

# Position Papers

The following documents are the official Position Papers for the countries represented in the UN Security Council meeting concerning the The use of Chemical weapons and crimes against humanity in Syria. The papers are drafted for the use in this MUN. It is of great importance that you have read the position paper of your designated country before the sessions begins. The following states are members of the council during the conference. Along with the elected members of the council, the Syrian Arab Republic has been invited to the meeting, since the situation in Syria is the agenda of the council.

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# Plurinational State of Bolivia

Bolivia is an elected member of the UNSC with its term ending in 2018, thus making Bolivia keen to push their own agenda in the UNSC forward. Bolivia has had political conflicts with the United States and are therefore turning against them and has in that regard turned to Russia and Iran. However, the stance of Bolivia, with regards to Syria, are more aligned with those of China, and most of the elected members of the council, and should thus also consult with them when finding a solution to the conflict.

Bolivia condemns the use of chemical weapons, given that Bolivia believes this is a serious crime against international law and international peace and security. Bolivia therefore also deem that those responsible for committing such crimes ought to be identified, investigated and prosecuted. This being the Syrian government, the American or any other. Furthermore, Bolivia continues to demand a transparent and impartial investigation to determine who the culprits are.

Bolivia condemns the use of force in Syria from other members of the council (mainly the United States), Bolivia does not believe you can combat the alleged violations of international law by violating international law and see it as disrespectful to the United Nations that given members have used force towards Syria and have bypassed the decisions the United Nations have made. Bolivia believes this should be put to an end.

Bolivia strongly believes that the only solution to the problems in Syria is to follow the principles and the purpose of the United Nations charter and that the solutions found through a multilateral political approach, and not through military engagement.

# People's Republic of China

China is deeply worried about the current situation in Syria. The continued conflict has brought sufferings to the Syrian people and impacted peace and stability in the Middle East. China is certain that political settlement is the only realistic way out of the Syrian crisis.

China is a permanent member of the UNSC. In the UNSC China is a part of the neutral bloc of the council and will most likely find allies among other countries from the neutral bloc. However, China has on a few occasions found an ally in the Russian Federation, especially when dealing with the Syrian issue.

China is not willing to condemn states of their actions when they are protecting its civilian population. China believes in condemning terrorist attacks by military fractions that are trying to make a state insecure. This is seen in the light of China's national situation – with many different ethnic minorities, where some, according to the Chinese government, are trying to cause instability in the country. In these cases, China does not frown upon neutralizing the opposition. China does, however, frown upon any resolution that infringes on a country's national sovereignty.

China strongly condemns the use of chemical weapons and attacks against civilians by any country, organization, or person under any circumstances. However, China believes that no state can be blamed for a chemical attack before the substantive evidence and conclusion that can stand the test of time is available. China does not believe in unilateral responses and calls on all parties to refrain from such actions. However, it does not believe in condemning the US attack. However, China passionately believes that any state, organization, or individual who uses chemical weapons should be brought to justice. But facts are needed to find the perpetrator and China, therefore, cannot support charging any state or head of state for war crimes or crimes against humanity until impartial investigations have been conducted and reported to the council. Following this, the Chinese delegation does not believe in sanctioning any state at an early stage.

China has kept a responsible attitude on the Syrian issue. China is committed to protecting the fundamental interests of the Syrian people, keeping peace and stability in the Middle East region, and upholding the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and basic norms governing international relations. China has made consistent efforts to promote peace and encourage dialogue, adamantly supported, and actively promoted the political settlement of the Syrian issue. China will respect and support any settlement plan on the Syrian issue if it is widely accepted by all relevant parties in Syria. China has watched closely the humanitarian situation in Syria. China has given humanitarian aid to the Syrian people, including Syrian refugees in other countries, as our ability permits, and will continue to do so.

# Côte d'Ivoire/Ivory Coast

Officially known as Republic of Côte d'Ivoire is a sovereign state located in West Africa. The bordering countries of Côte d'Ivoire are Guinea, Liberia, Burkina Faso, Mali and Ghana. The population is estimated to 23,740,424 people in 2018 which is lower than the population in 2017 meaning that the population is currently decreasing. The country is organized into 12 districts, which are further organized into 31 regions.

Almost 65% of land is agricultural land. Furthermore, water pollution is currently one of the biggest climate issues that the country is facing.

Côte d'Ivoire became an independent country on August 7th, 1960. The economy is among one of the most developed in the sub-Saharan Africa. The country functions as the world's largest exporter of cocoa and one of the largest exporters of coffee. In 2003 the country signed CTBT (Comprehensive Nuclear-Test Ban Treaty) to stop the testing of nuclear weapons. Overall the country is deeply marked by civil war throughout the 00's and again in 2011. The first civil war happened between rebels and the French troops, though it was unclear whether France supported the government or the rebels. In 2011 Côte d'Ivoire experienced an ethnical motivated attack in the western part of the country. Over 236 people were found dead in only 3 months during the conflict.

At a UN meeting in the security council, Bernard Tanoh-Boutchoue said that the delegation of Côte d'Ivoire was deeply troubled when a report showed that there had been potential use of chemical weapons in Syria – specifically in eastern Ghouta. This caused a considerable step back in the abolition of chemical weapons in Syria.

Côte d'Ivoire intent on putting the suffering of the country's people to an end. The country aims to take an emphatic distance towards the use of chemical weapons in Syria.

The country knows that the value of the Security Council's actions to protect civilians during armed conflicts is indispensable. Côte d'Ivoire currently has the following stance on the use of chemical weapons:

“Chemical weapons, which comprise toxic chemicals and their precursors (toxic chemicals which can cause death, permanent harm or temporary incapacitation to animals and humans) as well as devices and munitions intended to transport these toxic chemicals, are banned.”

# Republic of Equatorial Guinea

Equatorial Guinea is a non-permanent member of the UNSC. It holds a seat until 2019. In the discussion of the Syrian situation Equatorial Guinea will likely find allies in the other African nations on the UNSC, Côte d'Ivoire and Ethiopia. Equatorial Guinea does not identify with any of the two major blocs lead by the US and Russia. The country urges members of the UNSC to concentrate on solving the issue and forget about alliances. Equatorial Guinea has previously abstained in some votes that was only about bloc positions as it has not wished to identify with either side.

The situation in Syria is very serious. The Syrian people are suffering, and a political agreement is needed to stop the suffering. It is top priority for Equatorial Guinea to stop the conflict and end the suffering and thus the country supports all solutions that can that end the war. Equatorial Guinea calls for immediate ceasefire which will save human lives and allow for humanitarian help to be given to those in need. The international community has an obligation to prevent a humanitarian disaster.

In the war in Syria chemical weapons has been used. As a member of the OPCW Equatorial Guinea is firm that such use of chemical weapons does not go unpunished. Equatorial Guinea calls for immediate destruction of all chemical weapons in Syria. Any use of chemical weapons is a threat to international peace and security.

Chemical weapons attacks, however, do not justify the airstrikes carried out by the US, UK and France. Equatorial Guinea rejects the use of force and condemns these attacks. Military intervention does not help. It will only lengthen the war and add to the suffering of the people. A political solution is the only way forward.

Such a political solution is almost impossible because of the presence of terrorist groups in Syria. To ensure the durability of a political solution these groups must be defeated and removed from Syria. A future political solution can only be achieved through direct, frank and inclusive negotiations. All political, ethnic and religious groups must participate in such negotiations.

Equatorial Guinea calls on the UNSC to unite in order to achieve a solution that will bring an end to the suffering of the Syrian people. As stated earlier, the safety of the Syrian people is the top priority for Equatorial Guinea.

# Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia is primarily concerned with a fast, diplomatic solution to the current crisis. Ethiopia is not particularly concerned with keeping the current regime in power, but strongly believes in a peaceful solution as well as a post-war effort to stabilize the country. It believes the political chaos which will likely arise from any military intervention against the Assad regime could result in severe consequences.

The use of chemical weapons is viewed as abhorrent by Ethiopia, especially considering its own history with chemical weapons during the Italian fascist occupation of the state. However, Ethiopia remains hesitant on condemning the Syrian government as it is vital that any condemnation and subsequent action is entirely based on hard, impartial evidence. Recently, Ethiopia chose to abstain on a vote to condemn the regime on this sentiment. The Democratic Republic of Ethiopia strongly encourages the council to instead exert pressure on all conflicting parties to reach a conciliatory agreement and end armed conflict as soon as possible.

Ethiopia is very sympathetic towards the civilians caught in the conflict and the protection of and future stability for the Syrian people is its highest priority. Ethiopia is itself a recipient of many refugees from its own neighbouring countries and understand the perils of displaced people. Syria currently risks losing an entire generation of young people who will not be able to get an education, nor a stable upbringing and the future of the nation depends on a quick de-escalation and reconstruction of societal structures.

# French Republic

France is one of the five permanent members of the UNSC and thus holds the veto power. This should be used sparingly, and it is not a tool to trump one's own views in the council. Vetoes do not replace diplomacy. France has been one of three countries in strong opposition to the Syrian Government and the Russian Federation's defence of Syria in the council through its use of vetoes. Therefore, the delegation of France should turn to the UK and the US when looking for support among the council members.

France condemns the use of chemical weapons and firmly believes the UNSC should condemn the Syrian Government and its clear violations of its responsibility to protect its population, on several occasions (e.g. the attack in Kahn Shaykun or the one in Douma) and even charge the Syrian Government in the international Criminal Court for constituting war crimes and crimes against humanity.

France also believes it is far beyond the time of action and justifies its participation in airstrikes on Syrian military installations following the CW attack in Douma, in 2018, as a clear sign that breaches of international law, and the use of Chemical weapons will not be tolerated under any circumstances. It further echoes the message from the United Kingdom and the United States that these attacks are not about regime change, but about sending a strong signal regarding the use of chemical weapons.

Following this, France argues that any nation using, or protecting nations using chemical weapons should be sanctioned by the international community. These sanctions should also be imposed on the Russian government for protecting the Syrian government.

France believes that the current political situation in Syria is so unstable that it therefore is crucial to find a solution that can secure stability. France believes that this can only be done if the current government is dismissed and a new one is inaugurated.

# Republic of Kazakhstan

Kazakhstan is an elected member of the UNSC with its term ending in 2018. On the subject of Syria, Kazakhstan has an official policy of neutrality. Thus, its views lie in line with those of China and several of the non-permanent member states. The delegation should therefore turn to these states when looking for allies in the council. Kazakhstan should consider whether the optimal negotiations should be in depth regarding a practical solution or if a vaguer resolution, to which a consensus can be achieved, and further work be build upon, is better than a strongly worded resolution, which could be more divisive.

Kazakhstan strongly condemns the use of chemical weapons, and stresses that the use of such weapons is totally unacceptable under any circumstances. It is clear that there must be repercussions for the use of these weapons, but such repercussions should not be initiated unless irrefutable evidence proves this is justified in international law. Of highest importance is not establishing who is responsible, but what has happened. Restraint should therefore be exercised by all nations, until irrefutable evidence is on the table.

Kazakhstan believes the use of chemical weapons are to be considered as crimes against humanity, but echoing the importance of the burden of proof in international law, contends that charges against any person or state should be substantiated by irrefutable evidence. In line with this, if such evidence should be evident, the persons responsible should definitely be brought to justice, and the consequences of such actions be proportionate to the seriousness of the crimes. However, this requires a truly independent investigative mechanism, in any shape or form, capable of investigating any evidence available, and reach decisive conclusions.

Kazakhstan remains fully and unconditionally committed to the principle of sovereignty of all nation states. Thus, no nation should act without the consent of the Security Council in the legitimate business of any other nation state. Further, Kazakhstan remains committed to finding a durable solution to the situation in Syria. As a chief mediator in the Astana process, it accepts the international community's responsibility to address the situation. And though it remains committed to the Astana process, it acknowledges that Geneva should remain the main international platform for finding a political solution, and refrains from committing any military personel to the conflict.

Kazakhstan believes a political solution should be based on the will of the syrian people, and argues that it is the Syrians themselves who should shape the country's future political system. However, Kazakhstan does not deem it necessary to replace the current regime.

# State of Kuwait

The situation in Syria is very serious. The Syrian people is facing a catastrophic humanitarian situation and the international community must act to help civilians. Being located close to Syria, Kuwait is concerned that the unrest in Syria will spread to the rest of the region. The refugees from Syria has challenged several neighbouring countries. Therefore, Kuwait praises the humanitarian help given by countries like Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq and Egypt. To stop the suffering of the Syrian people a political solution needs to be found and Kuwait supports the UN in its efforts to obtain such a solution.

Kuwait is a non-permanent member of the UNSC. The country holds a seat until 2019. Even before becoming a member of the UNSC Kuwait played an important role in dealing with the humanitarian situation in Syria. The country has been a driver of humanitarian assistance both by providing funds itself and by organizing conferences that bring together the international community to coordinate relief efforts. The first annual conference was in 2013 and together with the two following ones it was hosted by Kuwait. In the UNSC Kuwait has been working together with Sweden since both countries focuses on the humanitarian situation for the Syrian people. Kuwait is normally allied with USA and Kuwait is part of the US led coalition against ISIS, but Kuwait condemns the airstrikes committed by the USA because the strikes undermined the process of reaching a political solution. Such actions must be coordinated by the UNSC so on some issues Kuwait will disagree with USA. At several occasions Kuwait has stressed its support for the independence, unity and integrity of Syria. The Syrian people are to decide their future themselves. Kuwait welcomes the contributions of the opposition group the National Coalition for Syrian Revolutionary and Opposition Forces. Kuwait believes the international community should make the parties stop fighting and start negotiating. A future government needs to include everyone no matter their religion or ethnicity. Kuwait shows a good example with its inclusion of minority Shia Muslims.

A ceasefire will also help the Syrian people. They are suffering, and their suffering has only been aggravated by the use of chemical weapons. The use of chemical weapons is unforgivable and the parties responsible for these actions must be held accountable.

Kuwait emphasize the importance of finding a solution to peace. A solution can bring stability to Syria and the region, and peace will stop the suffering among the Syrian people.

# Netherlands

The Netherlands is a non-permanent member state in the UN, their membership ends in 2018, so they are keen on putting the agenda of Netherlands into action.

The Netherlands stresses the importance of establishing peace and stability in Syria, so that the country may be rebuilt and refugees able to return to their rightful homes. In order to guarantee the safety of the Syrian people and relieve the pressure laid upon the international community, the foundation for the well-being and prosperity of Syria has to be laid within reasonable time. A functioning Syrian state, who does not use chemical weapons against its own population, must be established to achieve this. Such a state cannot be established under the command of the current president, Bashar al-Assad, as he and his government divides the people of Syria and plays a big part in the cause of the current war in Syria and the humanitarian crises. Because Assad has shown little to no willingness to cooperate in ending the conflict and has repeatedly terrorized his own people, he must be removed from power and an interim government must be put in place, whilst the country is rebuilt.

Therefore, we urge the UNSC to remove Assad from power and support the reconstruction of Syria, to build a stable and independent state by financing the construction of hospitals, infrastructure, schools and water pumps, which will end the humanitarian crises and raise the living standards of the Syrian people.

The Netherlands condemns the use of Chemical weapons by Bashar al-Assad and his regime and is a firm believer that the disarmament of chemical and biological weapons will lead to a peaceful world, as is one of the objectives of the UNSC. In belief of this the Netherlands have ratified the Geneva protocol, the biological weapons convention and the chemical weapons convention.

Bashar al-Assad has shown little to no willingness to end the conflict, nor has he shown any willingness to follow the Geneva Protocol, concerning the use of chemical weapons and attacking innocent civilians.

Bashar al-Assad and his regime should be taken to the International Court of Justice or the International Criminal Court to be prosecuted for the crimes against humanity, the genocide of the Kurdish people and the war crimes of using chemical weapons.

# The Republic of Peru

The Republic of Peru has great concern about the recent events in Syria and emphasizes the importance of preventing the situation from spiralling out of control. Peru supports a political solution to the problem in Syria.

Peru is a non-permanent member of the UNSC. Peru is no stranger to the UNSC, as it has served as a member on four occasions so far: 1955-1956, 1973-1974, 1985-1986, and 2006-2007. In other words, the country is part of one of the most important bodies of the United Nations almost once a decade, a significant accomplishment of the Peruvian diplomatic corps over the years.

The Peruvian Government strongly condemned the use of chemical weapons in Idlib that claimed at least 86 innocent lives, including several children.

The Republic of Peru considers the use of chemical weapons as atrocities committed in open defiance of human rights, a war crime and a threat to international peace and security. It does not matter if the perpetrator is a state, country, organization, or person, Peru strongly condemns the use of chemical weapons. Peru also most firmly condemns the lack of accountability in ongoing incidents involving the use of chemical weapons in Syria, which undermines the international non-proliferation regime, as well as prospects for peace. Peru would rather see a more political solution to the problem in Syria, than the US is currently putting forth.

Peru is of the belief that any state, organization or individual who uses chemical weapons or in other ways violate a populations' human rights should be brought to justice. Nonetheless, Peru believes that facts are needed to bring perpetrators to justice, but at this time the lack of accountability in ongoing incidents involving the use of chemical weapons, makes it difficult to acquire the facts needed before any state can be sanctioned. Peru however believes that once proven guilty perpetrators should be sanctioned.

Peru is concerned about the accuracy of the Syrian Government's declarations, Peru believes that the Syrian authorities must be encouraged to provide all information without delay. Paying tribute to the Fact-Finding Mission, work must be complemented by an independent mechanism that would make it possible to assign responsibility for the use of chemical weapons in line with international law.

# Poland

Poland is one of the non-permanent members of the UNSC and is honoured to be a member of the UNSC. Therefore, Poland looks forward to international co-operation to create a better and peaceful world. Poland stresses the importance of finding a sustainable solution to end the conflict in Syria. Which is not just hurting Syria, but also the rest of the world.

Poland stresses the importance of upholding the authority of international law, for without international law the sovereignty and territorial integrity of lesser countries will never be upheld. Therefore, Poland condemns all actions taken by Bashar al-Assad and his regime, to use chemical weapons against civilians, which is against the Geneva protocol and the Chemical weapons convention which both have been signed and accepted by Syria. The delegation of Poland urges all member states to work together to find a solution to force Syria to uphold international law, which have been accepted by Syria. Poland stresses the importance of forcing a disarmament of Chemical weapons in Syria through diplomatic actions, which will deescalate the crisis, and help bringing peace to the people of Syria.

Poland do not look fond upon the actions taken by the USA, UK and France and stresses the importance of finding a diplomatic solution and not a military solution. A military solution will destabilize the middle east even more. Therefore, it is important that we find a solution here today.

The delegation of Poland finds another problem that have risen from the conflict in Syria, the refugee crises. The refugee crises have taken a toll on the European countries. With a stream of refugees fleeing into European countries, to find a better life, Poland is one off the European countries who are taking in a lot of refugees. Poland thinks that this problem can be solved with focusing the humanitarian aid, which is send to Syria and the rest of the middle east on developing the area and its living standards, so the people of Syria can live there, and at some point, move back to a normal life when the situation is stabilized. This job can be done with cooperation with UNDP (United Nation Development Program).

# The Russian Federation

The Russian Federation is primarily concerned with keeping the current regime in power and stabilizing the situation in Syria without military interference against the regime. So far it has vetoed every resolution by the UNSC calling for military action against the Assad regime as well as a resolution to grant UN investigators a wider mandate on chemical weapons in Syria as it can be seen as the UNSC simply looking for an excuse to topple the current government.

Syria is currently Russia's most important ally in the Middle Eastern region, and The Russian Federation will go to great lengths to protect the current regime. If the regime loses power, Russia risks losing its foothold in the Middle East as well as Tartus, which is its only military port accessing the Mediterranean Sea. Thus, a replacement of the current regime could result in serious strategic losses for The Russian Federation and a western domination in the region.

So far, The Russian Federation has backed diplomatic solutions rather than military ones, trying to de-escalate the conflict through destruction of Syrian chemical weapon deposits.

There is currently some common ground between The Russian Federation and its opposing bloc regarding counter-terrorist activity. However, The Russian Federation takes a broader view of what it considers terrorist groups than many other nations in the council and is firmly against the rebel groups involved in the Syrian civil war such as The Free Syrian Army and YPG. Because the Syrian government is defending itself against terrorist groups, the regime is not committing war crimes but is acting accordingly considering the immense threat to itself and its people. Furthermore, it is not entirely certain that the chemical attacks were carried out by regime forces and may be a ploy to escalate the conflict conducted by other parties. The Russian Federation therefore condemns unnecessary aggression against the current power-holders as well as the funding and training of rebel groups.

The Russian Federation wishes for the current diplomatic de-escalation to continue and for the chemical weapons to be rounded up and destroyed. It recognizes that this will be difficult in a time of civil war and will therefore opt for a fairly flexible deadline for the destruction. It also wishes for the UNSC to primarily focus on the threat of dangerous terrorist groups to the Syrian people.

# Kingdom of Sweden

Sweden is strongly concerned with the current situation in Syria and hopes the UNSC can find a solution that will bring lasting peace to the country.

Historically, Sweden has stayed free of alliances. Nowadays Sweden cooperates with NATO, but Sweden is not a member. Sweden is a member of the EU and will probably look to the other EU members UK and France to find alliances even though the countries have disagreement on part of the Syrian issue. To handle the humanitarian crisis in Syria, Sweden has also worked with Kuwait in the UNSC

During its membership of the UNSC Sweden has been working hard to find a political solution to the civil war in Syria. Sweden supports the OPCW factfinding mission. Sweden has also contributed with SEK 2,3 billion in humanitarian aid to those in need in Syria and its neighbouring countries, since the civil war broke out.

Sweden is looking for a solution that addresses multiple aspects of the issue. Most importantly it is to secure the Syrian people. To obtain this Sweden proposes to send a high-level disarmament team who can solve the outstanding issue on the use of chemical weapons. It is also essential that a resolution answers the enormous need for humanitarian help among civilians.

Justice needs to happen as well. Countries, who have been involved in the use of chemical and the leaders of these countries should be punished for their actions. However, the use of chemical weapons does not justify military strikes on Syria. Attacks like the ones committed by the USA risk to expand conflict instead of deescalating it. All actions should be decided upon in the UNSC and be based on international law. Sweden believes this is the best way forward in order to gain lasting peace.

The UNSC needs to agree on a framework for peace. This should aim to fulfil the wishes of the Syrian people. It needs to aid the people in building a strong democracy. Sweden welcomes actions that helps the Syrian civil society as this will be a key part of a new state. Finally, Sweden believes a solution for peace should emphasize human rights, especially for women, so that gender equality in Syria can improve. If the UNSC manages to take care of these different aspects of the problem Sweden is hopeful that peace can be settled in Syria.

# Syrian Arab Republic

The Syrian Arab Republic, in being party to the dispute, one of the main actors in the situation under discussion, and not an elected member of the Security Council, is only partaking in these discussions after invitation by the council. Syria finds several voices in the Council which are sympathetic for its policies, namely Russia, Bolivia, and Iran, to which they will turn to ensure their views are represented in votes. In being present as an observer, Syria does not have voting rights on substantive matters (Resolutions and amendments), but does have voting rights on procedural matters (moderated/unmoderated caucuses, etc.). However, Syria can write draft resolutions and introduce these to the committee, as long as they meet the criterias specified in the Rules of Procedure.

The Syrian government is fighting insurgencies in the form of rebels, actively trying to overthrow the government, terrorists actively perpetrating heinous crimes inside and outside of Syria, and faces a humanitarian crisis of wild proportions. However, international actors acting in the country is clearly not helping the situation and Syria reminds all nations that the government complied fully with the destruction of its chemical stockpiles, and therefore doesn't have the capabilities to conduct CW attacks.

Syria believes the US, France and the UK should be condemned for its aggression towards another sovereign state, a clear violation of the UN charter. Syria is against condemning the syrian government for the chemical weapons attack on Khan Shaykun as it is the belief of the syrian government that the attack was a story made up by the americans to authorise a military attack, and further argues the most recent attack in Douma was carried out by the aforementioned rebels.

The syrian government strongly believes, in line with the condemnation of the US, that sanctions should be put in place against the US for aggressions towards a sovereign member of the UN. The syrian government does not believe sanctions should be put in place against their government as it is not the syrian army who has used chemical weapons, but instead it is either the armed rebels or the stories of other states.

Accordingly, Syria is against charging any nation with crimes and against humanity.

Syria is of the belief that the most stable political solution is with president Bashar Al-Assad as the leader of the Syrian Arab Republic. It is the stance of the syrian government that no foreign power or the UN should interfere with the internal political solution of any nation state, including Syria, and it is thus continuing its work in improving the life of all syrians instead of interfering with the legitimate business of a sovereign nation state.

# United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

The UK strongly condemns the brutal actions the Syrian regime has committed against their own people. The UK urges the UNSC to find a solution that can bring peace and stability to Syria.

The UK is a permanent member of the UNSC. In the UNSC the UK will most likely find the United States of America and France to be their closest allies as these three nations has already worked together in preventing chemical weapon attacks. The UK might also find allies among the other EU and NATO members.

The UK is already taking action to aid the Syrian people. This includes providing medical equipment, training medical personnel and protecting medical facilities. The UK hopes the international community will protect humanitarian workers and help them gain access to those in need. Also, the international community needs to come together to establish a corridor through which civilians can escape.

The UK has acted to stop the use of chemical weapons in the conflict. After the horrific chemical weapon attack in Douma the UK joined the USA and France in an airstrike targeting chemical weapons facilities. The airstrike aimed to degrade the chemical weapons facilities controlled by the Syrian regime. The UK joined the airstrike as no other alternative was possible. The UK fears further use of chemical weapons. The UK hopes the airstrike will deter any party from using chemical weapons again. To prevent another use of chemical weapons the UK suggests strengthening the OPCW. The UK believes that the parties responsible for the chemical weapons attacks are of course to be punished and sanctioned properly for their monstrosities.

The UNSC should however not forget the importance of finding a long-lasting solution that will bring peace to Syria and give the Syrian people the democracy they are entitled to. The UK strongly consider the need for a regime change. The UK support the High Negotiation Committee. The HNC is an organization that represent the opposition to the regime. The new government need to include and represent everyone no matter their religion or ethnicity as this is seen to be the only government that can bring lasting stability to Syria.

# United States of America

The Syria conflict has killed many people in the last years. People have been killed with weapons and chemicals weapons. The United States of America commands that the Syrian Government has to stop using Chemicals weapons. Chemicals weapons should and will not be allowed in this conflict. The Syrian population has the right to be protected. They have the right to be protected by their government, but the Syrian Government has attacked it's own population.

The US government wants the Syrian government to hand over all their chemical weapons to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW). It wants ,together with its alliances, to press the Syrian government to fully cooperate with the OPCW, destroy remaining chemical weapons and dismantle the entirely chemical weapons program.

However, if the Syrian government does not stop using chemical weapons the United States of America and its alliances will take action again. Accordingly, the US does not believe it should be condemned for the missile strike as it acted in accordance with statements by US officials and according to its international responsibility regarding the breaches of R2P and previous UNSC resolutions.

The United States of America believes that any nation state which aids the Syrian government in committing war crimes and crimes against humanity should cease such operations or meet pressure from the council. As the US government believes the supportive countries of the Syrian Government are accessory to this war crime, the US wants everyone to rethink what they are doing and stop this mass murder. Likewise, the United States of American finds that states using chemical weapons against its own population is in clear violation of its Responsibility to Protect and should, therefore, face sanctions under Chapter VII of the UN charter.

The US does not believe the current political landscape in Syria is suited for the future and therefore believes the Syrian government and president Assad should step down and allow a new democratic government to lead Syria. Therefore, the US strongly requests the Syrian army stops its use of force against its own citizens to allow for humanitarian relief, and a political solution. However, The US has shown that it is willing to and capable of using military force if the Syrian government does not obey the UNSC resolutions.