



UNSC

Solving the tensions in
the Kashmir region



Chairs: Mariano Furió and Yasmin Eckhardt

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LETTER TO THE DELEGATES

Hello, esteemed delegates!

My name is Mariano Furió, and I am excited to have the opportunity to chair such a Conference as SMUN. Since I was a kid, I grew up hearing my siblings talk about MUN. Every time I saw them debating, it made me feel that one day I should be in their place. MUN is a debate in which the delegations are invited to understand about different topics that they didn't imagine would ever be debating. In my opinion, one of the main elements of a delegate is to know how to represent a nation or person and its personal beliefs, and have fun in the process. This is the moment where debating skills are highlighted, and it becomes clear which type of delegate you are. This is not an easy job, but it's worth it. I must recognise that in my first debate, I was really nervous, how would the other delegates react to my speeches? This was my main doubt, but with time I realized it wasn't necessary to think this way. And nowadays I am chairing a Security Council. Therefore, during the conference I would really like to encourage new debaters to speak, so that all of us can make this Committee the best one of SMUN25.

I am Yasmin Eckhardt, and I am a Senior at Everest International School of Curitiba. I couldn't be more delighted to participate in SMUN 2025 as the United Nations Security Council chair. Despite the awards, both Mariano and I see the capability in each delegate and will give our best to turn our sessions into great possibilities for everyone to become the best diplomats. Since I started my MUN journey in 2023, I have gone through different challenges which made me overcome my difficulties. The Security Council has always been my first choice of committee, because we are able to discuss everything, beginning with wars and conflicts and going through human rights, resources and many other topics. Even though you might not win any awards, the experience that you acquire and the alliances that you make during all discussions are the most important elements, as they contribute to your personal growth and new opportunities. Finally, I hope that me and Mariano can make this conference feel comfortable enough, so that everyone can overcome their fears just as I did. Can't wait to share this experience with you all!

Cordially, Your Chairs.

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COMMITTEE DESCRIPTION



The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) was created right after World War II with the creation of the United Nations (UN), to address instabilities between the League of Nations to maintain its main goals: mediate, ensure world peace and resolve international conflicts. Today, its headquarters are located in New York City, U.S.A. The SC is the only organ that has mandatory power, meaning that it must be followed by the signatories countries of the organization. In all their meetings, all fifteen countries possess the right to speak and vote. It is also the Security Council duty to determine where and when the UN peacekeeping missions can be deployed.

This council highlights itself by having five permanent members (P5) with the veto power (a measure created to prohibit the UN to take any future actions against their permanent founders; it normally occurs when the project discussed is considered unconstitutional or opposite to public interest), and ten rotative members that change after a gap of two years. These five members are formed by

the People's Republic of China, Russian Federation, United States of America, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the French Republic. All Member-States are obligated to fulfill the Council decisions.

It plays a central role in identifying threats to peace or acts of aggression, and when necessary, urges conflicting parties to resolve their issues through a peaceful dialogue and suggests ways to reach a settlement. When needed, the Council may impose sanctions or approve the use of force to uphold or reestablish global peace and security.

When threats to peace are reported, the Security Council usually begins by urging the involved parties to resolve the issue through a peaceful dialogue. If the situation turns into a conflict, the Council's first action is to end the violence quickly, by:

- Ordering ceasefires to prevent further escalation;
- Deploying military observers or peacekeeping forces to minimize tensions, separate combatants, and create a stable environment for peace talks.

If the measures above fail, the Council can enforce stronger actions, such as:

- Imposing economic sanctions, arms embargoes, financial penalties, and travel restrictions;
- Cutting diplomatic ties;
- Enforcing blockades;
- Or authorizing joint military intervention.

Additionally, before initiating a peace operation, the SC must evaluate several important considerations, such as:

- If there is a well-defined political objective that can be clearly outlined in the mission's mandate;
- Whether a specific and actionable mandate for the UN operation can be established;
- In case a ceasefire is in effect and the involved parties are genuinely committed to a peaceful process aimed at a political resolution;
- Given that the protection and security of UN personnel can be reasonably ensured, especially through credible guarantees from the main parties involved.

The Security Council aims to target its actions towards those directly responsible for beginning the conflict, while trying to avoid unnecessary harm to civilians and the general economy.

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

Personal pronouns

Each delegate is representing a nation and not a person; for this reason, all delegates shall not refer to themselves or to others as 'I' or 'you'. On the other hand, expressions that are commonly used by delegates are "this delegation" or "this country".

Structure of the debate

There is no precise structure of the debate, since the flow of the conference will depend on the motions presented by the delegates. However, the one that delegates normally follow is the subsequent:

1. Motion to Open the Debate
 - a. This motion has the aim of beginning the Conference.
2. Roll Call
 - a. The delegates can state if they are 'present'(can abstain from voting, when desired) or 'present and voting'(mandatory to vote).
3. Opening Speeches
 - a. The delegates will entertain a speech of approximately one minute or one minute and a half in which they present their initial ideas about the conflict.
4. Agenda (not mandatory)
 - a. The delegates can create an agenda, which will help them to guide the steps of the discussion.
5. Sessions
 - a. It represents one of the most important parts of the debate. Its purpose is to give time to delegates to develop their arguments and reach solutions that will be written afterwards in the Resolution.
6. Writing a Draft Resolution
 - a. Resolution is a document in which delegates shall write their conclusions regarding the topic.
7. Presenting the Resolutions and discussing amendments
 - a. This is the moment when delegates have the opportunity to change some parts of their resolutions and adapt them so that they can fit better as solutions.

This is an overall idea of the list of events, to have a deeper understanding of the procedures, the delegates can check the website of the Conference (smun.ch) and/or the [Handbook](#).

Rules of procedure

As previously mentioned, the debate is based on the presence of motions and points. Here there is a brief explanation of the most important ones (not all):

1. Motions

- a. **Motion for a Moderated Caucus:** the delegate that is proposing this motion is willing to address the conflict with speeches. The delegate should specify how long the caucus will last, time of the speeches, and purpose. The chairs will open a speakers list to decide the order of the speeches, which might be followed by points of information and/or clarification.
- b. **Motion for an Unmoderated Caucus:** similarly to the Moderated Caucus, the delegate shall present how much time it will last and the purpose of it. However, it differs from the Moderated by the fact that the delegates can move freely through the room and have informal conversations, which tend to influence the resolutions.
- c. **Motion to Move into Voting Procedure:** when a delegate believes that the Committee has already discussed enough, he or she may motion to close the debate and enter the Voting Procedure. If the motion is accepted, the delegate shall suggest a method of voting (the most common one is by raising placards).
- d. **Motion to Cite Sources:** when it happens that a delegate thinks another delegate stated a wrong claim about an event, the first delegate may motion for the other delegate (who said something wrong) to show their sources. This delegate will have a certain amount of time to search for it, and the chairs will say whether it will be accepted or not.

2. Points

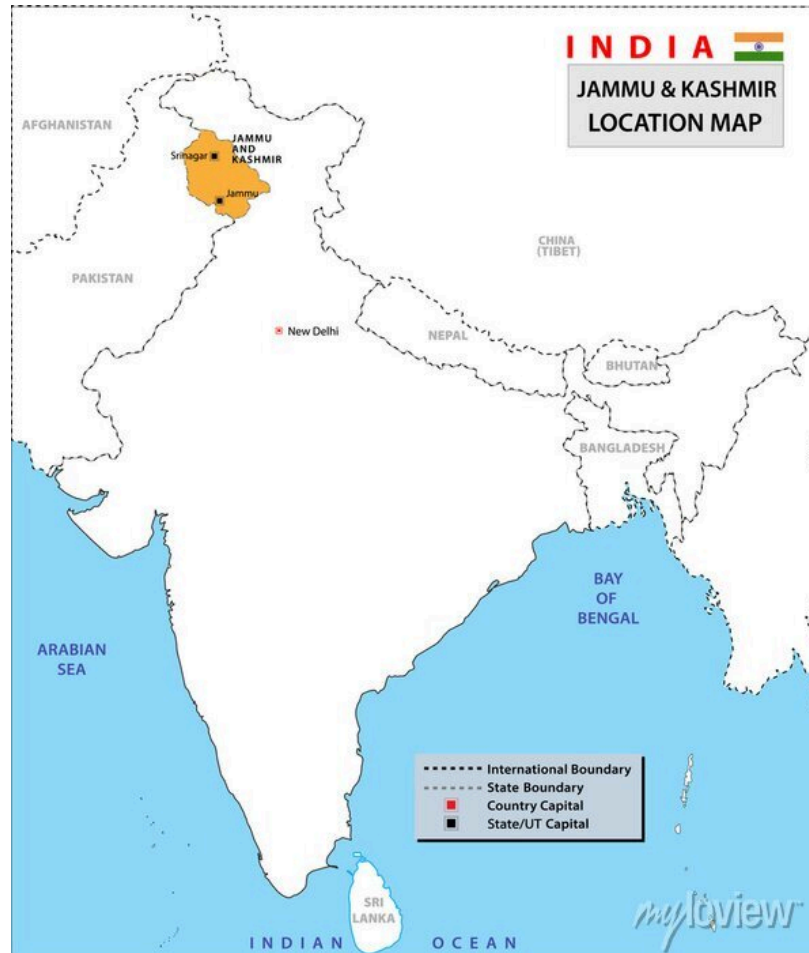
- a. **Point of Personal Privilege:** when a delegate feels stuck due to a personal discomfort that does not allow the delegate to continue

participating, he or she may state the point so that this discomfort is solved.

- b. **Point of Order:** this point applies when a delegate wants to highlight a rule of the committee that was not followed or to reproach the way a Chair is exercising its power. However, if the Chair believes this point has no practical or logical grounds, the Chair can refuse it.
- c. **Point of Parliamentary Inquiry:** a delegate can only make it when no other delegate is speaking and the floor is open. It is stated, when a delegate has a question regarding the Rules of Procedure and the delegate shall not rise to make it.
- d. **Point of Information:** this is stated after a substantive speech and when a delegate wants to phrase a question about the content of the discourse. However, this can only be done if the speaker desires to answer, in case he or she wants it, the Chairs will open the floor to accept these points (thus the delegates do not need to ask the floor for it). If the delegate who is stating the POI wishes to make another one, he or she may ask the Chairs for a follow-up, which must be approved by the Chairs for it to be applied.
- e. **Point of Clarification:** when a delegate realizes that the delegate who is making a speech said something wrong, after the speech he or she may rise and state a Point of Clarification. This is used to correct a wrong claim by presenting a factual/objective statement and not by arguments or questions. The Chairs shall decide if the point will be recognized and it can not be stated based on a subjective statement of the speaker.
- f. **Right of Reply:** if a delegate believes that their personal or national integrity has been violated by another delegate, he or she might state a Right of Reply. However, it needs to be accepted by the Chairs and if yes, the delegate might wait for the confirmation of the Chairs to start, and it needs to be a speech of 30 seconds. It must be in the format of a formal apology, and in the case it has a reasonable justification, the Chairs will ask the other delegate to rise and apologize.

Remember that all of the motions and points, with their explanations, are available in the [Handbook](#).

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND



Origin of the Kashmir Region

The Kashmir region was developed, thousands of years ago, as a distinct cultural and political entity, and is mentioned in Hindu and Buddhist texts as a religious and intellectual center. Islam became the majority religion in the 14th century, because of its widespread popularity. Over the years, Kashmir was ruled by several empires, such as Mughals (1586-1751), bringing stability to region; Afghans (1751-1819), ruling with oppression and heavy taxation; Sikhs (1819-1846) taking control from Afghans, and making local Muslims face oppression; British (from 1846) treating the region as their own property and ignoring the Muslim-majority population. This structure marks the beginning of modern Kashmir, which later on, would become the center of the conflict between India, Pakistan and China.

Root Causes of the Conflict

The Kashmir conflict goes back to the colonial period, specifically in 1846, when the British East India Company sold the princely state of Jammu and Kashmir to Dogra ruler, Gulab Singh, in 1846, as part of the Treaty of Amritsar. They ended up supporting the autocratic Dogra rule, which led to oppression and inequality.

Because of its strategic location, which is home to people of many different ethnicities and religions, the area became a flashpoint. When British India was split into India and Pakistan in 1947, the princely states could choose to join either country or stay independent. Kashmir, a region with a lot of Muslims and a Hindu Maharaja Hari Singh in charge, chose to stay independent at first.

In October 1947, though, tribal militias from Pakistan invaded Kashmir. In return, the Maharaja signed the "Instrument of Accession" to India in exchange for help from the military. This was the start of the Indo-Pakistani War, which lasted from 1947 until 1948, and ended with a ceasefire brokered by the United Nations and the division of Kashmir along the Line of Control (LoC), which is still in place today. There was a promise of a UN-mandated plebiscite to decide Kashmir's future. This plebiscite ended up never happening.

At India's 1947 partition, failing to manage the accession process or prevent violence, the British left Kashmir's future ambiguous. Moreover, they left a power vacuum that fueled decades of conflict, by not establishing a democratic structure.

Division of Kashmir

Azad Jammu and Kashmir (Azad Kashmir), the "free" part of Kashmir, controlled by Pakistan and claimed by India, is a semi-autonomous region with its own president, prime minister, and legislature. After the first Indo-Pakistani war, in 1947-48, this region started to be controlled by Pakistan. It is part of the territory that Pakistan considered to be under its administration, though India claims it as part of its sovereign territory.

Gilgit-Baltistan, formerly known as the Northern Areas, and also controlled by Pakistan and claimed by India, is a separate administrative region from Azad Kashmir. It is historically part of the princely state of Jammu and Kashmir, located in the northern part of Azad Kashmir, and strategically important because it borders China and Afghanistan. In 2020, even though India rejected this move, Pakistan

granted it provisional provincial status. This region is important because it includes the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and borders the disputed region of Aksai Chin, which links Pakistan with China.

Aksai Chin, a high-altitude desert area controlled by China, as part of its Xinjiang and Tibet Autonomous Regions, and claimed by India, was seized by China during the Sino-Indian War of 1962. While China considers it essential for its strategic road link between Tibet and Xinjiang, India claims it as part of its union territory Ladakh. The area continues to be a sensitive flashpoint between both India and China, even after the violent skirmishes like the Galwan Valley clash in 2020.

Major Wars and Political Changes

India and Pakistan fought two more wars over Kashmir. The Second War, in 1965, started after Pakistan tried to start a rebellion with Operation Gibraltar, which failed. The Third War, in 1971, was mostly about Bangladesh's independence, but it made the region even less stable and led to the Simla Agreement (1972), in which both sides agreed to settle the Kashmir dispute on their own and turned the ceasefire into the LoC (Line of Control).

India maintained firm administrative control when the Indira-Sheikh Accord granted limited autonomy to Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370, in 1975. The situation shifted dramatically in the late 1980s, after the alleged rigging of the 1987 elections, which ended up triggering a massive armed insurgency in Indian-administered Kashmir. With the support from Pakistan-based groups, the uprising led to thousands of civilian and military deaths, along with the exodus of Kashmiri Pandits, in 1990, due to violence and threats.

Escalations, Terrorism, and 21st Century Tensions

The conflict continued with the Kargil War, in 1999, where Pakistani soldiers crossed the LoC into Indian territory. The end of this war was with Indian military success and international diplomatic pressure on Pakistan. Years later, the region suffered major attacks, such as the 2001 Indian Parliament attack, the 2016 Uri attack, and the 2019 Pulwama bombing, which prompted Indian "surgical strikes" and aerial battles.

In August 2019, removing Kashmir's special constitutional status and splitting the state into two union territories, India revoked Article 370, leading to internet shutdowns, widespread curfews and human rights concerns. Pakistan condemned India's move and triggered further deterioration of relations. While Pakistan viewed it as a breach of international agreements, India asserted that the change would integrate Kashmir fully.

Recent Escalations and Global Reaction

In April 2025, the conflict flared again, following a deadly militant attack in Pahalgam, resulting in the death of 26 civilians. India launched Operation Sindoor, involving targeted missile strikes, and blamed the attack on Pakistan-based groups. Both sides traded military and diplomatic threats, raising concerns of a possible nuclear confrontation.

Global powers, such as the UN, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, China, and the United States, urged restraint. They tested ceasefire agreements, but behind the scenes, diplomatic channels, like the UAE-facilitated talks, helped to prevent all-out war. The situation maintains itself fragile, with periodic skirmishes and a persistent demand from Kashmiris for self-determination, peace, and justice.

Involved Countries and Stakeholders

The main countries and stakeholders with direct involvement are:

- India: administering the largest part of the region, claiming full sovereignty, and maintains a strong military presence. Claims that Pakistan is helping terrorists groups and do not wish external intervention;
- Pakistan: administrate Azad Kashmir and controls Gilgit-Baltistan, advocating for Kashmiri self-determination, mediation of the conflict, and supports separatists movements;
- China: controls Aksai Chin (disputed region claimed by India) and opposes unilateral actions in the region;
- Kashmiri People: are divided among those who seek independence, union with Pakistan, or integration with India. Are often marginalized in decision-making processes;

- United Nations: passed the initial resolution and monitors the LoC but has limited impact in recent years due to political gridlock.

TREATIES BY EACH COUNTRY AND ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE UNITED NATIONS**Important treaties**

Indus Waters Treaty(1960) – this treaty was mediated by the World Bank and its main aim was to define the rights and obligations of both countries regarding the use of the Indus River system's waters.

Tashkent Declaration(1966) – This treaty was mediated by the Soviet Union in response to the Indo-Pakistani War of 1965. It established that both nations should remove their troops and let them in the original position. Both countries also agreed to not interrupt each other's affairs. This peaceful treaty also helped to restore the economic and diplomatic relations.

Simla Agreement (1972) – It was the result of the 1971 Indo-Pakistani War and it called for peace. It changed the previous ceasefire of 1965 to implement a new line called the Line of Control. It also promised that both nations would solve the tensions through negotiations and called for a final resolution regarding the conflict.

The Non-Attack Agreement (1988) – Although it was signed in 1988, it entered into practice only in 1991. This agreement refrained both nations from attacking nuclear installations of each other. The two countries also agreed that they should share the information of their nuclear installations and facilities, and whenever there was any change on them.

Lahore Declaration(1999) – This declaration boosted important factors for the solution of this conflict: improve bilateral talks regarding Jammu and Kashmir, respect each other's internal affairs, prevent nuclear weapon use, support SAARC goals for regional development, condemn and combat terrorism, and foster human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Memorandum of Understanding (1999) – This memorandum emphasized the importance of the communication of both countries regarding missiles, existing military communication channels and nuclear weapons. Moreover, it prioritized safety at sea, ensured safe navigation, and worked to achieve disarmament and non-proliferation.

United Nations measures

Early Mediation (1948-51) – This would include some resolutions of the UNSC (38, 39, 47, 51, 80, 91, 96), being 39 and 47 the most impactful ones. These all together discussed themes such as: establishing the UN Commission for India and Pakistan (UNCIP) to investigate the conflict and have a “mediatory influence”(39 and 80), having measures that would help reaching the ceasefire and supervised it (91 and 96), creating a plebiscite which would be impartial to decide whether the State of Kashmir and Jammu would be part of India or Pakistan (47), and calling for the demilitarisation of both countries in the conflict (80 and 96).

Peacekeeping and monitoring (1951-65) – Resolutions such as 98, 122, 123, 126, 209, 210, 211, 214, and 215. The UN highlighted important points on them such as regulations on the number of troops (98), focused in the conflict and territories (122,123, and 126), called for stopping the fights in the cease-fire line and return to their original positions (209, 210 and 214), concerned about the development of Kashmir (210), and demanded that representatives of both countries gathered with the UNSC Secretary-General to discuss the previous resolutions which the countries did not follow (215).

Ongoing role and concerns(1971 - nowadays) – Resolutions 303, 307, 1172, and the current crisis. The resolution 303 concerned about the deterioration of the relations between both countries, which resulted in Council meetings and the report of violations of the Karachi Agreement. The 307th Resolution called for a durable ceasefire, stopping armed conflicts until the removal of all armed forces to the ceasefire line in Kashmir and it also requested that the Secretary-General keep the Council informed about the progress of the implementation of the resolutions. The 1172th Resolution focused on the development of nuclear weapons which should be avoided, also that India and Pakistan should resume bilateral talks to reduce tensions and condemned tests of nuclear weapons done by both sides. The UN is still observing the situation, calls for restraint, and is also concerned about human rights violations in Kashmir.

CURRENT SITUATION

Escalation and Military Conflict

A militant attack in Pahalgam killed 26 tourists on April 22. India accused Pakistan-based militant groups, specifically Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) and Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) (known for being previously accused of operating with Pakistani intelligence support) for being responsible for the attack, but Islamabad denied any involvement. On May 7, conducting missile and air strikes on alleged terrorist camps in Pakistan-administered Azad Kashmir, and parts of northern Pakistan, India launched Operation Sindoor. Pakistan avenged cross-border shelling and claimed to have shot down several Indian jets and drones, and that India's attacks caused civilian casualties.

The intensity brought both sides to the brink of direct military confrontation, and included drone warfare, the first of its kind in the region, marking the most intense escalation since 2019, Pulwama-Balakot confrontation.

Ceasefire and Ongoing Tensions

With U.S. diplomatic mediation, a ceasefire was brokered on May 10th. Regardless of this, both nations reported violations, including intermittent shelling and drone strikes. Thousands of civilians continue to be displaced, and human rights groups point out the economic strain and fear that persist across all affected areas.

Diplomatic Fallout

The Indus Waters Treaty was suspended (a longstanding water-sharing agreement mediated by the World Bank), visas were suspended, along with many other key agreements, by India. This increased diplomatic and trade restrictions, and withdrew Pakistani diplomats. Pakistan responded in kind, closing its airspace to Indian flights, suspending trade, and declaring the LoC dispute internationally recognized.

International Responses:

Global powers, in addition to the U.S., U.K., China, Russia, and regional actors, such as the UAE, called for de-escalation and offered mediation assistance. The

Shanghai Cooperation Organization, and many other diplomatic forums, failed to issue a unified statement, reflecting deep divisions over Kashmir's status. The United Nations called for restraint, but unfortunately it did not pass any binding resolution due to the veto power gridlock in the SC.

Humanitarian and Economic Impact

The continued attacks on both sides have inflicted direct civilian damages and exacerbated poverty and infrastructure strain. The ongoing shelling and aerial skirmishes have displaced thousands of citizens through the LoC. Medical care, food supply, and schools have been severely disrupted. Tourism in Kashmir, which is vital for the region's economy, has been severely affected, undermining livelihoods. Their local businesses are facing economic hardship, all due to border closures, restrictions, and inflation.

TIMELINE OF EVENTS

1947 – Retirement of the British presence and partition of subcontinent using a religious basis; Pakistan being a Muslim majority and India as a Hindu majority. The ruler of Kashmir signed a treaty to be from India, which led to a war between the two nations.

1948 – India obtains the Kashmir region by UNSC agreements (Resolution 47).

1957 – The Indian-administered Jammu and Kashmir changed its constitution, stating they are part of India.

1962-63 – China invaded and started controlling the northeastern part of Ladakh. Alongside it, China also took the Trans-Karakoram Tract of Kashmir.

1965 – Small war between Pakistan and India led to a ceasefire and got back to the original positions.

1971-72 - India defeats Pakistan in a war and results in an important treaty: the Simla Agreement.

1974 – A political group in Indian-administered Jammu and Kashmir asked for not having a referendum (public vote) and the Indian government responded by offering more autonomy to them. In the same year, Sheikh Abdullah became chief minister of India.

1984 – Indian Army establishes its presence in the Siachen Glacier, an area which was outside the Line of Control. Pakistan made some efforts to gain the area in the following decades.

1987 – Elections in Indian-administered Jammu and Kashmir appeared unfair to the population of these regions which, right after, provoked the insurgency of a pro-independence group called Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF). The

response of India to this was blaming Pakistan for it and placing fighters across the Line of Control.

1990 – Indian Army kills 100 demonstrators at Gawakadal Bridge, which boosted the insurgency in the area. After some attacks, many Hindus fled from the Kashmir Valley. And India imposed an act (AFSPA) which allows their army to use violence in areas considered as 'disturbed areas'.

1990s – Civilians started to surpass violence coming from both sides. The insurgency grew with Kashmiri militants making their training in Pakistan and on the other side, India sending more troops to the region.

1999 – Militants crossed the border from Pakistan into the Kargil district (India-administered area) which led to another war. India accused Pakistan for being behind it and broke off relations.

2001-04 – An attack on the parliament of Indian-administered Jammu and Kashmir in Srinagar and violence widespread interrupt negotiations to strengthen their relations.

2010 – Many protests came out in the Kashmir Valley due to the death of a demonstrator by the Indian Army. They occurred until the government announced measures to reduce the tensions.

2011 – India gave an amnesty to 1200 young men who threw stones at security forces in the middle of anti-government protests, in 2010, in the Kashmir Valley. A month later, Indian troops killed 3 Pakistani soldiers in a firing in the Line of Control. India accused Pakistan of starting the fire.

2013 – Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan meet each other to ease the violent incidents in the disputed border in Kashmir.

2014 – Pakistan's High Commissioner in Delhi consulted Kashmiri separatist leaders, this action made India stop with their talks with Pakistan, accusing Pakistan of getting into India's internal affairs. In October, both countries changed strongly-worded warnings to one another after 18 people were killed in between their borders.

2015 – For the first time, the BJP (India's ruling party) joined the government of Kashmir with a local party (PDP). In November of that year, one person died after Prime Minister Modi made a visit to Indian-administered Kashmir.

2016 – The death of a popular militant and leader of Hizbul Mujahideen (which was against Indian control) resulted in violent protests. The government response was imposing an indefinite curfew in most parts of Indian administered Kashmir. The curfew was lifted in the same year but schools and local services remained shut. A month later, Human Rights Watch asked for the burning of schools in the Indian-administered Kashmir to cease. At the end of this year, many villagers fled from Pakistan-controlled Kashmir as 7 Pakistani soldiers died in a fire along the Line of Control.

2017 – Violent clashes take place on the anniversary of the death of militant commander Burhan Wani; in the same month, militants attacked Hindu pilgrims, leaving 7 deaths and 16 injured.

2019 – Indian government took out the special status that gave Jammu and Kashmir significant autonomy. Authorities cut internet and phone connections in the region and troops were sent to suppress possible uprising conflicts.

2025 – Tourist terror attack and missile exchanges.

POSITION OF MAJOR NATIONS**United States:**

The main role of the US is to avoid the conflict between India and Pakistan, mainly by trying to prevent the problem from reaching a higher level. The country's will is to continue having relationships with both countries, by helping India with counterterrorism and Pakistan with military aid through its MNNA status. The country also claimed that the ceasefire made by both nations was allowed by the American presence, however this was denied by the Indian government who claimed India and Pakistan were already talking with each other.

United Kingdom:

The UK government consistently emphasizes that Kashmir remains a bilateral issue to be resolved with peaceful dialogues between India and Pakistan, without British mediation. On the other hand, it has repeatedly expressed deep concerns over human rights violations, urging both governments to investigate alleged abuses promptly, transparently, and in accordance with international standards. In response to heightened tensions (such as the April 2025 Pahalgam terror attack) the UK has condemned the violence, updated travel advisories against non-essential travel to Jammu and Kashmir, called for calm in diaspora communities in London, and reaffirmed its stance that any long-term solution must reflect the aspirations of the Kashmiri people.

France:

Similarly to other countries in Europe, France defends the mutual communication between India and Pakistan. The country's will is to reach a peaceful solution with bilateral talks. France also discourages all forms of terrorism and its supporters. France defended the actions taken by the UN regarding this conflict and was strongly influenced by the Anglo-American opinion. The country also desires to maintain commercial and diplomatic relations with both countries; it also sold weapons to India, however not to be used in the Kashmir region, but for national defense. Lastly, the country reinforces the importance of taking care of the civilians.

Germany:

It maintains a consistently cautious position on the Kashmir conflict, emphasizing that it should be resolved bilaterally between India and Pakistan while urging both to respect human rights and engage in constructive dialogue. German leaders, including Chancellor Angela Merkel and Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock, have repeatedly expressed concern over lockdowns, right restrictions, and communications blackouts in the region, calling for sustainable solutions grounded in constitutional principles and civil liberties. While supporting the 2021 ceasefire along the Line of Control and the UN's limited role, Berlin underlines that any third-party involvement should be minimal. Germany reinforces that direct negotiations remain essential and that it has not shifted its long-standing stance.

Russia:

Russia expressed itself as preoccupied with the situation and wanting that both nations stop with the conflict peacefully and by diplomatic means. The Russia's Foreign Ministry claimed that he was concerned about an intensified military conflict. The country even offered itself to mediate the crisis, thus Russia communicated with both countries after the conflict. Regarding the relationship of Russia, separately, with both countries, they have constructive ties between each other. With India, the Soviet Union used its Veto Power in the 50s on the side of India concerning the Kashmir region and they still have economic partnerships. And with Pakistan, their relationship has grown after the Cold War, having reached, in 2023, 1 Billion dollars with trades. Lastly, the country sees as a clear factor the fight against the terrorism.

China:

China favors a balanced position on the Kashmir problem with hints of leaning towards a solution brokered bilaterally between India and Pakistan. Beijing, while in support of the Pakistan stance, is opposed to any unilateral action that can further fuel tensions and has shown apprehensions following India's 2019 revocation of Jammu and Kashmir's special status, especially relating to China's own border problems in the area. With deep strategic interests placed in the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, China considered intervening,

though unofficially, as also secretly like the UN, to reduce tensions on the other side of the border and maintain regional stability.

India:

India sees the territory of Kashmir as a part of the country, since an Instrument of Accession in 1947 signed it. The country accuses Pakistan of encouraging the presence of terrorism in the region. This is one of the main justifications presented by India regarding the conflict. The solution of the conflict, in the Indian perspective, should happen without an external mediation, being only a responsibility of India and Pakistan. This is due to the fact that India assumes the Kashmir region goes beyond territorial claims, it is part of its identity and thus a separation of the region from the country would result in a violation of the country's sovereignty. India also claims that the territory of Kashmir that is part of Pakistan shall have its status changed, so that it belongs to India and not to Pakistan.

Pakistan:

Pakistan regards the Kashmir issue as a central and unresolved international issue, with resolute support for its resolution through a UN-sponsored plebiscite, as envisaged in the SC resolutions. The Pakistani government supports the 2019 Indian removal of Jammu and Kashmir's special status as illegal and in violation of international law, describing it as systemic aggression. Islamabad regularly brings up the Kashmir issue in the UN and other global forums, complaining of human rights violations and the right to self-determination of the people of Kashmir. Pakistani leaders also emphasize that there cannot be peace in South Asia without a fair peaceful solution to the Kashmir issue based on the will of the people in the subcontinent.

Saudi Arabia:

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia initially backed Pakistan in the 1971 war, their connection happened mainly because of similar religious beliefs. However this picture started to change with time, their relationship started to worsen after Pakistan faced problems repaying loans to the Kingdom. In 2023, Prince Salman visited India where he also reinforced with Modi (Prime Minister of India) the

importance of taking out the terrorist infrastructure, consequently defending India's security. Lastly, Saudi Arabia also agreed with India in the fact that the conflict should be solved through no external mediation.

Turkey:

The Turkish approach to the Kashmir crisis is that the crisis has to be resolved by negotiation and respect for the rights and desires of the Kashmiri people. President Erdogan has strongly condemned the move by India, i.e., 2019 repeal of the special status of Kashmir, making the crisis a humanitarian crisis and equating Kashmir's crisis with that of Turkey in the past. Ankara sided with Pakistan, supporting calls for inquiry following military attacks and making diplomatic efforts to prevent escalation after the recent violence. Holding diplomatic relations with both India and Pakistan, Turkey asserts that permanent peace in Kashmir is dependent upon justice, equality, and peaceful negotiation.

Iran:

Iran's view about the conflict is mainly focused on reducing the escalation of this tension. In 2017, Iran's Supreme Leader emphasized support for Muslim communities which were at risk, one of them was Kashmir. Iran was also the first country to visit Pakistan after the last conflict (May of 2025) by sending its Foreign Minister. This visit had the intention of Iran to mediate the escalation of the conflict. As many other countries did, Iran asked India and Pakistan to show restraint. The country also believes - similarly to Pakistan - that the conflict shall be solved by peaceful means, by the will of Kashmir's population and by respecting international law.

United Arab Emirates:

The UAE has taken an active yet balanced approach on the Kashmir issue, combining diplomatic outreach with principled calls for peace. In April 2025, it strongly condemned the terrorist attack in Pahalgam, expressing solidarity with India, offering condolences and insisting on rejection of violence and terrorism. Earlier, the UAE welcomed the February ceasefire between India and Pakistan, urging both countries to maintain dialogue and confidence-building measures for regional

stability. High-level UAE diplomacy, by Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed, has emphasized the need for de-escalation and open communication between the two South Asian countries. Moreover, Emirati Ambassador Yousef Al Otaiba confirmed that the UAE helped facilitate secret ceasefire-related talks in Dubai, hoping to make India-Pakistan relations “functional” even if not fully reconciled.

Afghanistan:

Although the Prime Minister of Pakistan alleged that it was unacceptable that Afghanistan did nothing regarding the conflict, the Taliban - who rule the country nowadays - claimed that Afghanistan is not linked with the conflict. The Taliban are divided in the Kandahars (defend relation with India) and the Haqqani Network (prefer ties with Pakistan), however the Kandahar's faction has, now, more control which resulted in less opportunity for the Haqqani Network to strengthen their relations with Pakistan and an increase of anti-Pakistan groups in Afghanistan. However, the Taliban tend to support the side that benefits them most and they are currently willing to receive international recognition.

Bangladesh:

Bangladesh has been maintaining a cautious and balanced approach to the conflict. While civil society and public groups have shown solidarity with Kashmiris, the government has officially positioned the matter as India's internal issue, stating that the revocation of Article 370 is “an internal matter of India” with the priority being regional peace and stability. Nonetheless, Bangladesh strongly condemned the April 2025 Pahalgam terrorist attack, affirming its firm anti-terrorist stance and conveying condolences to the victims. Meanwhile, Dhaka continues to monitor any India-Pakistan tensions closely, stressing the importance of de-escalation and dialogue to avoid regional conflict.

Japan:

Japan's position is preventing the escalation of a possible future conflict, mainly a military one. The Japanese government believes that both India and Pakistan should solve the situation with dialogue. It is important to highlight that Japan is against all possible acts of terrorism, for this reason Japan offered India its

support in its terrorist fight. Thus the Minister Iwaya stated that the terrorist acts that occurred on April 22 shall be investigated and punished. Japan also extended the relations with India by strengthening maritime cooperation and other important factors that improve the bilateral defence ties. Lastly, Japan is also strongly preoccupied with the condition of the civilians of the region.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

1. Is the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) a form of economic imperialism in disputed territory?
2. Should the UN apply sanctions to repeated infraction of the Line of Control (LoC)?
3. Should Kashmir's people have the right to be fully independent or they must choose a side, between India and Pakistan?
4. Revoking Article 370 and changing Kashmir's political status unilaterally, an action taken by India, does it violate international law?
5. Should international recognition be given to Azad Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan as separate territories?
6. Should countries like India prioritize national security over civil liberties in conflict zones like Kashmir?
7. Does Pakistan have the moral responsibility of the actions of militant groups operating within borders?
8. Are drone strikes and surgical operations justified in disputed areas, even with civilian risks?
9. Is it ethical or should it be allowed for other countries such as France or Russia to sell arms to parties in the conflict?
10. Is China's involvement in Aksai Chin purely strategic, or is it expanding its influence under the pretext of territorial dispute?
11. Is India's communication blackout in Kashmir a legitimate anti-terror tactic or a human rights violation?

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