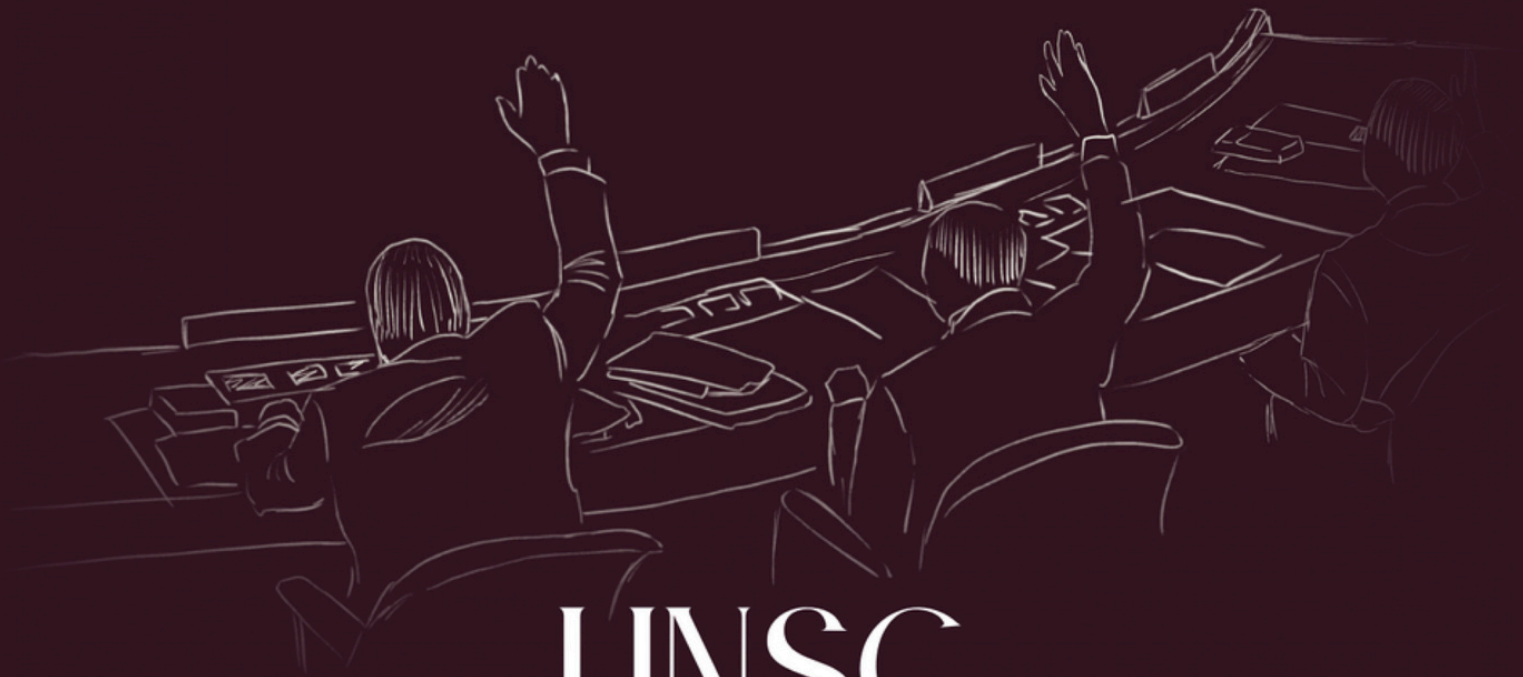


KADIKOYMUN'26

Study Guide



UNSC



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1. Letter from the Secretary Generals

Distinguished delegates and most esteemed participants,

It is my pleasure and honor to serve as the Secretary General of Kadıköymun'26, which will allow you to participate in fruitful debates and solve crises. In the second edition of Kadıköymun, we prepared six engaging committees for you to improve yourselves and speak up as countries.

I poured my whole heart, experiential knowledge and determination on this conference along with my teammates, to provide you the best possible conference you can experience. I would like to once again extend my gratitude towards all teams, especially the academy team, for preparing the study guides tirelessly for you.

You as participants are not people. You are representatives, countries, role models and many more. Let this conference be a light in people's heart and a sense of hope for humanity, particularly for those who are oppressed. The time will come for us, and for them.

With my warmest regards,

Elif Beyza Tüfekçi

Secretary General of Kadıköymun'26



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Distinguished delegates and esteemed participants

It is my privilege, as your Secretary-General, to welcome you to Kadıköy Model United Nations Conference.

In a world marked by rapid change, rising tensions, and unprecedented global challenges, the role of youth in shaping the future has never been more vital. MUN is not merely an academic exercise; it is a training ground for leadership, diplomacy, and collective action. Here, every delegate – regardless of experience or background – has the opportunity to think critically, speak courageously, and collaborate across differences.

Throughout this conference, you will be challenged to confront complex issues, to defend your positions with integrity, and to seek solutions that extend beyond borders. You will debate security and development, human rights and technology, sustainability and global governance. But above all, you will learn that diplomacy is built on respect, empathy, and the willingness to listen.

As you prepare your arguments and refine your strategies, remember that the most impactful delegates are not those who speak the loudest, but those who elevate the discourse, build bridges between opposing viewpoints, and lead with purpose.

We encourage you to embrace every moment – the intense negotiations, the late-night drafting sessions, the breakthroughs and setbacks – for they are the heart of what makes MUN transformative.

On behalf of the Secretariat, I wish you productive debates, meaningful connections, and an unforgettable experience. May this conference inspire you not only to understand the world, but to improve it.

Zeynep Reyhan Aktaş

Secretary General of Kadıköymun'26

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3 .Letter from the Under Secretary General

Most esteemed delegates,

I, Saniyar Safari, have the honor of addressing you regarding the Cuban Missile Crisis as the Under Secretary General for the H-UNSC of KADIKÖYMUN'25, together with my hardworking academic assistant whom I am very proud of, Güneş Ela Tuğran.

Our agenda challenges you to delve into a conflict that brought the world to the brink of nuclear war and reshaped global Cold War dynamics. Occurring in October 1962, this crisis saw two superpowers—armed and ideologically opposed—locked in a standoff that could have altered the course of history. As members of the international community and the UNSC, you must explore not only the immediate tensions of the event, but also its long-lasting implications on global diplomacy and security.

This conference offers a platform for critical thinking, diplomacy, and innovation. The Cuban Missile Crisis demands a solution that addresses not only military considerations, but also the political, ideological, and strategic dimensions of the standoff. As delegates, your task is to evaluate the role of the United Nations and its member states in diffusing such tensions, preventing future escalations, and promoting long-term global stability—all while navigating the doctrines of deterrence and the fragile balance of power.

In this committee, you will step into the shoes of world leaders, diplomats, and military officials at a critical juncture in history. You will be challenged to navigate the complexities of Cold War politics, prevent escalation, and seek peaceful resolution while defending the strategic interests of their nations. The outcome of the crisis lies in your hands.

Let this committee be a testament to the power of dialogue, diplomacy, and determination in the pursuit of peace. I look forward to seeing your debates and solution ideas shape the discussions and outcomes of this important session.

I genuinely hope the study guide is comprehensive enough to guide you through the conference, and don't hesitate to contact me at saniyar68s@gmail.com or +905518125774 if you need help. Looking forward to meeting each of you and witnessing the valuable and brilliant contributions you will undoubtedly make to our committee.

Sincerely,

Saniyar Safari

Under Secretary General of H-UNSC

4 .Letter from the Academic Assistant

Dear delegates,

I would like to start my letter by thanking you all for taking the time to apply to this committee and this conference. I am very glad to welcome you all to our precious committee Historical United Nations Security Council. This is Güneş Ela Tuğran, your academic assistant, who is a prep student at Sobil.

I really hope you will have a great time and I can proudly say that this conference will be an unforgettable experience for you all. I would like to thank my under secretary general Saniyar Safari. This is my first time being an academic assistant and he really helped me a lot and he was super nice to me.

My hopes are in the way of you being informed about the matter through this guide. Please don't hesitate to contact me through my phone number 05414201510 or my email gunes.tugran@gmail.com. If you have any questions regarding the committee I will be happy to help.

Best Regards,

Güneş Ela Tuğran

Academic Assistant of H-UNSC

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3. Introduction to the Committee: United Nations Security Council

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) is responsible for maintaining international peace and security, as outlined in Article 24 of the United Nations Charter. The UNSC is one of the six main organs of the United Nations and was established in 1945 in response to the devastation caused by World War II. The primary responsibility of the UNSC is to address threats to international peace and security and to take action to prevent conflict or resolve it when it occurs.

3.1. Mandate

The Security Council has in its mandate to furnish matters pertaining to disarmament, peacekeeping missions, protection of human rights, political deliberations and humanitarian crises.¹ Currently, the mandate of the United Nations Security Council has been modified, especially after inculcating the 2030 Agenda of Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda) to discuss the parallel between sustainability, peace and security.² The same has been discussed at the meeting on 17 November 2015 as the Security Council focused upon refining its goals post 2015 Sustainable Development Goals.³ United Nations Security Council mainly discusses issues relevant to sustainable development, protection of human rights and protection of civilians during conflict zones, prevention of conflict and prevail peace through protecting humanitarian rights⁴. Security Council decisions are obligatory in nature as Article 25 of the United Nations Charter gives power to the Security Council to draft binding resolutions which become a requisite to be necessarily followed by all the member states or concerned member states⁵. The Council's position may be addressed by the President of the Security Council through Press Release⁶ to address essential concerns and recommend possible solutions concerning the current situation or crisis⁷.

1: Council on Foreign Relations, CFR Backgrounders: The UN Security Council, 2015; Encyclopaedia Britannica, United Nations Security Council, 2014. 2: UN General Assembly, Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1), 2015; UN DPA, Politically Speaking, Sustaining peace, Conflict Prevention, Human Rights and Sustainable Development High on Agenda for New Security Council Members, 2018. 3: Lebada, UN Security Council Discusses Links with 2030 Agenda, SDG Knowledge Hub, 2015. 4: UN DPA, Politically Speaking, Sustaining Peace, Conflict Prevention, Human Rights and Sustainable Development High on Agenda for New Security Council Members, 2018. 5: UN Security Council, What is the Security Council? 2018; Charter of the United Nations, 1945, Art. 25. 6: NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security, Mapping Women, Peace and Security in the United Nations Security Council: Report of the NGOWG Monthly Action Points, 2009-2010, 2010, p. 11. 7: *ibid.* P.15.

3.2. Structure

The United Nations Security Council consists of 15 members. Out of these 5 are permanent members, they are also known as “Veto Owners” or “P5 Nations”. These permanent members are: the USA, France, China, Russia and the UK. Alongside these 5 member states, there are 10 non-permanent member states appointed for the tenure of 2 years by the United Nations General Assembly. These nations represent their region and foreign policies exhibiting leadership on an international platform. The presidency of the Security Council is held by each member for one month in alphabetical order. The Security Council can be convened anytime by the president at the request of the member states. Consequently, the president also holds the power to call upon member states for a meeting in an urgent crisis, emergency or dispute situation. The member states could extend an invitation to the observer nations who are not allowed to vote but could submit their proposals or draft resolutions. The observers are also welcomed to apprise the council regarding any contemporary issue ongoing in their territory.

The United Nations Security Council has established various subsidiary bodies under Article 29 of the UN Charter comprising: the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, sanctions committees, and ad hoc committees, such as the Ad Hoc Sub-Committee on Namibia, etc. The Security Council is also responsible for the supervision of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC). Each nation is granted one vote, and it requires a special majority (2/3) to pass a resolution. However, if any P5 nation says no, the resolution won't pass, this is known as the exercise of “Veto Power”.

3.3. Functions and Powers

Knowing the functions and powers are extremely important to know what and in which manner could the Security Council perform in order to drive the required possible solution which must also be considered while delegates write their draft resolution. The powers and functions of UNSC are mentioned in Chapter V, VI, VII, VIII and XII of the UN Charter. These could be understood as follows;

- Submit a special annual report to UNGA for consideration to maintain international peace and security. (Art. 24)
- UNSC could investigate any issue which might endanger maintenance of international peace and security. (Art. 34)
- UNSC could call upon the parties to settle disputes amicably through alternative dispute mechanisms, the procedure for such adjustments could also be provided by UNSC. (Art. 33 & 36(1)) The case could again be referred to UNSC and if the dispute still persists, the parties could settle as it may be considered appropriate. (Art. 37)
- UNSC shall determine and make recommendations for threat to peace, breach of peace and act of aggression. (Art.39) UNSC would also ensure the adherence to such measures. (Art. 41) without the use of arms but would include complete or partial interruption of economic relations and of rail, sea, air, postal, telegraphic, radio, and other means of communication, and the severance of diplomatic relations. (Art. 41) In case of further failure UNSC could take actions such as demonstrations, blockade, and other operations by air, sea, or land forces of Members of the United Nations. (Art. 42)

- UNSC may deliberate upon any dispute occurring, and has been reported by member or non-member nations. (Art. 35)
- UNSC could refer legal disputes to the International Court of Justice. (Art. 36)
- Member states of the UN could facilitate UNSC with special agreement or agreements, armed forces, assistance, and facilities, including right of passage, necessary for the purpose of maintaining international peace and security. (Art. 43)
- UNSC is responsible for formulating, with the assistance of the Military Staff Committee referred to in Article 47, plans to be submitted to the Members of the United Nations for the establishment of a system for the regulation of armaments. (Art.26)
- Member states could assist UNSC for employment of contingents of that Member's armed forces in case of necessity of use of force (Art. 44). UNSC could also take Military Measures and application of Armed Forces with assistance from the Military Staff Committee. (Art. 45,46 & 47)
- UNSC could make recommendations for pacific settlement by itself or by regional agencies of dispute in case alternative dispute settlement or legal settlement is not available. (Art. 38 & 52)
- UNSC shall approve the terms of Trusteeship agreements and assist the Trusteeship Council, in return the Trusteeship Council would undertake its obligation towards UNSC. (Art. 83 & 84)
- UNSC could utilize regional arrangements or agencies for their enforcement and ascertain information in such regards to maintain international peace and security. (Art 53 & 54)

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) stands as a paramount force on the global stage, holding significant influence in matters concerning international peace and security. Established as a central organ under the United Nations Charter, the UNSC plays a pivotal role in addressing complex geopolitical challenges. With its inception dating back to the foundation of the United Nations, the UNSC is steadfast in its dedication to maintaining global stability, preventing conflicts, and fostering sustainable development. Covering a spectrum of issues, including diplomatic resolutions, peacekeeping operations, and crisis management, the UNSC strives to uphold its fundamental objective, ensuring peace and security worldwide through collaborative and decisive action.

3.4. Key Terms and Definitions

- Security Council: The principal organ of the United Nations responsible for maintaining international peace and security.
-
- Permanent Members (P5): The five countries with permanent seats on the UNSC - the United States, Russia, China, France, and the United Kingdom.
-
- Veto Power: The authority of any of the P5 members to block a substantive resolution, regardless of the level of international support for it.
-
- Peacekeepers: Individuals or groups that are tasked with maintaining peace and security in conflict zones through monitoring, protection, and support activities.

3.5. Structure Regarding the Agenda Item

The starting date of the committee is 21st of October 1962, at which time the Security Council consisted of 11 members. Thus four observer states – Polish People's Republic, Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, United Arab Republic and Imperial State of Iran – have been included in the committee. The five permanent members holding veto rights are the Republic of China (Taiwan), United States of America, United Kingdom, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and the French Republic. In the scope of the Cold War dynamics, the committee is politically divided into Western and Eastern blocs. The crisis will be tailored by the actions and decisions of the delegates rather than strictly adhering to the historical timeline.

Western Bloc	Eastern Bloc
Republic of China	German Democratic Republic
United States of America	Polish People's Republic
United Kingdom	Czechoslovak Socialist Republic
French Republic	United Arab Republic
Republic of Turkey	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Republic of Venezuela	Republic of Cuba
Italian Republic	Republic of Ghana
Imperial State of Iran	

Table of the Western (R) and Eastern (L) blocs.

4. Introduction to the Agenda Item: Cuban Missile Crisis

The Cuban Missile Crisis, which took place in October 1962 was one of the most crucial and perilous periods of the Cold War, bringing the world dangerously close to nuclear war. The standoff between the US and the USSR taking thirteen days was sparked by the US discovering Soviet nuclear missiles placed in Cuba, only 145 kms from the US.

Cold War tensions, such as the unsuccessful 1961 Bay of Pigs invasion supported by the United States and the spread of communism, especially in the Western Hemisphere, were the larger reasons for the crisis emerging. By placing missiles in Cuba, the Soviet Union was able to gain strategic similarity with the United States which had already placed its own missiles in Turkey and Italy, as well as safeguarding an essential ally. These Soviet missiles were seen as an intolerable danger to both regional supremacy and national security by the United States.

Through intense diplomatic negotiations, secret communications, and the possibility of nuclear war, the crisis was ultimately resolved without direct military conflict. The crisis highlighted the fragility of peace in the nuclear age and reshaped international diplomacy, leading to the establishment of direct communication lines between the U.S. and USSR as well as agreements such the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

4.1. Key Terms and Definitions

Cold War: A period of political and military tension between the United States and its allies (the Western Bloc) and the Soviet Union and its allies (the Eastern Bloc), lasting from roughly 1947 to 1991. It was characterized by ideological conflict, proxy wars, espionage, and the nuclear arms race, but not direct large-scale war between the superpowers.

Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD): The idea that if two nuclear-armed states go to war, both would be completely destroyed. During the Cuban Missile Crisis, this concept discouraged the U.S. and the USSR from launching nuclear attacks, as both knew it would lead to total devastation. The fear of mutual destruction pushed both sides to find a peaceful, diplomatic solution.

Nuclear Deterrence: The strategy of preventing an attack by threatening devastating nuclear retaliation. During the Cuban Missile Crisis, both the U.S. and the USSR relied on deterrence to avoid conflict, knowing that any nuclear strike would trigger a destructive response. This fear helped prevent the crisis from escalating into war.

Domino Theory: A U.S. geopolitical theory that the fall of one nation to communism would lead to a chain reaction in neighboring countries. Though more associated with Southeast Asia, it influenced U.S. concern about Cuba's alignment with the USSR.

Iron Curtain: A metaphor used to describe the division between the Soviet-dominated Eastern Bloc and the Western democracies during the Cold War.

Brinkmanship: The practice of pushing a dangerous situation to the edge of conflict to force the other side to back down. During the Cuban Missile Crisis, both the U.S. and the USSR took bold, risky actions like military threats and naval blockades bringing the world to the brink of nuclear war. This strategy was used to gain leverage, but it also made the crisis extremely dangerous.

Proxy War: A conflict where two opposing countries support combatants that serve their interests instead of directly engaging in combat. The Cuban Missile Crisis did not escalate into a proxy war but was surrounded by such tensions in places such as Vietnam and Korea.

Strategic Missiles / Ballistic Missiles: Strategic or ballistic missiles are long-range weapons designed to deliver nuclear warheads. During the Cuban Missile Crisis, the Soviet Union placed R-12 and R-14 ballistic missiles in Cuba, putting most of the U.S. within striking range. Their presence sparked the crisis, as they dramatically increased the threat of a sudden nuclear attack.

Jupiter Missiles: U.S. medium-range ballistic missiles deployed in Turkey and Italy, capable of striking the Soviet Union. Their existence was the main reason behind the Soviet decision to place missiles in Cuba, and their later secret removal was part of the resolution.



The Iron Curtain (black line)

- Warsaw Pact countries
- NATO countries (May 1982 to October 1990)
- Militarily neutral countries
- Yugoslavia, member of the Non-Aligned Movement

The black dot represents West Berlin, an enclave aligned with West Germany. Albania withheld its support to the Warsaw Pact in 1961 due to the Soviet-Albanian split and formally withdrew in 1968.

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Quarantine (Naval Blockade): The quarantine was a U.S. naval blockade around Cuba during the Cuban Missile Crisis, particularly targeting shipping routes from the Atlantic Ocean used by Soviet vessels. Set up in the Caribbean Sea about 800–900 nautical miles from Cuba, it was enforced by the U.S. Navy without entering Cuban waters to avoid declaring war. President Kennedy called it a "quarantine" to refrain from any declaration of war. It was a key move that pressured the Soviet Union to negotiate and de-escalate the crisis.

DEFCON (Defense Readiness Condition): A U.S. military alert system indicating the level of threat to national security. During the crisis, the U.S. was raised to DEFCON 2, the highest level ever reached, just one step below full-scale war.

DEFCON 1	Nuclear war is imminent or has already begun
DEFCON 2	Next step to nuclear war
DEFCON 3	Increase in force readiness above normal
DEFCON 4	Increased intelligence and strengthened security measures
DEFCON 5	Lowest state of readiness

North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO): An American-led DEFCON levels. Western military alliance founded in 1949 to counter Soviet influence and ensure mutual defense among member states including the United Kingdom, French Republic, Republic of Turkey and the Italian Republic,. NATO's presence and missile deployments in Europe contributed to Soviet concerns that influenced their actions in Cuba.

Warsaw Pact: A military alliance established in 1955 between the Soviet Union and its Eastern Bloc satellite states including, German Democratic Republic, Polish People's Republic, Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, serving as the counterpart to NATO. It represented the collective defense strategy of the communist bloc.

Nuclear Non-Proliferation: A global effort to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons. Though the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) came later in 1968, the crisis underscored the urgent need for nuclear arms control agreements.

Bay of Pigs: A small bay on the southern coast of Cuba. It was chosen as the landing site for the 1961 invasion by Cuban exiles because it was distant, with wet terrain and limited Cuban military presence. The location was intended to allow the invading forces to establish a beachhead and begin a larger uprising



Map indicating the location of the Bay of Pigs.

against Fidel Castro's government. However, the geographic challenges and strong Cuban defense forces contributed to the failure of the invasion.

Beachhead: A temporary line created when a military unit reaches a landing beach by sea and begins to defend the area as other reinforcements arrive. Once a large enough unit is assembled, the invading force can begin advancing inland.

Hotline Agreement (1963): After the Cuban Missile Crisis nearly brought the world to nuclear war in 1962, both the United States and the Soviet Union recognized the urgent need for better communication to avoid accidental conflict. In June 1963, they established the Hotline Agreement, creating a direct and secure telephone link between the White House in Washington and the Kremlin in Moscow. This hotline allowed the leaders to communicate quickly and clearly during emergencies, bypassing slower

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diplomatic channels and reducing the chance of misunderstandings or delays that could escalate tensions. The establishment of the hotline was one of the first steps toward improving U.S.-Soviet relations were key measures in nuclear crisis management during the Cold War.

Executive Committee of the National Security Council (ExComm): ExComm was a special group of senior U.S. government officials formed by President John F. Kennedy during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Its purpose was to advise the president and help him make decisions in managing the crisis. The committee included key figures from the military, intelligence agencies, and the State Department. ExComm met frequently in October 1962 to discuss options, weigh risks, and coordinate the U.S. response such as the naval quarantine and diplomatic efforts. It played a crucial role in shaping the peaceful resolution of the crisis.

Backchannel Diplomacy: Secret or unofficial communications between leaders or diplomats that occur outside formal public negotiations. During the Cuban Missile Crisis, backchannel talks between U.S. and Soviet officials were vital in reaching a peaceful resolution. These discreet conversations helped build trust, clarify intentions, and explore compromises without the pressure of public or political posturing.

4.2. Historical Background

The Cuban Revolution (1959): The Cuban Revolution was a crucial political and social movement that led to the overthrow of the dictator Fulgencio Batista who was supported by the U.S. and the rise of Fidel Castro's communist government. The revolution which was mainly a result of social inequality, corruption, and foreign economic domination, began as a rebellion against an oppressive regime and evolved into a broader ideological transformation.

The first major act of resistance occurred in July 1953, when Fidel Castro led an unsuccessful attack on the Moncada Barracks in Santiago de Cuba. Although the attack failed and Castro was imprisoned, it marked the beginning of his emergence as a revolutionary leader. After being released in 1955 under amnesty, Castro went into exile in Mexico, where he regrouped and formed the 26th of July Movement with other revolutionaries, including Che Guevara.



Che Guevara (L) and Fidel Castro (R), Cuba, 1963.

In December 1956, Castro and 81 fighters returned to Cuba aboard the yacht Granma, launching a guerrilla war from the Sierra Maestra mountains. Over the next two years, his movement gained support among peasants, workers, and segments of the middle class, largely due to dissatisfaction with Batista's authoritarian rule and the regime's failure to address widespread poverty. By January 1, 1959, Batista had fled the country, and Castro entered Havana with great pride. The revolution brought sweeping changes: nationalization of industries, land reform, and the establishment of a one-party socialist state. These actions, especially the nationalization of American-owned businesses, severely damaged the U.S.-Cuba relations and pushed Cuba into a close alliance with the Soviet Union.

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Post Revolution Cuba-U.S. Relations: America grew hostile toward Castro's Cuba due to his radical moves such as the nationalization of American business, land reforms and growing ties with the Soviet Union, completely unlike the previous American-Cuban relations. As Cuba was a communist threat barely 150 kms away, the United States responded with a trade embargo, cutting off diplomatic relations and covert efforts to overthrow Castro and re-establish its authority in the Caribbean region.

Bay of Pigs Invasion (1961): A failed military operation launched in April 1961 by Cuban exiles who had been trained and supported by the United States Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) aiming to overthrow Fidel Castro's communist government. President Eisenhower, later followed by President Kennedy, saw Castro as a threat to U.S. interests and a dangerous foothold for communism in the Western Hemisphere and sought a solution to the approaching threat. The U.S. had planned air strikes to destroy Cuba's air force using CIA-backed B-26 bombers painted to look like Cuban planes.

The first strike on April 15, 1961 failed to eliminate all Cuban planes. A second wave of air support, critical to the mission's success, was canceled by President Kennedy to avoid direct U.S. involvement. As a result, Cuban aircraft remained operational, allowing Castro's forces to attack the invaders, contributing significantly to the failure of the invasion.

The CIA had secretly trained about 1,400 anti-Castro Cuban exiles, forming Brigade 2506, with plans to land them at the Bay of Pigs on Cuba's southern coast to spark an uprising. The exiles landed on April 17, 1961, and immediately faced strong resistance from Cuban forces. The uprising remained as an unachieved goal of the invasion as there was expectedly no local uprising.

Within three days of the failed invasion, most of the invaders were either killed or imprisoned, making the invasion a humiliating failure for the Kennedy administration and increasing tensions between the United States, Cuba, and the Soviet Union. As a result of this failure, Castro was pushed even closer to the Soviet Union.

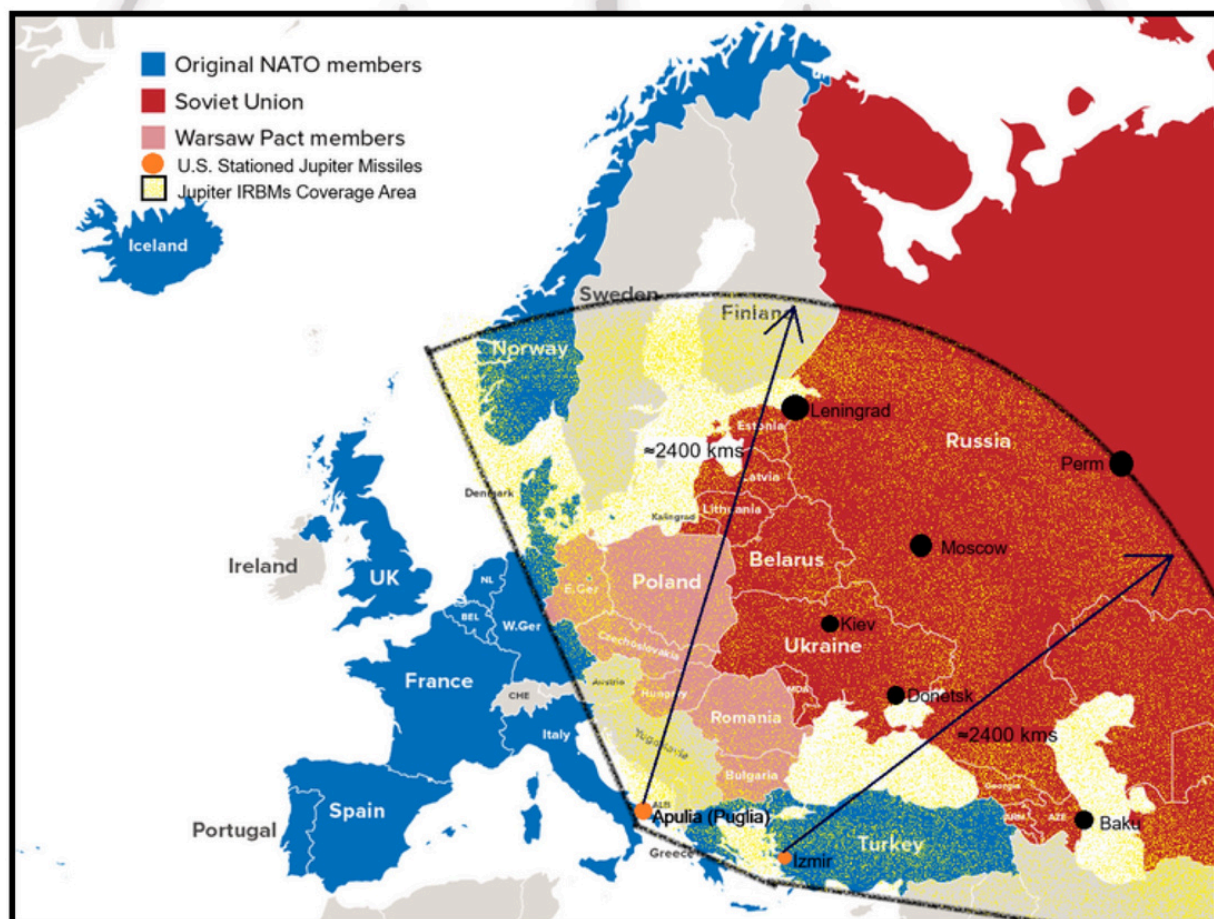


U.S.-backed Cuban exiles captured during the failed Bay of Pigs invasion, Cuba, 1961.

Post Revolution Cuba-USSR Relations: Following the 1959 Cuban Revolution, Fidel Castro implemented land reforms and nationalized American-owned businesses, leading to growing hostility from the United States. Castro increasingly aligned with the Soviet Union especially following the failed Bay of Pigs Invasion. Premier Nikita Khrushchev saw strategic value in supporting a communist ally just 145 kms off the coast of Florida and responded by providing economic aid, purchasing Cuban sugar, supplying military equipment, and offering political backing. This deepening alliance led to the decision of secretly installing nuclear missiles in Cuba in 1962.

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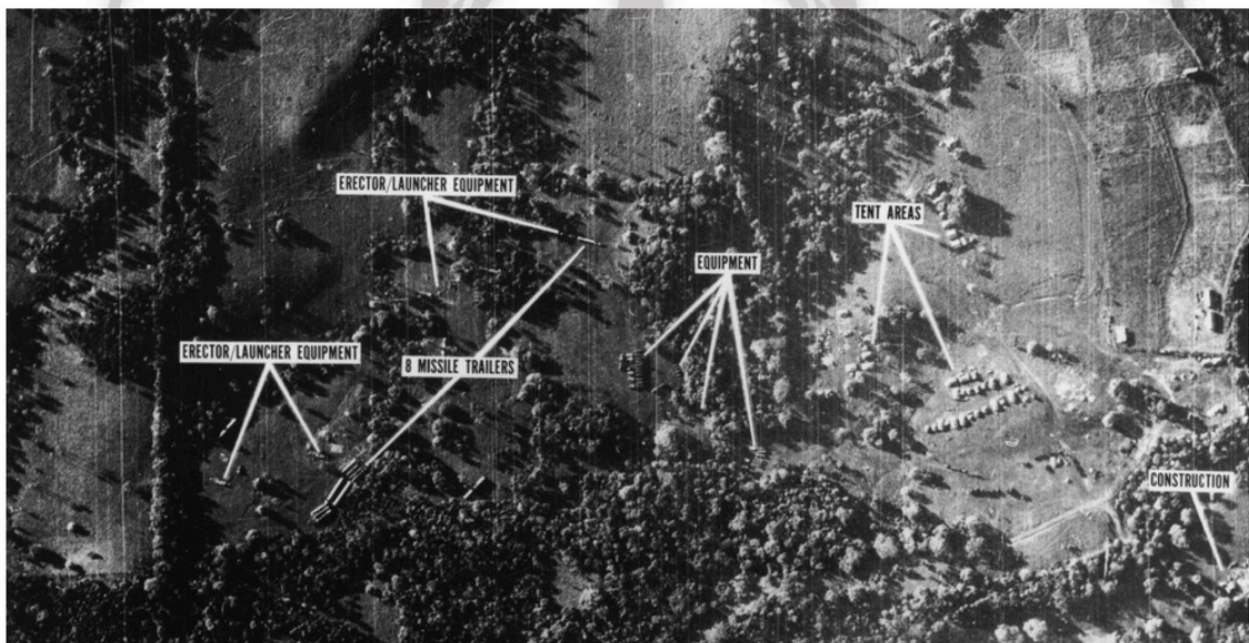
Jupiter Missiles in NATO: During the Cold War, the United States deployed Jupiter intermediate-range ballistic missiles (IRBMs) in Turkey and Italy as part of NATO's strategy to counter the Soviet threat in Europe. The missiles were deployed at Izmir Çiğli Air Base and in nearby rural sites in Turkey, and the Apulia (Puglia) region and surrounding rural areas in Italy. 15 Jupiter missiles were installed in each country in cooperation with the local air force. Each missile capable of carrying nuclear warheads could strike deep into the Soviet Union within minutes with approximately 2,400 km range, putting major Soviet cities, including Moscow, well within reach. They were only meant to be a deterrent, though the USSR perceived it as a direct threat. This significantly escalated tensions and motivated the USSR to place its own nuclear missiles in Cuba aiming to restore the balance of power, or even gain leverage.



Range of the U.S. Jupiter IRBMs placed in Turkey and Italy.

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Operation Anadyr: Operation Anadyr was the codename for the Soviet Union's secret plan in 1962 to deploy nuclear missiles and other military forces to Cuba. Named after a remote river in Siberia to maintain secrecy, the operation was designed to shift the strategic balance of the Cold War by placing Soviet nuclear missiles just 145 kms from the U.S. coastline. Under the leadership of Nikita Khrushchev, the USSR sent medium-range R-12 and intermediate-range R-14 ballistic missiles to Cuba, along with thousands of troops, anti-aircraft defenses, and IL-28 bombers. The aim was to protect Cuba from another U.S. invasion following the Bay of Pigs and to counter the U.S. missiles stationed in Turkey and Italy. The operation was conducted in Range of the Soviet Missiles in Cuba. extreme secrecy, with Soviet soldiers traveling disguised as agricultural workers. However, the plan was discovered in mid-October 1962 when a U.S. U-2 spy plane photographed missile sites under construction in Cuba. This discovery triggered the Cuban Missile Crisis, bringing the world to the brink of nuclear war.



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4.3. Timeline of Key Events

October 14: A U.S. U-2 spy plane photographs Soviet missile sites under construction in Cuba.

October 16: President Kennedy is informed. The Executive Committee (ExComm) is formed to discuss response options.

October 18–20: ExComm debates military action vs. diplomatic measures, deciding to implement a naval blockade around Cuba.

October 22: Kennedy announces the discovery of Soviet missiles and the implementation of a naval “quarantine” of Cuba on TV. U.S. military forces are placed on DEFCON 3.

October 24: The U.S. escalates to DEFCON 2— the highest alert level ever reached in U.S. history after the confirmation of the missiles; America is prepared for nuclear war. Soviet ships bound for Cuba either slow down or reverse course.

October 25: Photographic evidence of Soviet missiles in Cuba are presented to the United Nations Security Council by U.S. Ambassador Adlai Stevenson.

October 26: Khrushchev sends a private letter offering to remove missiles from Cuba in exchange for a pledge not to invade Cuba.

October 27 (Black Saturday): Khrushchev sends a second, public letter, adding a demand for the U.S. to remove Jupiter missiles from Turkey. An American U-2 spy plane is shot down over Cuba, killing the pilot. On the same day, a Soviet nuclear submarine near the blockade nearly launched a missile but was stopped by one officer’s refusal. A launch could have triggered World War III, potentially killing tens of millions within days. Secret backchannel negotiations intensify between U.S. Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy and Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin.

October 28: Khrushchev announces on Radio Moscow that the USSR will remove the missiles from Cuba. Kennedy agrees publicly to not invade Cuba and secretly to remove U.S. missiles from Turkey.

November 20: After verifying the removal of missiles and Soviet bombers, the U.S. ends the “quarantine” and stands down from DEFCON 2.

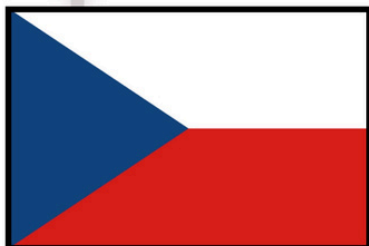
4.4. Humanitarian Impact

The Cuban Missile Crisis was primarily a geopolitical and military standoff, but it did have several humanitarian impacts. Millions of people around the world, especially in the U.S., USSR, and Europe, lived in acute fear during the 13 days of the crisis. Some people fled cities, others prepared fallout shelters or panic-bought essentials.

Cubans braced for an invasion, and the Cuban government placed the country on high alert. Mass mobilizations occurred, with citizens conscripted and cities fortified. Cuba's economy and society were disrupted by the rapid militarization. Agricultural and industrial activity slowed, and daily life was dominated by the expectation of war. Another reason for unrest was the fact that the crisis was largely negotiated between the U.S. and USSR, with Cuban leaders excluded from key decisions even though Cuba would have been the first target in any conflict.

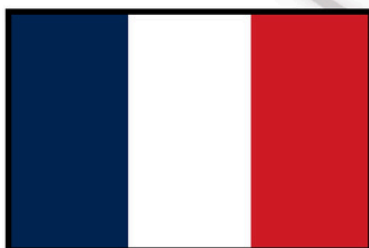
DEFCON 2 was announced meaning a full-scale nuclear war was more than probable and any miscalculation could have caused a global catastrophe. An American U-2 was shot down killing Major Rudolf Anderson Junior, the only fatality of the Cuban Missile Crisis. Apart from military measures, the U.S. economic embargo on Cuba intensified after the crisis and continues to this day, contributing to long-term economic and social hardship for local Cubans.

4.5. International Policies



Czechoslovak Socialist Republic: The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic is a Warsaw Pact country that maintains powerful ideological and military ties with the Soviet Union and considers the deployment of Soviet missiles in Cuba as a strategic step against the long-standing policies of restriction and intervention by the United

States. The country considers it a double standard that the United States presents a similar step in Cuba as a threat despite the nuclear weapons it has deployed in Western Europe and Turkey. Czechoslovakia advocates resolving the crisis through diplomatic rather than military means, and at the same time opposes bringing Cuba's independence into question.



French Republic: Under the leadership of Charles de Gaulle, France has been pursuing a more independent foreign policy between the two poles of the Cold War and has occasionally distanced itself from American leadership. During the Cuban Missile Crisis, France has been seriously concerned about the direct impact of the proliferation of

nuclear weapons and the confrontation between the two superpowers in Europe. Although it is allied with the US within the framework of NATO, France accepts that America's interventionist policies in the Western Hemisphere may have provoked developments in Cuba. It advocates that the parties should step back and build mutual trust in resolving the crisis, and adopts a diplomatic position that favors establishing dialogue, especially with the Soviets. France demands a balanced power sharing between the U.S. and the USSR and a long-term nuclear disarmament process in order to ensure Europe's nuclear security.



German Democratic Republic: As one of the most steadfast allies of the Soviet Union, the German Democratic Republic considers that the Soviet missiles located in Cuba are a justifiable defensive move against American aggression. The American military presence in West Germany and NATO's influence on Germany threatens East

Germany's national security doctrine without intermediaries. In the context, The German Democratic Republics contemplate the missiles which are placed in Cuba as symbolic responses to the nuclear imbalance in Europe. At a time when the Berlin Wall has just been built, solidarity with the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics is not only ideological for the GDR, but also a matter of survival. Therefore, in order to resolve the crisis in Cuba, it is necessary for the United States to abandon its aggressive policies and to end attempts to unilaterally tip the nuclear balance in its favor.



Imperial State of Iran: The Imperial State of Iran under the control of His Imperial Majesty Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi during that period, had some close relations with the United States and was the most powerful ally of the Western Bloc in the Middle East. At the time while the Cuban missile crisis was happening, the Imperial State

of Iran endorsed the United States's committed stance against Soviet expansionism and saw the crisis as a test against the global spread of communism. For the Imperial State of Iran, the crisis was not limited to Latin America alone, but was also important in terms of preventing Soviet influence from spreading to the Middle East. While Iran was trying to be a balancing act within the Western bloc, it also did not want regional stability to be jeopardized. A peaceful resolution of the crisis was only possible if the Soviets stepped back and the US maintained its deterrence against nuclear threats.



Italian Republic: The Italian Republic, which is a NATO member, has strict military and political ties with the United States and they played an active role in the Cuban missile crisis because of the American Jupiter missiles being balanced by the Soviet's missile stationing and its territory. Nevertheless, the Italian Republic was

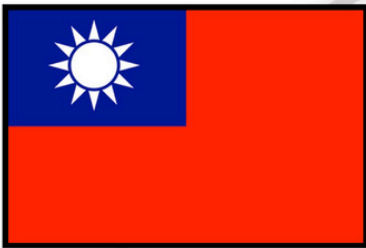
concerned and aware of these missiles stationed in Cuba and one of the main apprehensions was that the danger of Europe being a conflict zone. While the Italian government is in full solidarity with the Western bloc, it also advocates giving priority to diplomacy so that Europe will not face war again. The possibility of the removal of the missiles in Italy in return for the USSR withdrawing the missiles from Cuba is being watched closely by Rome. Italy sees the danger of nuclear weapons becoming a political bargaining chip and supports calls for disarmament.

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Polish People's Republic: Polish People's Republic, as an important member of the Warsaw Pact, supports Soviet foreign policy and considers the preservation of the socialist regime in Cuba a duty of solidarity for the entire socialist world. The Polish leadership openly condemns American nuclear expansionism and interventionist

policies in Latin America; it defends the Soviet military deployment in Cuba as a balancing and legitimate defense move. Poland argues that a peaceful solution is possible only if the US abandons its threats against Cuba and recognizes the Soviets' legitimate security concerns. Supporting global nuclear disarmament talks is also among Poland's long-term interests.



Republic of China (Taiwan): Taiwan was one of the closest and most important Asian allies with the United States and followed the situation carefully in Cuba at that time. During that period, Taiwan was engaged in a serious political struggle against the People's Republic of China (PRC) which was mainland China, and they saw

themselves as a country that is against communist movements. The steps which were taken by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republic was viewed as a grave threat that will affect not just only the United States but also Taiwan's security and unity. Being concerned that the crisis in Cuba could lead to a spread of communism throughout the world, The Republic of China strongly supported the United States and stood by them. In addition, Taiwan responded positively to the United State's tough initiative as a Western Bloc country and took care of their anti-communist movements during the crisis.



Republic of Cuba: Republic of Cuba adopted a socialist orientation after the revolutionary movements and began to live under clear threat from the United States economic blockade, political pressure and especially the Bay of Pigs landing in 1961. Against these threats,

Cuba under Fidel Castro sought to guarantee its own security by forming some strategic and military alliance with the Soviet Union. The Republic of Cuba sees the nuclear missiles which are located in its own country as a deterrent measure against the United States and opposes its territory being turned into a bargaining chip by other states. The Castro Government demands not only the removal of the missiles but also the end of the United States aggressive policy towards Cuba, recognition of diplomatic relations and the lifting of the economic embargo. The republic of Cuba considers this crisis not just as a superpower conflict but also a small states struggle for independence and sovereignty.



Republic of Ghana: As one of the leading representatives of the non-aligned movement in the midst of the Cold War, Republic of Ghana sees the Cuban missile crisis as a reflection of the nuclear tension between imperial powers. Under the leadership of Kwame Nkrumah, Ghana opposes the proliferation of nuclear weapons and the show of force carried out by the superpowers through Cuba. As a

country fighting against colonialism in Africa, Ghana supports Cuba's independence and territorial sovereignty, also criticizing the United States's interventionist policies in Latin America. The Republic of Ghana advocates that both sides should prioritize diplomacy over nuclear deterrence, and encourages the establishment of nuclear weapon free zones.



Republic of Turkey: The Republic of Turkey has a critical position in the context of the Cuban Missile Crisis because the Jupiter missiles placed on Turkish soil by the United States were one of the main reasons why the Soviet Union deployed missiles in Cuba. Turkey, a NATO member, is in full military alliance with the United States

within the Western bloc and therefore supports the measures that the United States will take against the Soviet threat in Cuba. However, at the same time, the fact that the United States quietly agreed to remove the missiles in Turkey at the end of the crisis caused serious diplomatic discomfort in Ankara. As a NATO member, Turkey is not happy with its own territory being put on the bargaining table. The Turkish government of the time continues its solidarity with the Western bloc, but expects its allies to make more transparent and consultative decisions that do not disregard Turkey's security.



Republic of Venezuela: The Republic of Venezuela due to its location in Latin America and its geographical proximity to Cuba, considers the crisis a direct threat to its national security. Even though the Government of the Republic of Venezuela sustains diplomatic relations with the United States, it opposes any nuclear armaments in

Latin America and endorses that the region should be a nuclear weapon free zone. The Republic of Venezuela considers the Soviet's placement of missiles in Cuba a threatening provocation; however it also sees the United States blockade of Cuba as an excessive intervention. The Republic of Venezuela believes that Latin America's struggle for independence has taken on a new dimension and wants external powers to withdraw from regional issues. Venezuela advocates that neutral nations mediate and diplomatic negotiations should be prioritized in resolving the crisis.



Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, one of the nations directly involved in the Cuban missile crisis, deployed nuclear missiles in Cuba with the aim of countering The United States containment nuclear strategy. The Union of Soviet

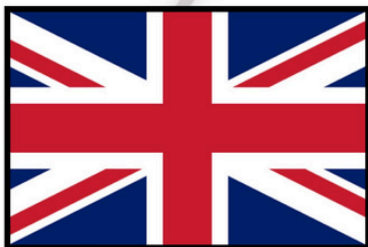
Republics under the leadership of premier Nikita Khrushchev claimed that American Jupiter missiles, especially those located in the Republic of Turkey and Italian Republic, posed a serious threat to Soviet territory and carried out this move in the Caribbean in order to sustain strategic balance. Supporting the revolutionary regime in Cuba preserving the existence of Socialist state in the western hemisphere and creating a counterbalance to the increasing nuclear superiority of the United States of America were among the basic goals of Soviet foreign policy. Even though the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics was in favor of resolving the Cuban missile crisis through diplomatic means, it made it precise that any attack by the United States of America on Cuba could lead to a conflict involving the entire Socialist Bloc due to its defensive Alliance with draw American missiles, eliminate the threat of any attack on Cuba and maintain the balance of nuclear power worldwide.

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United Arab Republic: The United Arab Republic adopts an anti-imperialist stance, especially centered in Egypt, on the axis of Arab nationalism and sees the interventionist policies of the US in Latin America as similar to its practices in the Middle East; therefore, it directly evaluates any threat to Cuba's sovereignty as a new

manifestation of imperialism. President Gamal Abdel Nasser argues that the socialist regime in Cuba should be seen as an effort to build an independent nation-state, just like Egypt's resistance against the West. He believes that in order to resolve the crisis, not only nuclear missiles but also the military and economic siege of Cuba by the US should be ended. In addition, it emphasizes that the spread of nuclear weapons to the Middle East should be prevented on the occasion of this crisis and that regional security should be protected within the framework of international law. The United Arab Republic defends Cuba's sovereign rights in a non-aligned but determined manner.



United Kingdom: The United Kingdom, as a founding member of NATO, maintains some close ties such as military, intelligence and diplomatic relations with the United States. Within the framework of the missile crisis in Cuba, in general, the Government of the United

Kingdom supports the United States's response to Soviet Union missiles, but also is seriously concerned about the probability of a global nuclear conflict that possible military involvements could lead to. The Government, led by Prime Minister Harold, advocates a diplomatic resolution of the crisis in Cuba and preservation of a controlled nuclear deterrent through negotiations with the Soviet Union and in response to America's valid security concerns. As a member of NATO, the United Kingdom supports American leadership, while also being willing to play a mediator role in order to prevent a war that would most probably threaten European security.



United States of America: The United States of America has taken a determined stance against the Soviet missiles in Cuba, which it considers one of the greatest threats to its national security. The administration, led by President John F. Kennedy, sees the Soviet Union's deployment of nuclear warheads in a country only 145 kms

from the American continent as an unacceptable provocation contrary to its national defense doctrine. Although the US seriously considered the option of a military intervention in the early days of the crisis, it has adopted a naval blockade (quarantine) strategy without taking the risk of a possible nuclear war. The US's basic demand is that the Soviets completely remove all their nuclear weapons and launch pads from Cuba. At the same time, it opposes any Soviet military presence in Cuba being established in the long term. The U.S. is determined to use all diplomatic and military means within the axis of the Monroe Doctrine which opposes European colonialism in the Western Hemisphere.

5. Questions to be Answered

1. What responsibilities does the Security Council hold in managing nuclear threats between sovereign states during peacetime?
2. Can reciprocal military positioning be considered legitimate under the UN Charter, or was this an act of escalation?
3. Should the Security Council endorse or condemn the U.S. naval quarantine of Cuba?
4. What measures can the Security Council take to prevent future confrontations involving nuclear weapons?
5. How can the UNSC maintain neutrality when both superpowers are permanent members with veto power?
6. Is the Council equipped to mediate crises when its own members are primary belligerents?
7. How should the Council evaluate and respond to covert military operations and backchannel diplomacy during international crises?
8. Could establishing permanent crisis communication systems or hotlines be considered part of the Council's jurisdiction?
9. To what extent did the United States' previous actions in Cuba contribute to the crisis?
10. Were the Soviet-Cuban missiles a defensive and proportional response, or an act of aggression in violation of international law?
11. How should the Council react to a situation where a smaller nation becomes the battleground for major power rivalry?
12. In what ways can the United Nations ensure the sovereignty of smaller states, like Cuba, while balancing the interests of global powers?

1975

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