



President: María Samaya Vázquez Chávez
Moderator: Miguel Ángel Moreno Ramírez
Conference Officer: Mariana Alcántara Fuentes



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“The world will not be destroyed by those who do evil, but by those who just stare” -
Albert Einstein

Dear Delegates,

On behalf of the Tecnológico de Monterrey, as well as the Organizing Committee, we welcome you to the XXXVII edition of our Model of United Nations of Campus Toluca, TOLMUN 2019.

Personally, we are proud to be part of the Secretary General in this edition of TOLMUN. During the months preceding this model we have worked hard to ensure that this experience doesn't become another one, another debate or another Model of United Nations, we want it to become the step that triggers actions with a greater impact.

For us this model represents the opportunity to solve global problems from our surroundings, learn about the different perspectives on the issues that will be discussed during these days and, of course, have the opportunity to generate viable solutions to urgent situations that affect today's society.

We deeply believe that as citizens of the world it is our responsibility to manage to solve the different challenges that today's society faces and that widen the gap between the different strata of the population worldwide day by day. It is also important to talk about those challenges that doesn't let each one of the inhabitants of this planet enjoy the same opportunities and rights. Regardless of their origin, sex, religious beliefs or any other difference, which through history have separated us, it is time for those differences to being recognized as something that makes us unique.

We know that it may be a great challenge being here today, participating; but we are convinced that this will be an experience that will bring out the best of you and leave enormous teachings. We are sure that you are capable to adapt and to develop the ability to take a different position from yours or one that you may not agree with; however, this is an exercise of empathy. It is of enormous importance because it brings us closer and encourages us to understand the situation in the different countries and cultures that live on the planet, for us to be able to understand that we live in the same world and have a shared responsibility.

We are aware that in this event, the leaders of tomorrow are being formed. We hope that the model will impulse you, because we are convinced you are the ones that will become true agents of change that nowadays the world and Mexico desperately need. Finally, we greatly appreciate your participation, you are the main actors of the event, enjoy it and take advantage of it to the fullest.

Antonio Emiliano del Moral Sánchez
Secretary-General TOLMUN 2019

Natalia María Ovando Flores
Under-Secretary- General TOLMUN 2019



Welcome delegates.

Dear delegates.

It is a pleasure for us to welcome you to this committee. First of all, we want you to feel free to ask us any doubts or questions you could have during this model about the topics or the debate.

Tolmun is a space where everybody has a voice on the main topics that the world is facing. Our committee is an organism focused on solving the Arab countries problems in a diplomatic way, and finally, our main purpose with this debate is to expose the countries position and get a possible, useful and pacific solution for the topics.

We want to invite you to prepare an excellent participation, to be conscious about what we will be debating. As Chair we are committed with you and with the debate.

Honorable delegates team, we are glad to be working along with you in such a worthy task for which without a doubt you have been preparing nice and hard. Today we are in this preparation stage. We kindly invite you to be perseverant and hardworking, and we are sure that you will.

As well as that, we want you to feel at ease since we will be working as a team. Let us keep working and remember, it is not better a battle that we either win or lose, but that which is led with the best strategy towards success.

“If you cannot do great things, do small things in a great way” –Napoleon Hill.

Sincerely:

President: María Samaya Vázquez Chávez.

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ABOUT THE COMMITTEE

The League of Arab States was founded in March 22, 1945. At the beginning, the Arab league was constituted by 7 countries: Iraq, Saudi Arabia, the Lebanese Republic, Yemen (Sanaa), Transjordan (now Jordan), Egypt and Syria. Over the next 48 years, the rest of the countries were joined.

Actually it is conformed by 22 members including: Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, and Palestine being recognized by the Arab League as an independent state. There are also 4 countries which their role is being observers: Eritrea, India, Brazil and Venezuela.

Their principal activities are: Advocacy, Cultural, Development, Peace, People, Population. And is established at Cairo, Egypt.

The Arab League was proposed by the British in 1942. The purpose was to rally Arab countries against the Axis powers. However, the league started working until the second world war ended, March 1945.

At that moment, the principal issues that the league was facing were freeing the Arab countries that still under colonial rule and preventing the Jewish community in Palestine from creating a Jewish state.

The highest body of the league is the Council, who is composed of representatives of all the countries members, commonly foreign ministers as representatives or permanent delegates. Without distinction, all the countries, by their representatives, have a vote in the Arab League.

The council has two meetings during the year, on March and September. With the possibility of making an extraordinary session apart of the ones established, this one could be done by the asking of two members.

Summarizing:

- Founded: 1945
- Headquarters: Cairo, Egypt
- Members: 22 members including Palestine. And 4 observers.
- Meetings during the year: One in March and one in September.

References:

- BBC. Profile: Arab League. 24-August-2017. From BBC. Website: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-15747941>
- CNN. (2019). Arab League Fast Facts., From CNN Sitio web: <https://edition.cnn.com/2013/07/30/world/meast/arab-league-fast-facts/index.html>

Topic A:

The lack of female participation in the great Conventions

As it is well known, the Persian Gulf is a great area of opportunity in gender equality for decades, even more than a century in comparison to the European Union. Through the last years, the Gulf countries have had a series of economic reforms supported by foreign countries and international organs' studies, stating the benefits of female participation in the economy and close the huge gender gap. Due to these political changes, there has been notable advancements in the Arab nations to include women in education and labor force participation.

Many Gulf States and nations with Cooperation Councils have noticed an important relation between female empowerment and international donor community. In other words, establishing some Parliament seats for women, means attracting financial international assistance.

However, there is still an enormous lack of gains for them, as political presence and representation. Governments as Saudi Arabia's, has given few efforts on reforming orthodox and strict laws against including women in politics. Despite the struggles women have faced to gain public and legislative presence, there are still many challenges to deal with. Patriarchy, culture, religion, social acceptance, and most important, political awareness are some of the society rules that must be overcome.

Female representation in local councils and national parliaments in the Gulf countries, is excessively low compared to the rest of the Arab world or other places over the globe. Six percent of Bahrain ministers are female, Kuwait is only thirteen percent, Oman seven percent, Qatar another seven percent, Arab Emirates 28% as the most inclusive percentage in the region, and Saudi Arabia with none female presence. And even more, vote for women is actually a new effective law in most of the main members of the league. Oman, as the first country to allow female suffrage, did it in 1994, followed by Qatar in 1999, Bahrain in 2001, Kuwait in 2005, the UAE in 2006, and Saudi Arabia in 2015.

On the other hand, the perception of the women themselves in politics is a topic to worry about. For example, in Kuwait, whether it is asked to the female voters their positions, their opinions cannot be more influenced by their brothers, husbands, male neighbors and parents, and even sometimes women abstain to vote at all. If women had a clear understanding about their countries political situations, political system and their candidates, they would be able to vote consciously and independent for the candidates who actually represent them and advocate for their rights. Therefore, the female political awareness is an important piece for the Arab social and political development.

Despite of the importance of female votes, not only Arabic society weakens the possibilities for women to stand on a public position. The political systems themselves unable bold and efficient reforms, as only Kuwait and Bahrain count with parliaments with legislative authority. And despite nations as Kuwait may be an aim for change, there is only one female member in its parliament.



Key questions.

Here you will find some questions that will help you to make an extraordinary position paper and will let us know more about your position as delegation.

- What is the position of your delegation about the gender equality?
- Does your delegation have or has any law to promote gender equality?
- What actions does your government take towards the women rights?
- What is your delegation's posture about giving women the opportunity to participate in the government?
- What are some proposals to include women on the principal places of your government?

References.

- Habeeb M. (2018). The Middle East leads the world in income inequality. July 21, 2019, from the Arab Weekly, from website: <https://thearabweekly.com/middle-east-leads-world-income-inequality>
- Alhashmi T. (2018). Cracking the Glass Ceiling: Gulf Women in Politics. July 21, 2019, from The Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington, from website: <https://agsiw.org/cracking-glass-ceiling-gulf-women-politics/>

Topic B:
Reincorporation of Syria to the Arab League.

The conflict of Syria began on 2011 with a series of violent actions taken by the Bashar el Assad government unto the civilian protests. While the rates of violence soared exponentially, a peace plan was accepted by Damascus a few months later “without reservations”, which consisted on decreasing the inhumane aggressive responses towards the Syrian population. Also, the Army was exhorted to stop suppressing the civilian population. However, no improvement or reduction was seen by the Arab League and its members, leading the Syrian country to get suspended from the League over its failure to end the bloodshed caused by brutal government crackdowns on pro-democracy protests and a series of economic and political punishments were considered and applied later.

After a huge amount of time arguing about these consequences between the members, the diplomats of each country were withdrawn from Syria, economical obstacles were settle and the league decided to exclude Syria until it implements the terms of an earlier agreed peace deal. Syria's membership was later suspended, effective on November 16, 2011, in response to Syria's non stopped violence. 18 members voted in favor, Lebanon and Yemen voted no and Iraq abstained. The Syrian State accused terrorist groups from avoiding the promised peace plan to take place and the Arab League from accomplishing occidental interests.

Recently, the possibility of annexing Syria to the League again has been a controversial topic between the State members. Many ambassadors from the Persian Gulf nations have return to Damascus and offered the State of Syria the chance to recover its seat in the organization. Not only Syria was one of the founders of the institution but the reinstatement of this nation and being part of international organs are some of the most relevant requirements for the economic development of Syria and its government. This means keeping straight intraregional relationships and Free-Trade Agreements with other States related. In other words, the reincorporation of Syria means to be a crucial piece of the nation's faith.

Not only economic ties are involved but political and cultural. On November 12, 2012, the Arab League approved a resolution to recognize the new National Coalition Forces of the Syrian Revolution, unifying the Syrian opposition factions. Since Syria was suspended from the Arab League, this country has faced this conflict pretty much by own self until some countries stood before Al Assad as allies as Iran did during the struggle, supporting with troops and military equipment. As it was said before, several diplomats have come back to Damascus and presented the possibility to reopen political ties to Syria.

On the other hand, the Syrian government considered that re-annexing the Arab League does not worth ending the strong tie with the Iranian State, which is not a member of the pan-Arab organization. Talking about fact and data, the League, though the exportations increasing in 1995, is one of the least income productive intra-regional organizations in the world. Other regional integrations, for example the European Union, has a GDP of \$3,526 trillion (\$4,239 per capita. Furthermore, Middle East is world leader in income inequality. From 1990-2016, 10% of the population enjoyed 60-66% of the regional income and 50% of the population accrued less than 10%.



Key questions.

Here you will find some questions that will help you to make an extraordinary position paper and will let us know more about your position as delegation.

- What is the position of your delegation in the Arab League?
- Does your delegation have or has any treaty or agreement with Syria?
- What actions does your government take towards the Syria expulsion from the Arab League?
- What is the posture of your delegation about the Syria's actions?
- What is your delegation's posture about Syria reincorporation to the Arab League?
- How does the reincorporation affects or benefits your delegation?

References.

- David Batty, Jack Shenker . (2011). Syria suspended from Arab League. July, 2019, de The Guardian Sitio web: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2011/nov/12/syria-suspended-arab-league>
- Reuters. (2019). No consensus yet for Syria return: Arab League chief. July 2019, de Reuters Sitio web: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-arabs/no-consensus-yet-for-syria-return-arab-league-chief-idUSKCN1Q014R>

CONTACT

Contact to the President: arab.tolmun@gmail.com

TOLMUN's official website: <https://tec.mx/es/toluca/tolmun-2019>

Information: info.tolmun@gmail.com

Social media: <https://www.facebook.com/tolmun/>