



## **Special Political**

### **The Right to Sovereignty over Jerusalem (Palestine v. Israel)**

Chairs:

Youssef Asnaoui and Kenza Nakhli

## **Introduction:**

Dear Delegates,

We, Kenza Nakhli (kenza.nakhli@asm.ma) and Youssef Asnaoui (youssefasnaoui7@gmail.com) are extremely delighted and honored to welcome you as the chairs of the Special Political committee to the TMUN 2023. In this upcoming conference, we will be acknowledging and discussing the Right to Sovereignty over Jerusalem (Palestine v. Israel).

## **General Overview:**

Palestine and Israel have been engaged in a prolonged and complicated battle over who has the right to sovereignty over Jerusalem. The core of this conflict is the dispute between the opposing sides over their respective national identities and their historical, cultural, and religious connections to the city, namely the eastern part of Jerusalem.

Christians, Muslims, and Jews all place a great deal of religious importance on Jerusalem. It is the historic capital for Jews. It is the location of significant events in Jesus Christ's life, according to Christians. The third-holiest mosque in Islam, Al-Aqsa Mosque, is located there for Muslims.

Israel seized East Jerusalem during the 1967 Six-Day War and later annexed it, and this is the main point of the dispute. East Jerusalem is the capital that the Palestinians want for their future state. Israel considers all of Jerusalem to be its eternal, united capital.

A two-state solution, in which East Jerusalem would be the capital of a future Palestinian state, has received support from the international community. Israel's sovereignty over East Jerusalem is deemed unlawful by a number of UN resolutions and international law.

Conflicts and violence between Israelis and Palestinians are often the result of ongoing tensions over Jerusalem. Negotiations for peace between the two parties are still significantly hampered by this issue.

## **Questions to Consider:**

1. Does your country think Jerusalem belongs to Israel or Palestine, and how does this affect its relationships locally and globally?
2. What's your country's official view on who should control Jerusalem, and how does it affect relationships with other nations and the region's stability?
3. How does your country deal with cultural and religious beliefs about Jerusalem's control, and how does it affect its interactions with others?
4. Has your country joined efforts for peace on Jerusalem's control, and how has this affected its image worldwide?
5. What is your country doing now to help solve the Jerusalem control issue, and how does it affect its politics, economy, and relationships in the region?
6. Should there be a compromise on Jerusalem's control for peace in the Middle East, and how does this affect global opinion and your country's relations with others?
7. How can countries handle discussions on Jerusalem's control better in the future, and what plans can ensure a more peaceful agreement process?
8. How have historical events shaped your country's view on Jerusalem's sovereignty, and what important events influenced its stance on this issue?

### **Key Words:**

- **Sovereignty:** Primary claim and control over Jerusalem's governance.
- **Jerusalem:** Contested city claimed as a capital by Palestine and Israel.
- **Two-State Solution:** Proposal for separate and independent states for Palestine and Israel.
- **Diplomatic Relations:** Interactions and negotiations between nations regarding Jerusalem's sovereignty.
- **International Recognition:** Acknowledgment of a state's legitimacy by the global community.
- **Peace Process:** Efforts and negotiations for a peaceful resolution between Palestine and Israel.
- **United Nations (UN):** Global organization involved in mediating peace discussions.  
Rights: Protection of cultural heritage and rights of Jerusalem's inhabitants.

- **Territorial Dispute:** Debate over rightful control of Jerusalem and surrounding territories.
- **Israel:** Middle Eastern state established in 1948, recognized by the US and Soviet Union.
- **Palestine:** Area between the Mediterranean Sea and Jordan River, including pre-1967 Israel.
- **Al-Aqsa Mosque:** Religious shrine atop Temple Mount in Jerusalem.
- **Gaza:** Coastal territory bordered by Israel, Egypt, and the Mediterranean Sea. The West Bank: Territory captured by Israel from Jordan in 1967, disputed between Israelis and Palestinians.
- **Nakba:** 1948 displacement of Palestinian Arabs during the Independence War.
- **The Palestinian Authority (PA):** Palestinian governing body established for self-government.
- **Hammas:** Islamic organization engaging in terrorism against Israel and social welfare functions.

## **UN Involvement:**

Historically, the UN has been engaged in seeking solutions to the status of Jerusalem, particularly in the context of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The UN General Assembly's Resolution 181 in 1947 recommended the international administration of Jerusalem. Subsequent developments, including the 1967 Six-Day War and Israel's annexation of East Jerusalem, led to the UN's issuance of Resolution 242, which called for Israel's withdrawal from occupied territories, including East Jerusalem. The international community largely does not recognize Israel's sovereignty over Jerusalem, as underscored in UN Security Council Resolution 478 in 1980. The UN continues to advocate for a two-state solution and encourages diplomatic negotiations to address the issue of Jerusalem's sovereignty, emphasizing the need for a peaceful and comprehensive resolution in the region

## **Requirements:**

- A. Significant research on the subject.
- B. A viewpoint paper on the subject.
- C. Potential solutions to the problem.

(position papers and resolution papers are due November 29th)

Please send us your numbers as we will be creating a WhatsApp group chat!

## **Links Related to the Topic:**

- <https://jcpa.org/the-status-of-jerusalem-in-international-and-israeli-law/>
- <https://www.un.org/unispal/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/The-Status-of-Jerusalem-English-199708.pdf>
- <https://www.pij.org/articles/167/jerusalem-symbols-control-sovereignty>
- <https://apps.dtic.mil/sti/pdfs/ADA546239.pdf>

## **MUNProcedure/Protocol:**

- <https://teimun.org/mun-101-the-rules-of-procedure/>
- [https://www.tangiermun.org/uploads/3/9/9/5/39954039/points\\_and\\_motions\\_\\_tmun\\_.pdf](https://www.tangiermun.org/uploads/3/9/9/5/39954039/points_and_motions__tmun_.pdf)  
Writing a position paper:
- <https://www.wisemee.com/how-to-write-a-mun-position-paper/>

## **Writing a resolution paper:**

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