



Tangier Model United Nations
Human Rights Committee



Protecting Human Rights in the Kashmir Region Amidst the
Republic of India - The Islamic Republic of Pakistan Conflict

Chair: Martina Benavent Perucho → martina.benavent_perucho@ast.ma

Chair: Dina Harouchi → धारouchi@gwacasablanca.com

Table of Contents

Introduction	3
Human Rights Committee Overview	4
Topic Overview	5
Questions to Consider	6
Keywords & Terms	7
Requirements & Deadlines	8
Helpful Websites	9
Contact Information	10

Introduction

Greetings esteemed delegates,

We, Martina Benavent and Dina Harouchi, are delighted to be this year's chair representatives for the Human Rights Committee at the 10th annual TMUN conference. This year's topic for the HR committee will be Protecting Human Rights in the Kashmir Region Amidst the Republic of India—The Islamic Republic of Pakistan Conflict.

Human Rights Committee Overview

The Human Rights Committee is based on promoting and protecting human rights worldwide. This committee, consisting of elected Member States, provides a platform for addressing human rights concerns and upholding international standards for morality and freedom. Every Member State takes part in discussions that examine issues ranging from serious violations like torture or genocide to discrimination and freedom of speech.

Overall, the Human Rights Committee emphasizes the importance of protecting the rights of individuals globally. It examines conflicts that violate fundamental ethical principles and formulates potential solutions to enhance safety and uphold human rights protections.

Topic Overview

Kashmir is a mountainous region located between India and Pakistan, both of them which claim their own. The conflict over Kashmir has led to military control over different parts of the region. Unfortunately, these ongoing tensions affect the everyday lives of Kashmiri civilians, who experience frequent lockdowns, restricted freedoms, and limited access to essential services. Human rights concerns in Kashmir have become an international issue, with many countries calling for peace and justice for civilians.

The Kashmir conflict, rooted in 1947 in the partition of British India, has escalated tensions between the Republic of India and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, with both nations claiming possession over the region. At the time, states like Jammu and Kashmir were allowed to choose to join either Pakistan or India. Kashmir, however, was a unique case; it had a Hindu ruler, but a majority Muslim population, which created tension. Initially, the ruler sought to keep Kashmir independent, yet after an invasion by tribal forces from Pakistan, he sought military aid from India and signed the Instrument of Accession to join India. This action sparked the first India-Pakistan war over Kashmir, which ended in 1948 with a UN-mediated ceasefire, establishing the Line of Control that divided Kashmir into territories administered by India and Pakistan.

This territorial dispute has led to a prolonged state of conflict, contributing to extensive militarization and control in the region. India views Kashmir as an essential part of their identity, whereas Pakistan sees the Muslim-majority population of Kashmir as culturally aligned with it. This religious divide intensified the conflict, both states see control of Kashmir as essential to their national identities. As a result, human rights issues have emerged as a serious concern, with civilians having restricted freedom of movement, limited access to healthcare and education, and intermittent communication blackouts.

Reports by international human rights organizations document various abuses, including enforced disappearances, arbitrary detentions, and violations of freedom of expression. Additionally, the presence of armed forces on both sides has increased violence, affecting not only those involved in the conflict but also other residents. These inhumane conditions have brought global attention to the need for intervention and peacebuilding efforts that prioritize human rights protections, with many international organizations and nations urging the two countries to seek peaceful solutions that protect the rights and dignity of Kashmir's residents. Despite calls for peace and ceasefires, the conflict remains unsolved, challenging regional stability and raising concerns over the security of the Kashmiri population.

Questions to Consider

1. What are the main historical events that led to the current status of the Kashmir conflict?
2. How have previous wars and peace agreements between India and Pakistan influenced the situation in Kashmir?
3. What are the positions of the governments of India and Pakistan on the sovereignty of Kashmir, and how do they justify their claims?
4. What are the primary concerns of international human rights organizations regarding the situation in Kashmir?
5. What type of human rights abuses have been reported in the region, and who are the main perpetrators?
6. What are the implications of the revocation of Article 370 and the enforcement of the AFSPA in Indian-administered Kashmir?
7. What previous UN resolutions or peace efforts have been proposed to resolve the Kashmir conflict?
8. How have both India and Pakistan addressed or suppressed calls for self-determination in the region?
9. Are there realistic pathways to self-determination that could be pursued, considering the geopolitical context?
10. How can the international community encourage dialogue between India, Pakistan, and Kashmiri representatives?

Keywords & Terms

- **Kashmir Region** → Region located in the northern part of the Indian subcontinent. It is bordered by India to the south, Pakistan to the west, and China to the north and east. Kashmir is a highly strategic region due to its location near nuclear armed nations, its access to rivers, and its suitable agricultural climate.
- **Line of Control (LoC)** → The military control line, established in 1949 and reinforced after the Simla Agreement in 1972, that separates Indian-administered Jammu and Kashmir from Pakistan-administered territories.
- **Article 370 & 35A** → Articles of the Indian Constitution that provided special autonomy to Jammu and Kashmir.
- **Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA)** → Indian law granting extensive powers to the military in “disturbed areas” like Jammu and Kashmir.
- **Militancy and Insurgency** → armed resistance or rebellion by groups within a state.
- **Self-determination** → the right of people to determine their political status and pursue economics, social, and cultural development.
- **Human Rights Violations** → Breaches of Internationally recognized human rights, such as life, liberty, and security.
- **Internally Displaced Person (IDPs)** → People forced to leave their homes due to conflict but remain within their country.
- **Right to Privacy and Digital Surveillance** → the right to private communications without government interference.

Requirements & Deadlines

1. Position Paper due November 22nd

- Explain your country's position regarding the topic (keep in mind; the challenges your country is facing, who are and aren't your allies, potential solutions, etc.)
- [Guide](#)

2. Resolution Paper due November 22nd

- Here is a [guide](#) to writing your resolution paper.

3. Point and motions memorized

- As a TMUN delegate, you are expected to know all the [points and motions](#) for a more politically accurate experience.

4. Background/ Further information on the topic

- **Be prepared to defend your country's position**

5. Potential solutions

6. Knowledge of the designated country and other allied countries

7. A smile on your face :)

Helpful Websites

- ❖ <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/03068374.2022.2041288>
- ❖ <https://www.asianstudies.org/publications/ea/archives/india-pakistan-and-the-kashmir-issue-1947-and-beyond/>
- ❖ <https://www.britannica.com/place/Kashmir-region-Indian-subcontinent/The-Kashmir-problem>
- ❖ <https://ajk.gov.pk/kashmir-conflict/>
- ❖ <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1961-1968/india-pakistan-war>

Contact Information

Martina Benavent:

+212 661676123

martina.benavent_perucho@ast.ma

Dina Harouchi:

+212 666640034

धारouchi@gwacasablanca.com