

King'sMUN 2025

Arab League



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Table of Contents

Pg 3: Welcome Letter.....

Pg 4: Purpose.....

Pg 4-6: Issue # 1: Iranian Influence in Member Countries of Arab League Countries.....

Pg 6-8: Issue # 2: Providing Refuge to Displaced Peoples due to Conflict.....

Pg 9: What is being resolved.....

Pg 9-10: Connection to SDG.....

Pg 11-12: Work Cited.....

Welcome Letter

Dear King'sMUN 2025 delegates,

As this year's Co-Secretary Generals of King'sMUN, we are truly honoured to welcome you to our 11th annual conference. The Secretariat has been working hard throughout this school year to deliver you an incredible, in-person conference with various unique committees, experienced chairs, and a successful day of debate.

Model United Nations, a reenactment of the function of the United Nations, is designed for students to come together to debate, discuss, and develop creative resolutions to various pressing issues that plague our current world. In most committees, students take on the positions of multiple countries, characters, or political figures to create solutions for real and fictional issues and crises. We provide distinctive committees that delve into historical events, future scenarios, and fictional topics.

In our personal experience with MUN, we have developed many valuable skills that we will take with us throughout our lives, such as confidence in public speaking, leadership, and creative problem-solving. Furthermore, MUN promotes lifelong connections, as we meet delegates who share similar passions in committee sessions. We genuinely believe that your participation in MUN will guide you throughout your high school journey and beyond.

At King'sMUN, we provide a variety of committees to ensure that we have something of interest for everyone. From very current pressing issues (i.e. UNSC and the ICJ) and issues in sports (i.e. English Premier League and International Olympic Committee) to fictional committees, yet applicable issues (i.e. Pokémon) and issues set in our very own communities (i.e. Government of Ontario). We strive to ensure that there is appeal for a variety of delegates. Whether you have no experience or have attended many conferences, there is a place at King'sMUN for you!

Once again, we are thrilled to welcome all delegates, new or returning, back to King'sMUN. We hope you will engage in fruitful debate and have a fantastic time at King'sMUN 2025.

Sincerely,

Aryan Suri and Luciana Ilic

Co-Secretary Generals

King'sMUN 2025

Members of the Arab League

- Algeria
- Bahrain
- Comoros
- Djibouti
- Egypt
- Iraq
- Jordan
- Kuwait
- Lebanon
- Libya
- Mauritania
- Morocco
- Oman
- Palestine
- Qatar
- Saudi Arabia
- Somalia
- Sudan
- Syria
- Tunisia
- United Arab Emirates
- Yemen



Purpose of the Arab League

The Arab League, currently under the leadership of Mahmoud Riad, is a regional organization of Arab States in the Middle East and parts of Africa. It was formed in Cairo, Egypt on March 22, 1945, as an outgrowth of ‘Pan Arabism’ (a political movement and belief system that promotes the idea that all Arabs should unite to form one country or state). The founding member states were Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen. Currently, the League consists of twenty-two Arab nations whose broad mission is to improve coordination among its members on matters of common interest. The organizational structure of the Arab League consists of three main parts: the Council, the permanent committees, and the General Secretariat. The PLO (Palestine Liberation Organization) was allowed to join the

Arab League as an observer in 1964, representing all Palestinians, even though Jordan didn't like it. In 1976, the PLO became a full member. After Egypt made peace with Israel on March 26, 1979, the other Arab League countries got upset, kicked Egypt out, and moved the league's headquarters from Cairo to Tunis.

Issue # 1:

Iranian Influence in Member Countries of Arab League Countries

Following adoption of the Alexandria Protocol in 1944, the Arab League was founded on March 22, 1945 with the purpose to unite Arab nations on various pressing issues. Notably, Iran is not a member as its people are not Arab, but Persian. However, Iran exerts significant influence in many Arab nations, impacting the decisions that need to be made in the Arab League. Iran's foreign policy aims to expand its regional influence, often by supporting certain anti-government groups and exploiting instability in countries like Lebanon, Iraq, Yemen, and Syria. While both Iran and the Arab League countries share Islam as a religion, their sects are different, with Shias making up the majority of Iran and Sunnis in the Arab League. Since the Iranian revolution of 1979, when the Shah was overthrown and Ayatollah Khomeini returned to the country, the Iranian regime has sought to spread its Shia influence across the Middle East. The unstable and weak governments in Lebanon (starting in the 1980s), and Yemen (starting in 2014), allowed Iran to establish partnerships with Hezbollah (a group that targets the structure of the government here) in Lebanon, Some militias in Iraq, and the Houthis in Yemen. In the occupied Palestinian territories, Iran also backs Hamas and a group called the Palestinian Islamic Jihad. Iran provides financial, military, and logistical support to these groups under a "forward defense" strategy to secure its regime and protect Shia Muslims. Clearly stated in the missions of these groups is a call for the end of the state of Israel.

Iran, until recently, has also supported the Assad (Syrian) government during the last 13-year civil war in that country. The Assad government has now fallen and Syria's future is in question as it rebuilds.

In this debate, delegates will consider Iran's influence in Arab League nations as it aims for a stable region. Realize that while Iran may not be directly involved with parties in all countries, they have an international domino-effect which can escalate quickly with tactical alliances with certain worldly powers, like Russia. Their regime, goal, and now access to resources, thus, poses a severe threat to vulnerable nations in the League.

Questions to Consider:

1. What does the Arab League do with Iran?
2. What is the impact of Iranian involvement in your country?
3. Why is Iran able to have such an influence without actually being a part of the League/How can the League limit Iran's influence in countries in conflict?
4. Can Iran's influence be seen in a positive light?
5. Do countries' current relationships/alliances need to be put in question?



Issue # 2:

Providing Refuge to Displaced Peoples due to Conflict

The Arab League has had a long history of grappling with the challenges of providing refuge to displaced people due to conflict. With conflicts persisting in regions like Syria, Yemen, Southern Lebanon, and Gaza, the Arab regions have been host to 53% of the refugee population worldwide and 67% of the totally forcibly displaced persons worldwide. As seen in the attached chart, Turkiye has become a country

in which many refugees have

sought asylum. Turkiye

currently hosts some 3.2

million registered Syrian

refugees along with about

222,000 persons of concern

from other nationalities.

Furthermore, many of these

Arab regions have become

transit nations, hosting migrants as they pass through on their way to Europe. While many of

these nations authentically seek to help peoples in need, they simply do not have the political

stability nor the infrastructure to accept so many dependents (even just a transit), becoming a

greater issue to host nations as they struggle with their own issues. The 1951 Refugee

Convention was a document signed by many countries around the world, including regions

part of the Arab League. The Convention provides the internationally recognized definition

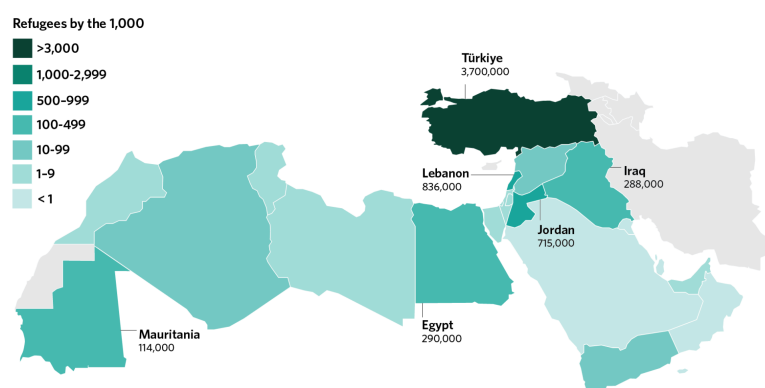
of a refugee and outlines the legal protection, rights and assistance a refugee is entitled to

receive. Following, the 1967 Protocol, which broadened the applicability of the 1951

Convention.

Definition of a Conventional Refugee

Figure 1. Refugees in the Middle East and North Africa by Country of Asylum, 2022



Source: UNHCR, "Number of Refugees in the Middle East and North Africa Region as of Mid-2022, by Country of Asylum," June 16, 2022, accessed from Statista, April 11, 2023, <https://www.statista.com/statistics/1201495/mena-refugees-number-by-country-of-origin/?locale=en>; and "Türkiye: Populations," UN Refugee Agency, accessed April 17, 2023, <https://reporting.unhcr.org/turkey>.

As a non-signatory to this convention, Saudi Arabia is often portrayed as a State that refuses engagement with the global legal norms and supporting institutions focused on the protection of refugees. This is a concern as Saudi Arabia is a significant member within the Arab League and is one of the largest regions physically. Saudi Arabia does allow for some refugees. In 2023, there were 477,000, which was a 5.07% increase from 2022. A recent trend in Arab League culture is an unwillingness to take in Syrian refugees into Gulf countries. The discrimination in refugee acceptance is often unnoticed, but a pertinent reason this issue still thrives.

An example of something that produces a need to flee is the civil war in Syria, displacing 14.8 million people. 5.5 million have left the country. Few of these people have been allowed to enter Saudi Arabia and other Gulf nations. Most Syrian refugees have settled in Turkey and Lebanon, some further to Europe. Of the vast issue, these are just two contributing nations. The entire region is flooded with this influx, and a contradictory hesitance in acceptance. Addressing the reasons an individual leaves in the first place becomes of utmost importance in finding a solution (as there are no stable enough parties to hold the vastness of this issue).

Questions to Consider:

1. What kind of conflicts exist in the League today that cause people to leave?
2. Would focusing on support for the countries dealing with conflict be more effective?
3. Why does someone become a refugee? What are the main causes of someone being displaced in the Middle East/North Africa area?
4. How many of these refugees are from countries who are not a member of the Arab League?

5. Can some countries take more refugees than others? Is this fair or not? Why?
6. Do refugees have preferences in where they go depending on what their ethnicity/religion is? Why is this a problem?

Arab League Country	# of Refugees and Asylum Seekers Hosted	Total Population
Algeria	182,949	46 million
Bahrain	254	1.486 million
Comoros	300,890	45 million
Djibouti	23,493	1.136 million
Egypt	248,057	113 million
Iraq	3,148,663	87 million
Jordan	661,218	11 million
Kuwait	572	4.31 million
Lebanon	1,306,143	5.354 million
Libya	60,000	6.888 million
Mauritania	132,182	5 million
Morocco	18,102	38 million
Oman	295	4.644 million
Palestine	8.36 million	5.166 million
Qatar	189	2.716 million
Saudi Arabia	454	36.95 million

Somalia	18,700	18 million
Sudan	865,510	50 million
Syria	6 million	23.23 million
Tunisia	5,406	12.46 million
United Arab Emirates	1,416	9.517 million
Yemen	97,000	34.45 million

<https://www.unhcr.org/refugee-statistics/insights/explainers/refugee-hosting-metrics.html>

What is being resolved?

This conference seeks to address two critical challenges faced in the Arab League: Iranian influence in Arab League member countries and the situation of displaced peoples due to conflict. Regarding Iranian influence, the goal is to create unity among Arab league nations, ensuring different strategies that protect sovereignty and promote stability while also discussing matters at hand to reduce regional tensions. On the issue of displaced peoples, the conference aims to develop a comprehensive plan for providing humanitarian aid, securing safe places for people to live, and facilitating long-term solutions such as resettlement. By collaboratively addressing these issues, member states can reaffirm their commitment to regional peace, security, and human dignity.

Connections

SDG 16's goal is to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. In a region that deals with ongoing conflicts throughout decades the elements of SDG 16-Peace,



Justice, and Strong institutions-have become increasingly important within the Arab League. SDG 16 is very important in Arab nations that are particularly categorised as “fragile states”. These countries include; Comoros, Djibouti, Iraq, Libya, Palestine, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen. These nine countries make up about 41% of the member states of the Arab League. Although Lebanon is not on this list, it is ranked as the 29th least peaceful country in the world, dealing with corruption, a political crisis, and a falling economy. It is evident that these Arab regions are not on track in accomplishing this goal. In 2018, only Qatar and the United Arab Emirates maintained progress towards achieving SDG 16. However, stats from 2024 state that no Arab country is on track for completing this goal.

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