://www.cfr.org/article/time-kurds>
2. <https://www.cfr.org/timeline/kurds-long-struggle-statelessness>
3. [https://www.ciis.org.cn/english/ESEARCHPROJECTS/Articles/202007/t20200715\\_3588.html](https://www.ciis.org.cn/english/ESEARCHPROJECTS/Articles/202007/t20200715_3588.html)
4. <https://www.crisisgroup.org/middle-east-north-africa/gulf-and-arabian-peninsula/iraq/iraqi-kurdistan-twenty-years-after>
5. <https://thekurdishproject.org/history-and-culture/kurdish-history/>

## **4. Topic B: Human trafficking in the middle east**

### ***4.1. Introduction to the topic***

Human trafficking in the Middle East is a serious issue in the region because of its rapid increase. This issue is commonly divided in 4 main “markets”, this ones being human trafficking for forced labor, sexual exploitation, domestic servitude, and child trafficking.

Examining the 4 markets more in depth, each one of them target different populations in the middle east, for instance, forced labor targets especially migrants primarily from South and Southeast Asia and Africa which come into the middle east searching for better working

conditions and end up involved on human trafficking networks, making this people work forcefully without being paid, and in deplorable conditions. On the other hand, women and children typically in conflict zones are the most vulnerable for sexual exploitation since they find themselves on a precarious situation often with low resources and end up involved in prostitution rings, Syria and Iraq, have seen increased incidences of sexual exploitation due to the instability of its population during this ongoing conflicts. Domestic servitude for example targets especially domestic workers, mostly women, this dangerous situation is mainly connected to the Kafala system, which binds workers to their employers, restricting their freedom and making it difficult to escape abusive situations in which they could find themselves. Finally child trafficking, conflicts and economic hardships push families into desperate situations, increasing the vulnerability of children to traffickers, child trafficking is mainly influenced by other factors which could put a lot of children in danger, this being for example conflicts, poverty, displacement, etc.

External factors that increase the vulnerability of the targeted population include ongoing conflicts and displacement in the Arabic region, economic inequality, poverty, legal weaknesses, the Kafala system, and geopolitical instability. By resolving these issues which are also of interest for the Arabic region could help solve the human trafficking issue in Arabic countries.

## **4.2. *History***

The complex history of human trafficking has been shaped during the past decades, with factors such as historical, economic, and socio-political being a major part of it. Human trafficking in this region has been increasing and evolving during the centuries, with it being influenced by traditional practices, regional conflicts, labor migration, and modern globalization.

**Pre-Colonial and Colonial Eras:** Slavery was the primary means of human trafficking throughout this time. Around that period, the slave trade began to take shape in these areas, with trading routes extending beyond the Arabian Peninsula. Subsequently, during the Islamic era, slavery persisted despite the creation of legislation by the religion to address the issue of slavery and promote manumission. The market expanded as the Islamic dominion began to trade in the Mediterranean, Indian Ocean, and Trans-Saharan regions. Additionally, the colonial era—the 19th and 20th centuries—saw a significant influence on socioeconomic systems, including the dynamics of people trafficking, when Europeans began to settle these territories. These big colonial powers often exploited the local labor, making the end of slavery look quite inconsistent.

**Post-Colonial Period:** With the independence of several Arab League countries in the middle of the 20th century came a fast modernization and economic development that raised the need for labor overall, including skilled and unskilled labor. The labor market saw a significant shift in the 1960s due to a large rise in migration from South Asia, Africa, and other areas, as well as the discovery of oil in the Gulf nations' subsequent economic booms. These migrations involved forced labor practices akin to modern slavery, with severe exploitation and lack of

freedom.

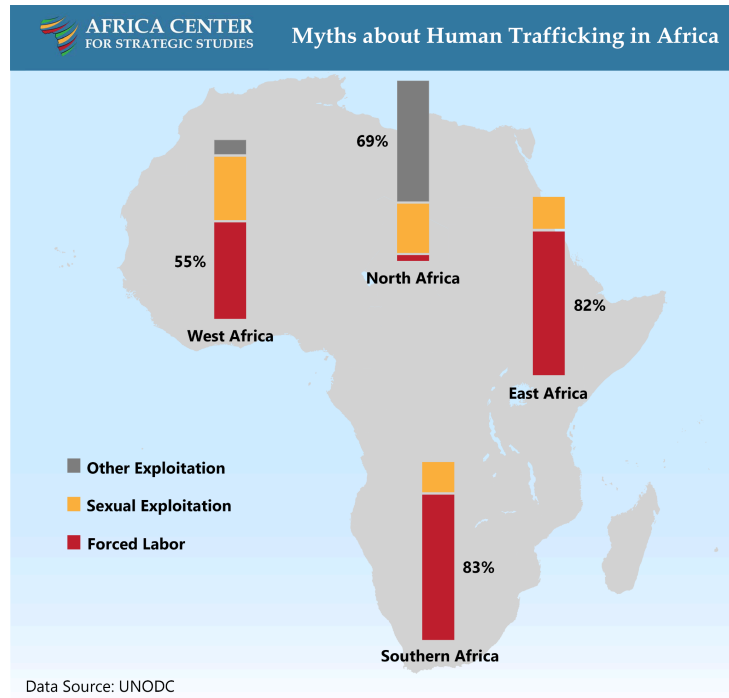
### **Contemporary period:**

Nations such as Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, and Oman faced a huge rapid economic growth, which led to a hugely significant issue with human trafficking leading to forced labor. Many of the migrant workers in the construction and domestic areas of

work have often faced severe explosions. In conflict zones in Iraq, Syria, Yemen, Libya, and Somalia have exacerbated human trafficking. The conflicts only caused major displacement, which then created vulnerabilities for trafficking, including sexual exploitation, forced labor, and recruitment of child soldiers. Then in North Africa, countries like Egypt, Morocco, and Tunisia faced internal trafficking for labor and sexual exploitation while also being a major transit and separating country for all the major migrants.

## **4.3. Current Situation**

Forced labor, sexual exploitation, and child exploitation in the Arab League region has taken its toll, with more and more people being affected on a daily basis. The most prevalent form of trafficking in this region is forced labor, which focuses mainly on migrant workers from



south and southeast Asia. In Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries like Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates, migrant workers often find themselves trapped in exploitative situations. Due to these issues, many sponsorship systems started to open, with Kafala being one of the famous ones, which ties workers to their employers and helps this explosion by stopping workers from the ability to change jobs.

In order to enter, reside, and work in the host nation, migrant workers under the kafala system of sponsorship must make sure they have a local sponsor, or Kafeel, who is their employer. The worker's visa and legal status were mostly obtained thanks to this sponsor. The sponsor has a great deal of power over the employee, including the ability to prevent them from doing things with their positions that they are not allowed to do, such as changing employers or leaving the country. As a result, a large number of these workers become ensnared in this system and are powerless to flee mistreatment or exploitation.

Sex trafficking, which includes focused prostitution and sexual slavery, has been an issue that has been a concern in this region for a couple decades. There are many victims who are being lured under false pretenses of a job and told to have a better living condition but end up having their documents confiscated and being subjected to physical and psychological abuse. During the years, there have been many Middle Eastern countries that have prohibited position, but the industry is still growing day by day.

Africa Center for Strategic Studies. (2019, July 26). Myths about human trafficking in Africa. Africa Center for Strategic Studies. Retrieved from <https://africacenter.org/spotlight/myths-about-human-trafficking-in-africa/>.

Child exploitation has also been another issue in this region, where its trafficking for forced labor and other exploitative purposes, for example, camel jockeying, has started to become a unique and disturbing form of trafficking. These practices have been ongoing and are clandestinely continued, with many children often going through abuse and having to go through harsh working conditions. Human trafficking has caused great impacts on the socioeconomic fabric in Arab League countries. This has been a major exploit that has vulnerable populations, with the majority being women and children whose human rights and development goals.

Down below are examples which highlight the different and complex nature of human trafficking across different Arab League countries, influenced by local socio-economic conditions, migration patterns, and legislative frameworks

**Arab Republic of Egypt:** Egypt is one of the nations in this region that has a significant issue of human trafficking, which has been affecting both its people and also the migrant populations. According to UNODC, an estimated 200,000 to 1 million Egyptians, including minors, are at risk of being trafficked. Women and girls in this nation are often trafficked for sexual expression. The lack of law enforcement was a major issue in this area, causing traffickers to escape and protection to be weak.

**Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan:** One of the biggest issues facing the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan is addressing sexual harassment and forced labor, both of which have a significant impact on the population of migrant workers. Men and women who are the victims of forced labor and sex trafficking go to Jordan, according to the U.S. Department of State's Trafficking in Persons Report.

Government initiatives include improving victim protection programs and changing anti-trafficking laws, although enforcement and victim identification still require work.

**Republic of Yemen:** Yemen, a country that is now experiencing conflict, has made the human trafficking crisis worse by becoming a major destination for men, women, and children who are trafficked for forced labor and prostitution. As stated by UNODC In many places, there is no central government supervision, which makes it difficult to tackle human trafficking. According to UNICEF estimates, thousands of youngsters in Yemen have been enlisted in the military forces and other groups.

**Kingdom of Saudi Arabia:** The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has a serious problem with sex trafficking despite being a major destination for forced marriages. Numerous women are being trafficked into this nation for purposes such as sexual exploitation, originating from regions like Africa and Asia. There are a lot of trafficking victims in Saudi Arabia, according to the U.S. Department of State's 2020 Trafficking in Persons Report, and the government is working to address these issues by enacting legal reforms and providing victim support services.

#### ***4.4. Previous resolutions***

The Arab League has taken special measures and stands to address the rising issue of human trafficking within its member states. These notable resolutions have had good or bad outcomes, and here are some of the resolutions and initiatives:

**Arab Initiative to Combat Human Trafficking:** This initiative launched in 2010 was an initiative that had its primary focus on trying to build national capacities to be able to combat human trafficking. The purpose was to create a legislative framework to be able to improve the capabilities of law enforcement and start to raise and expand public awareness regarding this issue. This initiative, which was fully supported by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNDOC), was fully backed up by various international organizations.

**Regional Programme on Human Trafficking (2011-2015):** This program, which lasted for about 4 years, was a UNODC-coordinated program that aimed to create and strengthen regional cooperation into building the capacities of the Arab League to combat human trafficking. This included training sessions, workshops, and overall developing the national action plans. They also aimed to improve protection of the trafficked victims by establishing safe shelters, providing legal aid, and helping them be able to access proper medical and psychological support. But due to ongoing conflicts and political instability in countries such as Syria, Yemen, and Libya, this has caused a major hindrance in the implementation of this program, causing it to be hard to reach these regions.

**46th Session of the Permanent Arab Committee for Human Rights (2019):** The 46th session was a bunch of recommendations regarding the development of regional cooperation in combating human trafficking, with its main focus on prioritizing children and women. This session emphasized the necessity of protecting these victims of the trafficking. This session addressed human rights violations by Israel in occupied Palestinian territories, developing plans for the Arab regional human rights strategy, and implementing the revision of the Arab Human

Rights Day. The main purpose of this meeting was to help move forward in the regional human rights strategy that was adopted at the previous session in Tunisia.

### **Arab Regional Workshop on National and Regional Efforts to Combat Human**

**Trafficking (2020):** The Arab Regional Workshop on National and Regional Efforts to Combat Human Trafficking (2020) was held in Cairo, focusing on a workshop that brought together representatives from various Arab states, international organizations, and human rights institutions.. This focused on sharing best practices and possible solutions into trying to combat the issue of human trafficking. Its main objective was to create better legal frameworks and to particularly suppress and punish trafficking in persons, especially women and children. It also focused on identifying and addressing the root of this whole issue and the cause of it, for example, discrimination and unjust distribution of power.

**Adoption of the Arab Convention on Combating Human Trafficking:** This convention was adopted to provide better protection for the victims of human trafficking. By creating better protection and supporting the trafficking victims, including helping them with medical, psychological, and legal assistance. This helped promote establishing proper shelters and creating rehabilitation programs for the victims. This also mandates the criminalization of all forms of human trafficking in this region by prosecution of the traffickers. This convention encourages proper and effective investigations and prosecution mechanisms.

#### ***4.5. Debate expectations***

In the debate sessions, it is highly expected for all delegates to be mindful and highly informed about the various situations that have occurred due to human trafficking. Human trafficking, as a crime against humanity, inflicts immeasurable suffering on countless individuals, often leaving them trapped in cycles of forced labor, sexual slavery, and exploitation. Within the realm of prostitution, this issue is particularly acute, with vulnerable individuals, especially women and children, becoming victims of coercion, violence, and systemic abuse. It's important to do proper research regarding your country's issues and stand regarding this problem. Delegates are also expected to fulfill the expectation of creating viable and long-lasting solutions to aid the crisis. All delegations are expected to debate this and develop viable arguments based on their own countries's points of view. To achieve this, delegates are highly recommended to focus on the pros and cons of the situation for every scenario and develop ideas on how to stop and find ways to fix the issue.

## **4.6. *Useful resources***

The following articles will be extremely helpful in conducting a profound investigation on the topic:

1. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-Trafficking/Human-Trafficking.html#:~:text=Human%20Trafficking%20is%20the%20recruitment,of%20exploiting%20them%20for%20profit.>
2. <https://www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign/what-human-trafficking>
3. <https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/newsroom/engaging-arab-league-promoting-human-rights>
4. <https://theexodusroad.com/human-trafficking-middle-east/>

## **5. QARMAS**

### **5.1. *Topic A***

1. What are your countries' relationships with the Kurdistan neighboring countries?
2. Does your country have any trade deals with Kurdistan?
3. Does your country recognize Kurdistan as a nation?
4. Has your country had any issues with the PKK in the past?
5. Does your country support the management of the Kurdistan government?

## **5.2. *Topic B***

1. What are the primary forms of human trafficking observed in the country (e.g., labor trafficking, sexual exploitation, domestic servitude)?
2. How do socio-economic factors and regional conflicts contribute to the prevalence of human trafficking in the country?
3. What legal frameworks and policies are in place to combat human trafficking, and how effective are they?
4. How does the country handle the identification, protection, and support of trafficking victims?
5. What role do local and international organizations play in addressing human trafficking within the country?

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