



TFLMUN'26

H-SPECPOL STUDY GUIDE

Agenda Item: Colonial Administration and Mandate Systems in the Artificial Construction of States after World War I

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1. Letter from Secretary-General

Esteemed delegates of TFLMUN'26,

It is a great honour to welcome you to one of the most vivid and inspirational events in our city. As the Secretary General of this valuable conference, it is my pleasure to be a part of the experience.

Our special executives and deliberately selected organization members have set their first priority to seek all of your interests, and we all specifically see our event as a mission to be superior and the most inspirational. Speaking for myself and our team, we worked tirelessly day and night without hesitation for your best interests and to provide you the opportunity to express yourself in every aspect as a delegate of TFLMUN'26. We state that each and every one of our conference's delegates is held in high esteem, and you are welcomed equally. We believe that TFLMUN'26 is going to be one of the only events where everyone is free to be themselves comfortably and enjoy the spirit of Model United Nations.

By attending our conference, you will have the opportunity to engage in meaningful debates, challenge yourself in the aspect of self-confidence, and improve yourself intellectually. You will feel the excitement of new friendships, and most importantly, you will experience the quality of the sensational conference first-hand. We urge you to comprehend that besides being a platform to debate, our conference will be the journey to your personal growth along with unique entertainment.

We look forward to witnessing all of our delegates' efforts and determination. Let TFLMUN'26 be the step for your excellence and self-growth!

Yours faithfully,
Adal Çavuşlu
Secretary General

2. Letter from Under-Secretary-General

Dear delegates,

It is my utmost pleasure to welcome you all to TFLMUN'26. As the Under-Secretary-General of the Historical Special Political and Decolonization Committee (H-SPECPOL), I am truly honored to guide you through this engaging and intellectually stimulating committee.

Our agenda, "Colonial Administration and Mandate Systems in the Artificial Construction of States after World War I," will challenge you to explore one of the most complex and impactful periods in modern history. As delegates, you will be expected to critically analyze the role of major powers, question the legitimacy of mandate systems, and evaluate the long-term consequences of externally imposed governance structures.

This committee will not only test your knowledge of historical events but also your ability to think diplomatically, negotiate effectively, and defend your positions with strong arguments. I encourage all delegates to come well-prepared, actively participate in debates, and engage respectfully with one another.

Please remember that MUN is not only about representing your assigned country, but also about developing your skills in public speaking, research, and cooperation. Do not hesitate to take initiative, share your ideas, and contribute to the dynamic atmosphere of the committee.

I am confident that each of you will bring valuable perspectives to the discussions, and I look forward to witnessing the innovative solutions you will develop throughout the conference.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to reach out at any time.

Warm regards,
Oğuz Tekinsoy
Under-Secretary-General

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3. Introduction to the Committee

The Special Political and Decolonization Committee (SPECPOL) is one of the six main committees traditionally associated with discussions on political issues within the international community. The committee focuses on a wide range of matters including decolonization, political conflicts, peacekeeping operations, and questions related to international governance and sovereignty.

Within the context of international diplomacy, SPECPOL serves as a platform where complex political challenges can be addressed through negotiation, cooperation, and multilateral dialogue. Historically, many of the issues discussed in this committee have revolved around the political consequences of colonialism, territorial administration, and the management of disputed regions.

In this committee, delegates are expected to analyze historical developments, understand the interests of different actors, and propose diplomatic solutions to pressing political challenges. The agenda item of this committee, "Colonial Administration and Mandate Systems in the Artificial Construction of States after World War I," invites delegates to examine the political restructuring that followed the collapse of major empires after the First World War and the role that colonial governance played in shaping the modern international system.

a. What is SPECPOL?

The Special Political and Decolonization Committee addresses a variety of political issues that fall outside the direct scope of other committees. Its discussions often involve matters related to decolonization, territorial disputes, and the political administration of regions undergoing significant political transitions.

Historically, the international community has been confronted with numerous challenges regarding the governance of territories emerging from colonial rule. These challenges include questions about sovereignty, self-determination, political representation, and the legitimacy of external administrative authority. SPECPOL provides a forum in which such issues can be discussed through diplomatic engagement and policy-oriented debate.

In Model United Nations simulations, SPECPOL often deals with complex geopolitical questions that require delegates to evaluate both historical developments and contemporary political realities. Delegates are therefore expected to conduct comprehensive research, understand the perspectives of different political actors, and work collaboratively in order to formulate viable solutions to the issues being discussed.

b. What is H-SPECPOL?

Historical committees differ from standard Model United Nations committees in that they operate within a specific historical timeframe rather than addressing contemporary global issues. In a Historical Special Political and Decolonization Committee (H-SPECPOL), delegates represent historical actors and states while debating events as they unfold within the chosen period.

Unlike traditional committees where the historical outcome of events is already known and fixed, historical committees allow delegates to influence the course of events through their diplomatic decisions and political strategies. As a result, the trajectory of history within the committee may diverge significantly from real-world outcomes.

The timeline of this committee begins on 29 August 1920, during a period of major geopolitical transformation following the end of the First World War. The collapse of several empires and the emergence of new political entities created significant uncertainty regarding the governance and sovereignty of many regions across the world.

Delegates will therefore be tasked with addressing the role of colonial administration and mandate systems in shaping newly emerging states while navigating the diplomatic tensions and political challenges of the post-war period. Throughout the committee, crisis updates may introduce new developments that alter the political landscape and require delegates to reconsider previously established agreements.

4. Introduction to the Agenda Item

a. Key Terms and Concepts

- **Colonial Administration**

Colonial administration refers to the system through which imperial powers governed territories located outside their own borders. During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, European powers established administrative structures in many regions of Africa, the Middle East, and Asia in order to control political authority, economic resources, and local governance.

These administrations often operated through appointed governors, military authorities, or colonial officials who represented the interests of the imperial power. While colonial administrations were frequently justified as mechanisms for maintaining stability or promoting development, they were also widely criticized for prioritizing imperial interests over the political rights and aspirations of local populations.

- **Mandate System**

The mandate system was established after the First World War under the authority of the League of Nations. The system was designed to administer territories that had previously been controlled by the defeated powers, particularly the Ottoman Empire and Germany.

Under this framework, certain territories were entrusted to more developed nations, known as mandatory powers, which were expected to guide these regions toward self-governance and eventual independence. In practice, however, many historians argue that the mandate system functioned as a continuation of colonial influence under a different institutional framework.

- **Self-Determination**

Self-determination refers to the principle that peoples and nations have the right to determine their own political status and form of government without external interference. The concept gained significant prominence following the end of the First World War, particularly during the diplomatic negotiations that reshaped the international political system.

Although the principle of self-determination was widely promoted as a cornerstone of the post-war order, its application was often inconsistent. In many cases, the interests of major powers influenced political decisions regarding territorial governance, limiting the ability of local populations to exercise genuine political autonomy.

- **Sovereignty**

Sovereignty refers to the supreme authority of a state to govern its territory, population, and internal affairs without external interference. It is one of the fundamental principles of international relations and serves as a cornerstone of modern statehood.

In the context of colonial administration and mandate governance, questions of sovereignty became particularly complex. Many territories were formally placed under international supervision or foreign administration, raising debates regarding the legitimacy of external control and the political rights of local populations.

- **Artificial Borders**

Artificial borders refer to political boundaries that were established without significant consideration of existing ethnic, cultural, or historical divisions among local populations. Such borders were often drawn by external powers during periods of colonial expansion or diplomatic negotiations.

Following the First World War, the redrawing of borders in several regions created new political entities that combined diverse communities within a single state structure. These arrangements frequently generated long-term political tensions and challenges related to national identity, governance, and regional stability.

- **Protectorate**

A protectorate is a political arrangement in which a weaker state formally retains internal authority while placing aspects of its foreign policy, defense, or administration under the protection or control of a more powerful state. Protectorates were commonly established during the era of imperial expansion as a means of extending political influence without direct territorial annexation.

Although protectorates maintained a degree of nominal autonomy, the protecting power often exercised substantial influence over political decisions and administrative structures.

- **Sphere of Influence**

A sphere of influence refers to a geographic region in which a particular state or power holds dominant political, economic, or military influence without necessarily exercising direct administrative control. During the era of imperial competition, major powers frequently sought to establish spheres of influence in strategically important regions.

These arrangements allowed powerful states to secure access to resources, trade routes, and political leverage while limiting the presence of rival powers. In many cases, spheres of influence represented an intermediate form of control between informal influence and direct colonial administration.

- **Imperialism**

Imperialism refers to the policy or practice by which powerful states expand their influence and control over other territories, often through political domination, economic influence, or direct territorial acquisition. During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, imperialism became a defining feature of global politics as European powers competed to expand their influence across Africa, Asia, and the Middle East.

Imperial expansion was often justified through arguments related to economic development, strategic security, or civilizational missions. However, critics argue that imperialism primarily served the political and economic interests of dominant powers while limiting the autonomy and political rights of local populations. The legacy of imperialism played a significant role in shaping the political arrangements that emerged after the First World War, particularly through systems of colonial administration and international mandates.

- **Nationalism**

Nationalism refers to a political ideology and social movement centered on the belief that a group of people sharing common cultural, historical, linguistic, or ethnic characteristics should form an independent and sovereign state. During the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, nationalist movements became increasingly influential in many parts of the world.

Following the end of the First World War, nationalist sentiments intensified in numerous regions where populations sought greater political autonomy or full independence from imperial rule. In territories previously governed by collapsing empires or placed under international mandate systems, nationalist movements frequently challenged foreign administration and demanded the right to self-governance. As a result, nationalism became a major force influencing political developments in the post-war international order.

b. Historical Background

- **World War I and the Collapse of Empires**

The First World War, which began in 1914 and lasted until 1918, marked one of the most significant turning points in modern global history. The conflict involved major world powers divided into two primary alliances: the Allied Powers and the Central Powers. The war was characterized by large-scale military mobilization, industrialized warfare, and unprecedented human and economic losses.

By the end of the war, the geopolitical structure of Europe and the Middle East had undergone a dramatic transformation. Several long-standing empires collapsed, creating political vacuums and uncertainty regarding the future governance of vast territories. Among the most significant of these were the Ottoman Empire, the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and the German Empire.

The collapse of the Ottoman Empire was particularly consequential for the regions of the Middle East and North Africa. For centuries, the Ottoman administration had governed diverse populations across these regions. However, following its defeat in the war, the empire faced territorial partition and external intervention by the victorious Allied Powers.

Similarly, the Austro-Hungarian Empire fragmented into multiple independent states, while the German Empire underwent political restructuring. These developments led to the emergence of new states and the reorganization of borders across Europe.

The dissolution of these empires raised fundamental questions regarding sovereignty, governance, and the political future of newly formed or restructured states. The absence of clear authority in many regions opened the door for external powers to assert influence, setting the stage for new systems of political control, including colonial administration and international mandates.



- **Post-War Negotiations**

Following the end of World War I in 1918, the victorious Allied Powers gathered to decide how the world would be reorganized after the war. These discussions took place mainly during the Paris Peace Conference, which became the central platform for shaping the post-war international system.

The conference was largely dominated by the major Allied powers, particularly the United Kingdom, France, the United States, and Italy. While these states aimed to establish a lasting peace, they also pursued their own political and strategic interests. As a result, the negotiations often reflected a balance between idealistic goals and practical power politics.

One of the key ideas discussed during the conference was the principle of self-determination, strongly promoted by United States President Woodrow Wilson. This principle suggested that people should have the right to decide their own political future. However, in reality, this idea was not applied equally across all regions. In many cases, decisions were made based on the interests of the major powers rather than the wishes of local populations.

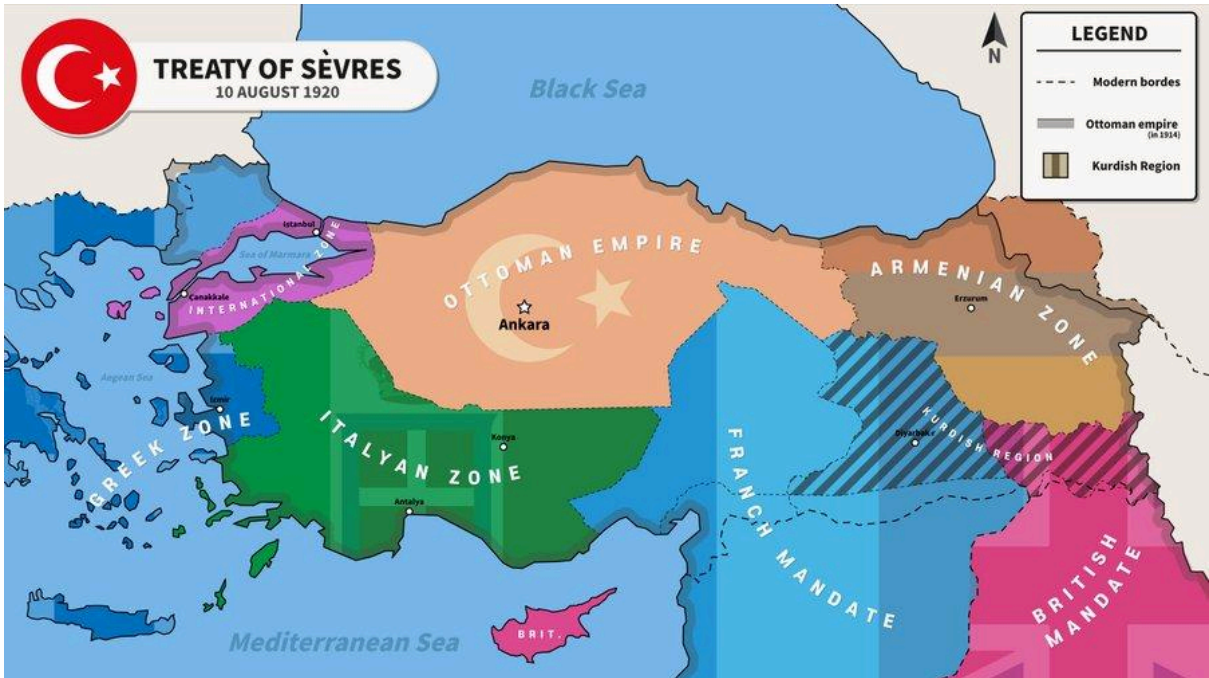
In this context, strategic considerations played a major role in shaping the final agreements. Control over resources, access to trade routes, and regional influence were often prioritized over ethnic or cultural realities. As a result, many borders drawn during this period did not reflect the actual composition of the populations living in those regions.

The negotiations led to several important treaties, including the Treaty of Versailles and the Treaty of Sèvres. These treaties aimed to formalize the post-war order and redefine territorial boundaries.

However, the outcomes of these agreements created new tensions. In many regions, especially those previously under imperial rule, local populations resisted externally imposed arrangements. These developments highlighted the limitations of the post-war settlement and set the stage for further conflicts and political challenges.

Ultimately, the post-war negotiations did not simply create peace; they also reshaped global power structures in ways that would influence international politics for decades. The decisions made during this period directly contributed to the emergence of the mandate system and played a crucial role in the artificial construction of new states.





- **The Mandate System**

Following the decisions made during the Paris Peace Conference, a new system of territorial administration was introduced under the authority of the League of Nations. This system, known as the mandate system, was designed to govern territories that had previously belonged to the defeated powers, particularly the Ottoman Empire and Germany.

The mandate system was officially presented as a form of international responsibility. According to this idea, certain territories were not yet ready to govern themselves and therefore required guidance from more developed nations. These nations, known as mandatory powers, were expected to administer these regions until they could achieve self-governance.

Mandates were divided into three categories based on how “developed” they were considered. Class A mandates, mostly located in the Middle East, were seen as the closest to independence. These included territories such as Iraq, Syria, and Palestine. Class B mandates, mainly in Africa, were placed under greater control, while Class C mandates were treated almost as extensions of the mandatory powers’ own territories.

Despite its stated goals, the mandate system quickly became a subject of criticism. While it was framed as a temporary and supportive arrangement, in practice it often resembled traditional colonial rule. Mandatory powers exercised significant political, economic, and military control over these territories, limiting the ability of local populations to influence their own governance.

In many cases, the borders of mandate territories were drawn with limited consideration for local conditions. Ethnic, cultural, and historical factors were often overlooked, leading to the creation of political entities that lacked internal cohesion. This contributed to long-term instability and tensions within these regions.

The mandate system also reflected the broader imbalance of power in the international system. Major powers were able to legitimize their control over former imperial territories through an international framework, while smaller or weaker groups had limited influence over the decisions that affected them.

As a result, the mandate system became a key example of how colonial administration continued in a new form after the First World War. It played a central role in shaping the political structures of many regions and directly contributed to the artificial construction of states, making it one of the most important issues to be examined within this committee.



- **Colonial Administration in Africa and the Middle East**

Colonial administration in Africa and the Middle East during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries played a central role in shaping the political and social structures of these regions. European powers, particularly the United Kingdom and France, expanded their influence through a combination of direct rule, indirect governance, and economic control. These systems were often justified as efforts to maintain stability and promote development, yet in practice they primarily served the strategic and economic interests of the colonial powers.

In Africa, colonial administration was established through the division of territories among European powers, a process that had begun during the late nineteenth century and continued into the post-World War I period. Colonial authorities frequently imposed administrative structures that disregarded existing ethnic, cultural, and political boundaries. As a result, diverse communities were often governed within artificially defined borders, leading to challenges in political cohesion and long-term stability.

Different colonial powers adopted varying approaches to governance. The British often relied on indirect rule, working through local leaders and existing power structures to maintain control. This approach allowed for a degree of continuity in local governance but still placed ultimate authority in the hands of colonial administrators. In contrast, the French frequently pursued a policy of direct rule, seeking to integrate colonies more closely into their administrative system and impose centralized authority.

These differing approaches had lasting impacts on the regions they governed. In many parts of Africa, colonial policies disrupted traditional systems of authority and altered economic structures. Resources were often extracted for the benefit of the colonial powers, and infrastructure development was largely designed to support these economic goals rather than the needs of local populations.

In the Middle East, the situation developed differently but was similarly shaped by external intervention. Following the collapse of the Ottoman Empire, many territories in the region came under mandate administration, primarily controlled by the United Kingdom and France. Although these mandates were officially intended to prepare territories for independence, in practice they often functioned as extensions of colonial rule.

The borders established in the Middle East during this period were frequently drawn through diplomatic agreements rather than local consultation. These borders often grouped together populations with different ethnic, religious, and cultural identities, while separating others who had previously existed within the same political framework. This contributed to internal tensions and conflicts that would continue to influence the region in the decades that followed.

Colonial administration in both Africa and the Middle East also played a significant role in shaping emerging nationalist movements. As local populations experienced foreign control and limited political participation, demands for self-governance and independence began to grow. These movements challenged the legitimacy of colonial and mandate systems and became a key factor in the political developments of the early twentieth century.

Overall, colonial administration during this period cannot be understood solely as a system of governance. It was also a mechanism through which external powers restructured political authority, controlled resources, and influenced the development of new states. The legacy of these systems is closely linked to the artificial construction of state boundaries and remains central to the issues addressed within this committee.

c. Situation in 1922

By August 1922, the political order established after World War I was increasingly unstable. Agreements created during the post-war negotiations, particularly the Treaty of Sèvres, had attempted to redefine territorial arrangements and governance structures in former imperial regions. However, the implementation of these decisions faced significant resistance, and many of the proposed changes remained contested.

Across several regions, the legitimacy of externally imposed settlements was being questioned. Political authority was often unclear, and competing claims of sovereignty emerged in areas affected by the collapse of empires. These developments created uncertainty regarding borders, governance, and the future political structure of newly defined territories.

At the same time, the mandate system continued to shape large parts of the Middle East, while colonial administrations remained firmly established in many regions of Africa. Although these systems were intended to provide stability, they also generated political tensions. Local populations increasingly demanded greater autonomy, and nationalist movements began to challenge foreign control.

By late August 1922, the post-war settlement had reached a critical point. Diplomatic arrangements made in the immediate aftermath of the war were under pressure, and the sustainability of colonial administration and mandate governance was being debated. The international community faced growing uncertainty regarding how these territories should be governed and whether existing agreements could be maintained.

As the committee begins on 28 August 1922, delegates must evaluate the effectiveness of post-war political arrangements and consider possible alternatives. The decisions taken during this period may influence the future of mandate territories, colonial administrations, and the political structure of emerging states.

d. Background of the Issue

- **Artificial Construction of States**

After World War I, many new states emerged as former empires collapsed and territories were reorganized. However, these new political entities were often created through diplomatic negotiations led by external powers rather than local political agreements. As a result, borders were frequently drawn according to strategic interests instead of ethnic, cultural, or historical realities.

In several regions, communities with different identities were placed within the same political boundaries, while others who had previously shared political structures were separated. These arrangements created challenges for governance and national unity. Governments of newly formed states often faced difficulties in establishing authority, managing diverse populations, and maintaining internal stability.

External influence also played an important role in shaping these states. In many cases, newly created political entities relied on foreign administrative support or mandate supervision. This limited their ability to exercise full sovereignty and contributed to debates over political legitimacy.

The artificial construction of states also encouraged the growth of nationalist movements. As populations reacted to externally defined borders, demands for representation, autonomy, and self-governance increased. These movements often challenged both colonial administrations and mandate authorities, further complicating the political environment.

Overall, the creation of states through external arrangements introduced long-term political challenges. Questions regarding sovereignty, border legitimacy, and governance became central issues in many regions. These challenges remain closely connected to colonial administration and mandate systems, making them essential to the discussions of this committee.

- **Colonial and Mandate Governance Structures**

Following the territorial restructuring after World War I, many regions were placed under colonial administration or mandate governance. These systems were presented as temporary arrangements intended to maintain stability and prepare territories for self-governance. However, in practice, they often limited local political participation and concentrated authority in the hands of external powers.

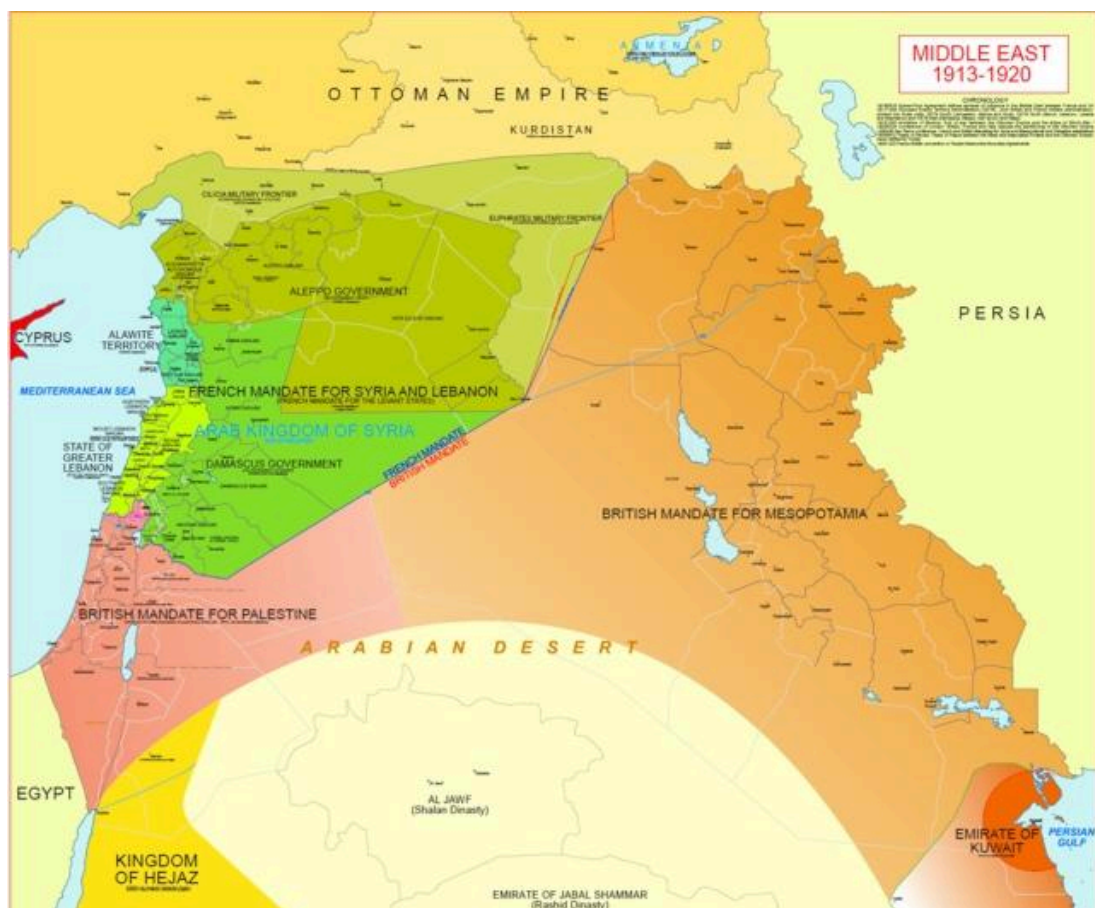
Colonial administrations typically operated through appointed governors, military authorities, or administrative officials representing the interests of the controlling state. These authorities exercised control over political decision-making, economic resources, and security structures. While local leaders were sometimes included in governance, their influence was often restricted, and ultimate authority remained with colonial administrators.

The mandate system introduced a similar structure under international supervision. Mandatory powers were expected to guide territories toward independence, yet they maintained significant control over administration and policy. This created ambiguity regarding sovereignty, as territories were neither fully independent nor formally integrated into the governing power.

These governance systems also affected political development within mandate and colonial territories. Administrative structures were often designed to maintain order rather than encourage local political institutions. As a result, many regions experienced limited opportunities for political representation and decision-making. This contributed to growing dissatisfaction among local populations.

Over time, demands for greater autonomy and self-governance increased. Nationalist movements began to challenge both colonial administrations and mandate authorities. These movements questioned the legitimacy of external control and emphasized the principle of sovereignty. In many regions, this tension between external administration and local political aspirations became a defining feature of the period.

Overall, colonial and mandate governance structures played a major role in shaping the political landscape of the early twentieth century. While these systems aimed to manage transitional territories, they also created debates over legitimacy, sovereignty, and political representation. These issues remain central to understanding the challenges addressed by this committee.



e. Major Parties Involved Great Powers:

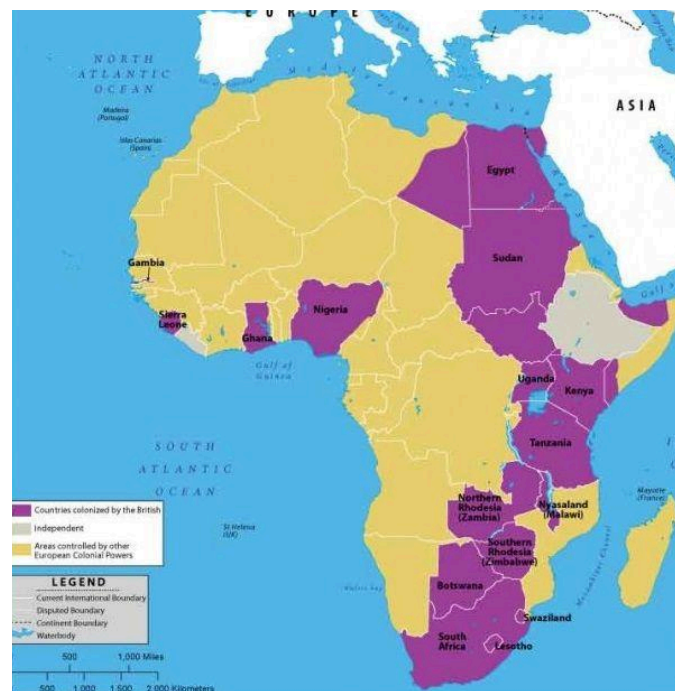
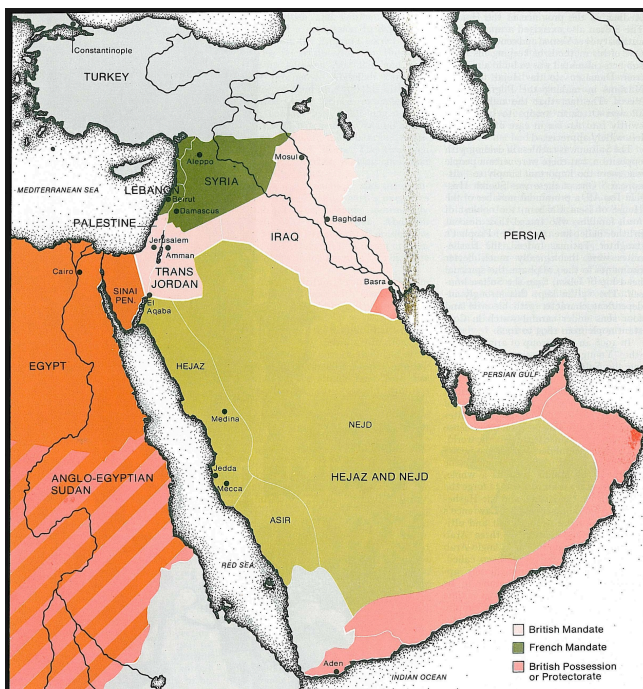
- **United Kingdom**

The United Kingdom was one of the most influential powers in shaping the post–World War I order. After the collapse of the Ottoman Empire, Britain gained significant influence in the Middle East through the mandate system. These territories were strategically important due to their geographic location and economic potential.

British policy generally supported maintaining stability through controlled administration. The United Kingdom favored gradual political development rather than immediate independence for mandate territories. This approach allowed Britain to protect its strategic interests while managing regional transitions.

At the same time, British governance often relied on cooperation with local authorities. This indirect approach aimed to maintain order while limiting administrative costs. However, it also raised questions about sovereignty and the extent of local political participation.

Within this committee, the United Kingdom is likely to prioritize stability, strategic balance, and the continuation of mandate governance as a transitional system.



- **France**

France played a major role in the post-war negotiations and became one of the primary administrators of mandate territories. French influence expanded particularly in the Middle East, where France assumed responsibility for several regions under the mandate system.

French administration generally emphasized centralized control and direct governance. This approach aimed to maintain order and strengthen administrative authority. However, it sometimes led to tensions with local populations seeking greater political autonomy.

France supported the continuation of mandate governance as a way to manage transitional territories. French policy focused on maintaining stability while gradually developing administrative institutions.

In this committee, France is expected to support structured governance, continued mandate administration, and coordinated international oversight of transitional territories.



- **United States**

The United States played an important role in shaping the ideas behind the post–World War I order. American diplomacy emphasized principles such as self-determination, national sovereignty, and the creation of a stable international system. These ideas influenced the discussions surrounding territorial restructuring and political governance after the war.

Although the United States promoted self-determination, its direct administrative involvement in mandate territories remained limited. Instead, the United States often supported international oversight and diplomatic solutions rather than direct colonial control. This position reflected a preference for political stability combined with gradual development of independent governance.

The United States generally favored reducing tensions through negotiation and maintaining balance among major powers. American policy also emphasized the importance of legitimacy and international cooperation when restructuring territories.

Within this committee, the United States is likely to support diplomatic compromise, gradual political transition, and governance structures that move territories toward greater autonomy while maintaining stability.

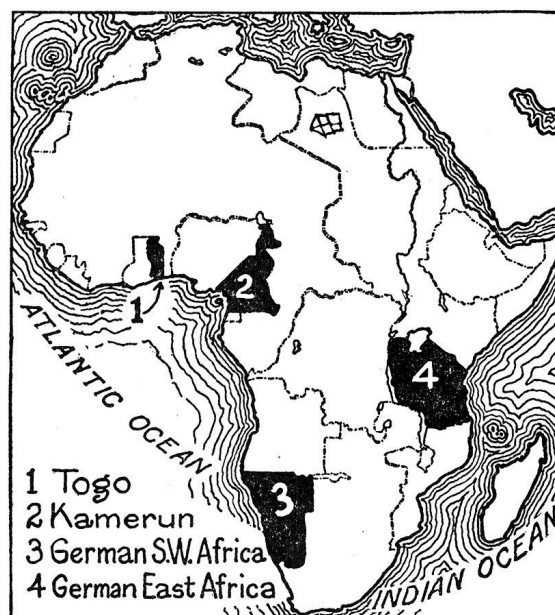
- **Germany**

Germany entered the post–World War I period as a defeated state with limited influence over the new international order. The territorial arrangements and redistribution of former colonies were largely decided without German participation. As a result, Germany lost its overseas territories and its role in colonial administration.

Germany generally viewed the mandate system with doubt. From its perspective, transferring former colonies to other powers did not represent a true transition toward self-governance. Instead, these arrangements appeared to redistribute colonial influence among the victorious states. This position led Germany to question the fairness of the post-war settlement.

At the same time, Germany sought to reestablish itself diplomatically and regain a role in international discussions. German policy emphasized revisiting territorial arrangements and promoting more balanced governance structures. This included questioning whether mandate territories were genuinely being prepared for independence.

Within this committee, Germany is likely to challenge aspects of the post-war order, raise concerns about mandate governance, and advocate for reconsideration of arrangements established after World War I.



- **Italy**

Italy was among the victorious powers of World War I and participated in the negotiations that reshaped the post-war international order. Italian policy during this period focused on securing influence in regions affected by the collapse of empires, particularly in areas of strategic importance in the Mediterranean.

Italy supported territorial adjustments that would strengthen its regional position. While it did not control mandate territories to the same extent as other major powers, Italy remained actively involved in discussions regarding colonial administration and political restructuring. Italian diplomacy often emphasized balancing influence among major powers while pursuing its own strategic interests.

Italy generally favored arrangements that maintained stability while allowing for gradual political development in newly defined territories. At the same time, Italian policy reflected concerns about preserving regional influence and preventing rival powers from gaining dominance.

Within this committee, Italy is likely to advocate for negotiated territorial arrangements, balanced distribution of influence, and governance structures that promote stability without immediate political transformation.

- **Ankara Authority**

By 1922, a political authority based in Ankara had emerged in Anatolia, offering an alternative approach to governance following the collapse of the Ottoman Empire. This leadership emphasized national sovereignty and rejected arrangements that limited political independence.

The Ankara authority focused on preserving territorial integrity and establishing a unified political structure. Its position opposed externally imposed settlements and questioned governance systems that placed territories under foreign administration. This approach reflected growing support for self-rule and stronger national representation.

Unlike more diplomatic approaches, the Ankara leadership prioritized internal legitimacy and centralized authority. It emphasized control over territory and the creation of a stable political structure based on sovereignty.

Within this committee, the Ankara authority is likely to advocate for full independence, rejection of mandate-style governance, and reconsideration of territorial arrangements established after World War I.

- **Ottoman Government (Istanbul)**

By 1922, the Ottoman Government in Istanbul represented the internationally recognized authority of the former Ottoman state. Despite the weakening of imperial power after World War I, the Istanbul government continued to engage in diplomatic relations and sought to preserve its political legitimacy.

The Istanbul administration generally favored negotiation and diplomatic solutions in addressing territorial and political challenges. Its approach focused on maintaining stability and preserving remaining authority within an uncertain political environment. This position often emphasized cooperation with major powers and acceptance of internationally recognized frameworks.

However, the influence of the Istanbul government was increasingly limited. Questions regarding sovereignty, territorial control, and political authority created challenges for governance. These conditions contributed to competing approaches regarding the future political structure of former Ottoman territories.

Within this committee, the Ottoman Government in Istanbul is likely to prioritize diplomatic solutions, preservation of political legitimacy, and negotiated arrangements regarding territorial governance.

Regional Actors:

- **Greece**

By 1922, Greece had become a significant regional actor following World War I and the ensuing territorial negotiations. Greek policy during this period focused on expanding influence and securing territorial claims, particularly in regions affected by the collapse of Ottoman authority.

Greece supported post-war arrangements that strengthened its strategic position and increased its regional presence. These objectives were closely tied to territorial considerations and political influence. As a result, Greece played an active role in discussions regarding governance, sovereignty, and regional stability.

At the same time, Greece faced challenges related to maintaining control over contested areas. Political uncertainty and competing claims of authority contributed to tensions within the region. These developments shaped Greece's diplomatic and strategic priorities.

Within this committee, Greece is likely to prioritize territorial interests, regional stability, and governance arrangements that support its strategic position.

- **Soviet Union**

By 1922, the Soviet Union had emerged as a new political force following the Russian Revolution and subsequent internal conflicts. Its leadership rejected many aspects of the post-World War I order and criticized arrangements shaped by major powers, particularly those involving colonial administration and mandate governance.

Soviet policy emphasized anti-imperialism and supported movements challenging foreign control. This position led the Soviet Union to oppose governance structures that limited sovereignty or placed territories under external administration. As a result, it often favored political arrangements that reduced the influence of colonial powers.

At the same time, the Soviet Union sought to expand its diplomatic presence and influence in regions affected by the collapse of empires. It supported alternative political developments that aligned with principles of self-determination and independence from foreign control.

Within this committee, the Soviet Union is likely to challenge colonial and mandate systems, support sovereignty-based governance, and advocate for reduced external influence in regional political arrangements.

- **Persia**

By 1922, Persia occupied an important position in a region shaped by the collapse of empires and increasing foreign influence. Although formally independent, Persia faced political and economic pressure from external powers seeking influence in the region. This situation created ongoing concerns regarding sovereignty and political autonomy.

Persian policy during this period focused on preserving independence and limiting external interference. The government sought to maintain territorial integrity while balancing diplomatic relations with major powers. These priorities reflected broader concerns about foreign influence and the future political structure of the region.

Persia also observed developments in neighboring territories affected by mandate governance and colonial administration. These developments raised questions regarding sovereignty and regional stability. As a result, Persia emphasized governance structures that respected independence and reduced external control.

Within this committee, Persia is likely to support sovereignty, oppose excessive foreign influence, and advocate for balanced regional arrangements that maintain political independence.

- **Hejaz**

By 1922, the Kingdom of Hejaz was an important regional actor in the Arabian Peninsula. Following the collapse of Ottoman authority, Hejaz sought to establish itself as an independent political entity and strengthen its position in the region.

Hejaz emphasized independence and the right of local populations to determine their own political future. Its leadership aimed to maintain control over key territories while gaining international recognition and support. These priorities were closely linked to broader discussions on sovereignty and post-war political arrangements.

At the same time, Hejaz faced regional challenges, including competing claims of authority and shifting political dynamics within the Arabian Peninsula. These conditions required balancing internal stability with external diplomatic relations.

Within this committee, Hejaz is likely to support independence, emphasize sovereignty, and advocate for governance arrangements that limit external control while strengthening regional authority.

- **Nejd**

By 1922, the Emirate of Nejd had become an increasingly important force in the Arabian Peninsula. Its leadership focused on strengthening internal control and expanding its influence across nearby regions.

Nejd's approach emphasized strong leadership and territorial control. It aimed to unify different areas under a single authority and reduce external influence in regional affairs. This made its position more focused on power and control rather than diplomacy.

At the same time, Nejd operated in a region with multiple competing authorities, including neighboring states and local leaders. These conditions created ongoing tensions and required careful political and strategic decisions.

Within this committee, Nejd is likely to prioritize territorial expansion, strong centralized authority, and independence from foreign influence.

5. Previous International Actions

a. Post-World War I Treaties

Following World War I, several treaties were signed to formalize the new international order. Among the most significant were the Treaty of Versailles and the Treaty of Sèvres.

These treaties aimed to redefine territorial boundaries and establish new political arrangements. However, their implementation often created tensions, as many of the decisions were made without fully considering local conditions. As a result, these agreements became a source of political instability and debate.

Within this committee, these treaties represent the foundation of the current international system and are central to discussions regarding governance and territorial arrangements.

b. International Conferences

In addition to formal treaties, international conferences played a key role in shaping the post-war order. The most notable of these was the Paris Peace Conference, where major powers negotiated the future political structure of Europe and the Middle East.

These conferences provided a platform for diplomatic discussion but were largely dominated by leading powers. As a result, many decisions reflected strategic interests rather than broader international consensus.

The outcomes of these conferences continue to influence political arrangements and remain central to the issues addressed within this committee.

6. Key Challenges

a. Should mandate systems continue?

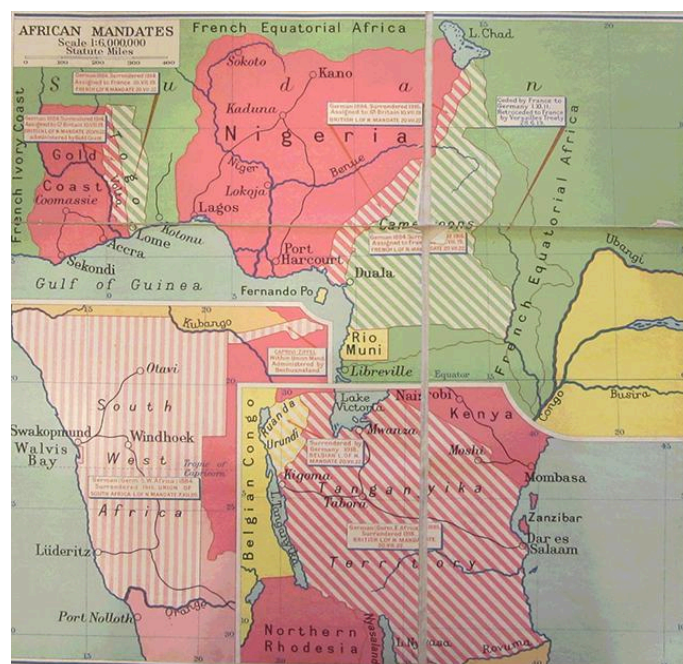
One of the main challenges is determining whether mandate systems should continue to exist. While these systems were introduced as temporary arrangements to guide territories toward self-governance, their effectiveness remains debated. In many cases, mandate administrations limited local political participation and extended external control.

This raises the question of whether mandate systems truly support independence or function as a continuation of colonial rule. Within this committee, delegates must evaluate whether such systems should be maintained, reformed, or completely removed.

b. Who should control former imperial territories?

Another key issue concerns control over territories that were previously governed by empires. Following World War I, many of these regions were placed under external administration, often without direct input from local populations.

Delegates must consider whether these territories should remain under international or foreign control, or transition toward full independence. This challenge is closely linked to questions of legitimacy, representation, and long-term stability.



c. How should borders be determined?

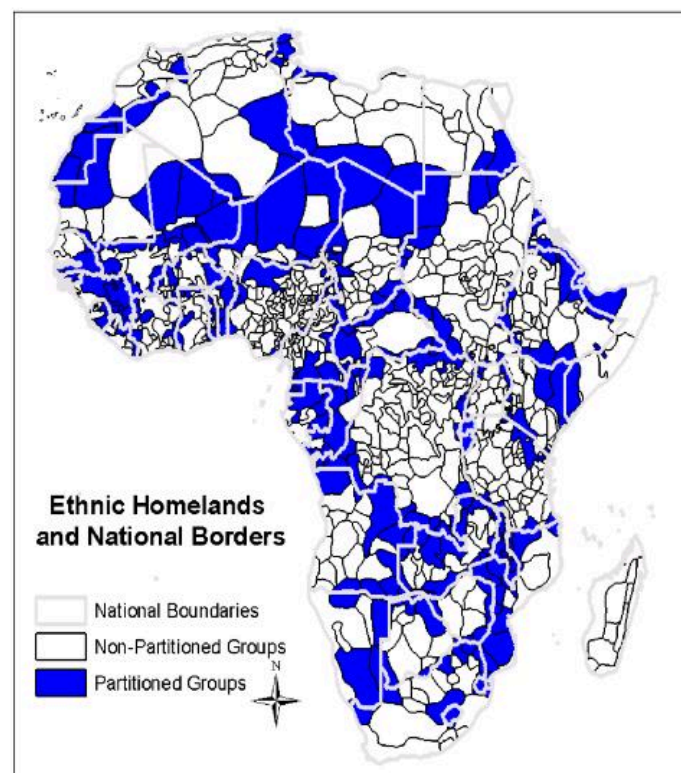
The determination of borders remains a major challenge in the post-war period. Many existing borders were drawn during diplomatic negotiations without fully considering ethnic, cultural, or historical realities.

As a result, several regions face internal tensions and disputes. Delegates must consider how borders can be defined in a way that promotes stability while also respecting the identities and interests of local populations.

d. How can sovereignty be ensured?

Ensuring sovereignty in regions influenced by external powers is another critical issue. Many territories remain under foreign administration or political influence, limiting their ability to make independent decisions.

Delegates must explore ways to balance external involvement with local governance. This includes addressing how political independence can be achieved while maintaining stability and effective administration.



7. Global Effects of Colonial Administration

- **Colonial administration had significant global effects on political, economic, and social structures. In many regions, colonial policies reshaped local governance systems and introduced new administrative frameworks.**
- **Economically, colonial systems often focused on resource extraction and trade, benefiting the controlling powers while limiting local economic development. This created long-term challenges for newly emerging states.**
- **Socially, colonial administration influenced cultural and political identities. In many cases, it contributed to divisions within societies and affected relationships between different communities.**
- **Politically, the legacy of colonial rule continues to influence governance structures and debates over sovereignty. These effects remain visible in many regions and are closely connected to the issues addressed within this committee.**

- **In addition to political and economic impacts, colonial administration also had long-term effects on state formation and governance structures. Many newly established states inherited administrative systems that were originally designed to serve external powers rather than local populations. This created challenges in building effective and representative institutions after the end of colonial rule.**

Colonial policies also influenced patterns of inequality and resource distribution. In many regions, economic systems were structured to prioritize the extraction and export of raw materials. This limited the development of diversified local economies and contributed to long-term economic dependency.

Furthermore, the legacy of colonial rule affected regional relations and international dynamics. Disputes over borders, governance, and political legitimacy continued to shape interactions between states. These ongoing challenges highlight how colonial administration has had lasting global consequences beyond the immediate post–World War I period.

Understanding these global effects is essential for evaluating current political structures and addressing long-standing issues related to sovereignty, governance, and international cooperation.

8. Questions to Consider

1. To what extent were post–World War I territorial arrangements shaped by the interests of major powers rather than the needs of local populations?
2. Should mandate systems be viewed as a temporary step toward independence or as a continuation of colonial rule?
3. What criteria should be used when determining the borders of newly formed states?
4. How can political stability be maintained in regions with diverse ethnic and cultural populations?
5. What role should external powers play in the governance of transitional territories?
6. How can sovereignty be ensured in regions influenced by foreign administration?
7. Should existing post-war agreements, such as those defining territorial arrangements, be maintained or reconsidered?
8. How can competing authorities within the same region be addressed in a stable and effective manner?
9. What balance should be established between self-determination and international oversight?
10. How might current decisions affect the long-term political development of newly formed states?

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