



The Victoria School

Model of the United Nations XIII



UNHCR

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Presidents:

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Level of the committee:

Junior

Language: English

Requirements:

- Opening speech: One per topic (1:00 min)

Topics:

Topic A:

Internal displacement due to Latin American belligerent and insurgent groups.

Study cases:

1. FARC, Colombia
2. EZLN, Chiapas
3. Sendero Luminoso/MPCP, Peru

Topic B:

Mali refugee crisis

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Welcome to UNHCR

Dear delegates, feel very welcomed in TVSMUNXIII's UNHCR committee. For those who do not know me, my name is Sofia, and I'm looking forward to seeing each one of you performing your best in the committee, as will I. This will be my first time as a president in a Model of United Nations. However, I have been a delegate on several occasions; therefore, I count with a lot of experience, which will help me solve any of your doubts and help you succeed as delegates. If this is also your first year, know that you're not alone, and that you are in a safe learning space, so you can approach me whenever you need guidance. I personally invite you to see this experience as a meaningful opportunity and take full advantage of it. See this space as a safe place where you can communicate and develop your skills freely without judgement, a space to learn. If you have any doubts, questions, or need advice, please do not hesitate in contacting me. I'm very excited to meet you all and hope that you'll have a great time!

Sofía Medina, President of UNHCR

Expectations: How the topics will be handled on the committee and what is expected from you.

Imagine yourself as an expert who is going to represent its country in the real UN. First of all, you need to have a large knowledge of the topics, to be conscious on your given roles and their positions, to understand the importance of your given role in the specific topic, and to be prepared with arguments, but that is only half

way through it, to be a complete MUN delegate you need to have the correct attitude and be coherent with your country's desires and the posture it would have taken in that position. This means you need to understand every topic, every focus, and every case. Knowing and understanding your given position (country or organization), comprehend and protect its interests, and above it all, grasp the attitude of your country towards that topic. If you cannot find that information, then be a risk-taker and a thinker and deduce or infer what would that position be based on how your country or organization has acted previously, using its declarations as guidance.

For **topic A** you will be expected to understand FARC, Sendero Luminoso/MPCP and EZLN's purposes, interests, and founding in order to then understand the internal displacement. It is imperative for you to also understand the displacement wherefore, its migrating movement throughout each specific case, and most importantly the consequences on the displaced people and the country itself. You will also need to refer and understand the necessities, conditions, and the requirements for and of the displaced in each of the cases. Take into account what UNHCR, other organizations, and other countries have done to help the refugees. On this topic, whether you want to focus on one specific displacement case and armed group, or the more general perspective involving all cases of study during the debate, it is up to you. However, it will be expected from you to know each one of the cases regarding the armed groups and displacements.

For **topic B** it is necessary for you to understand: the circular migration in Mali and Africa. The 2012 armed rebellion in northern Mali which led to the violent **coup d'état** with the military intervention, and how that routed the refugee crisis, plus Mali's human trafficking and smuggling cases. Regarding the refugee crisis you need to comprehend the migration movement, the internal and external refugees grounds, the necessities and conditions of the refugees. Always taking into account what other countries, organizations, or even the UNHCR itself has done.

Please be aware this is a UNHCR committee which means it is intended to look out for the refugees and their needs. Thus, understanding and speaking about the

conflict is compulsory for the debate, and the understanding of the refugee crisis. Do not lead the debate into the conflicts alone, because UNHCR has no power over the conflicts, only the refugees. Additionally, please be conscious that the debate will flow based on each one of your arguments and attitudes, so let's make this a congenial committee.

Although the debate direction is guided by you, the next subjects are necessary to discuss for a complete UNHCR debate, and your performance will be graded on whether you are aware of them or not:

For topic A:

- For FARC, Colombia:
 - FARC foundation, purposes, armed conflict, and extents
 - Amount of displaced and casualties
 - Displaced people necessities and conditions
 - International aid
 - Colombian peace agreement and national referendum
 - Solutions for the current situation based on your country or organization's interests (please be updated with the situation in Colombia, take into account the 29th of August, 2019 FARC's announcements and the current displaced physical, psychological and shelter situation)
- For EZLN, Mexico:
 - EZLN foundation, purposes, armed conflict, and extents
 - Land conflict in Chiapas
 - Importance of the unknown (hidden) information
 - Known information about Chiapas's displaced people, their conditions, and necessities
- For Sendero Luminoso/MPCP, Peru:
 - Sendero Luminoso foundation, extents, objectives, and purposes
 - Denominated internal armed conflict (1980-2000)
 - Amount of displaced and deaths
 - Women Ministry (MIMP) importance and actions

- International aid
- Displaced people conditions and necessities

For topic B:

- Circular Migration (including illegal movements)
 - Violence eruption in 2012
 - International intervention and aid
 - Amount of displaced
 - Displaced people necessities and conditions
 - 2015's peace treaty
 - Tuareg community
 - Azawad importance
-

About UNHCR

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees is a United Nations committee with the main purpose of safeguarding the well-being of those citizens that have been forced to leave their homes and for them to find a safe home somewhere else. The people included in UNHCR labour are: refugees, stateless people, returnees, asylum seekers and internally displaced. The protection shelter health and education has been crucial for building brighter futures for the refugees and the world itself.

Part of UNHCR mission states: "UNHCR seeks to reduce situations of forced displacement by encouraging States and other institutions to create conditions

which are conducive to the protection of human rights and the peaceful resolution of disputes. In pursuit of the same objective, UNHCR actively seeks to consolidate the reintegration of returning refugees in their country of origin, thereby averting the recurrence of refugee-producing situations.

UNHCR is an impartial organization, offering protection and assistance to refugees and others on the basis of their needs and irrespective of their race, religion, political opinion or gender. In all of its activities, UNHCR pays particular attention to the needs of children and seeks to promote the equal rights of women and girls. In its efforts to protect refugees and to promote solutions to their problems, UNHCR works in partnership with governments, regional organizations, international and non-governmental organizations. UNHCR is committed to the principle of participation, believing that refugees and others who benefit from the organization's activities should be consulted over decisions which affect their lives. By virtue of its activities on behalf of refugees and displaced people, UNHCR also endeavours to promote the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter: maintaining international peace and security; developing friendly relations among nations; and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms." (UNHCR, 2007)

Another part of the mission statement of UNHCR states: "UNHCR is mandated by the United Nations to lead and coordinate international action for the worldwide protection of refugees and the resolution of refugee problems." (UNHCR, 2008) where it clearly says that UNHCR labor is within the whole world to try and protect the refugees with the UN backing their actions and efforts.

Some basic facts also found in the mission statement are:

- “Persons of concern to the High Commissioner: 31,411,000
- Total 2008 UNHCR expenditure (USD): 1,597.5 million
- Number of countries in which UNHCR is present: 117
- Number of UNHCR offices worldwide: 254
- UNHCR regular staff members:6,810
- Staff members in the field:6,043
- Ratio of staff members to people of concern: 1 per 4,658
- Number of NGOs working as implementing partners: 635
- States party to the 1951 Convention and/or the 1967 Protocol: 147
- Members of the Executive Committee: 76”

(UNHCR, 2008)

Topic A: Context

FARC Colombia*:

The Colombian Armed conflict began in the 1960s between the government of Colombia, illegal armed groups (such as FARC) and paramilitary groups. However, Colombia has always had trouble with violence and the armed conflict is historically rooted in the so called “La Violencia”, which started in 1946 when Mariano Ospina Perez rose to power and burst in 1948 with the assassination of Jorge Eliecer Gaitan while Mariano Ospina was presiding (Bogotazo).

The FARC -or the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia People's Army- was formed during the Cold War period as a liberal agrarian movement with a resemblance to the Marxist-Leninist ideology that promoted agrarianism and anti-imperialism (without being comunist), it has been part of the continuing Colombian Armed Conflict since 1964. They claim to be fighting for the rights of the poor in Colombia, and allegedly protecting them from the government's violence and providing social justice.

The FARC has various ways of economic activity; these include extortion (mainly with kidnaps(kidnappings) and ransom), taxation, production and distribution of illegal drugs, and according to the Colombian government, also illegal mining. Its area of operations is on Southern, South-Western, North-Western, and Eastern parts of Colombia, with different incursions into Peru, Ecuador, Venezuela, Brasil, and Panama, with episodic presence in other Tropical countries such as Mexico, Paraguay, and Bolivia.

In 2007, FARC said they were an army of 18,000 men and women, later in 2010 the Colombian military estimated that FARC forces were conformed by 13,800 members. By 2011, former Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos said that FARC had fewer than 10,000 members and between 2002 and 2013, 26,648 FARC and ELN members decided to demobilize.

In 2016 a peace agreement (with a ceasefire) was made. It was implemented between FARC and the Colombian government, however, clashes with other armed groups persisted and a forced displacement is continuing to exist in

Colombia, ever since 1964. The 29th of August, 2019, FARC's head leaders announced that they were returning and allying with ELN (National Liberation Army). Later on, President of Colombia Iván Duque announced that FARC was also counting with the support and shelter from Nicolas Maduro's "government", and he also said that Colombia counted with the support of the legitimate president of Venezuela, Juan Guaidó. (El Tiempo, 2019)

Sendero Luminoso/MPCP Perú:

The Sendero Luminoso, MPCP (Communist Party is Peru), or Shining Path, is a communist revolutionary organization in Peru with Marxists-Leninist-Maoists ideals. It was created in 1970 as a dissident faction of the Communist Party of Peru and it counted with only a few dozens of people, then it was first launched in 1980 in the internal armed conflict of Peru, with more than 500 members; its goal was to replace the state with the denominated "New Democracy". They believed that by establishing a dictator of the proletariat and inducing a cultural revolution, they would arrive to the "full communism". (Insight Crime, 2019)

In the 80s the groups started by attacking different Peruvian locations, mostly police stations, until November of 1982 when the Peru military was sent to fight the group.

Sendero Luminoso never grew too much in size, in the 1990s (MPCP's best time) it was conformed of approximately 3,000 members, but gained territory very quickly. They were very powerful and created a massive amount of victims with barbaric methods such as stoning to death and putting their victims into boiling

water. (Insight Crime, 2019) They also massacred farmer families that they considered were against their ideals, and attacked several State representatives and security forces. Their main activities to gain economical resources are basically providing services of protection for drug merchandise and protection for drug dealers.

In 1990 when Alberto Fujimori became president he ordered and launched an attack against the Shinning Path which included imprisonment and torture for those who were a part of, and supported the MPCP. In 1992 Abimael Guzman - leader of Sendero Luminoso- was caught, he then convoked the rest of Sendero Luminoso members to do a peace agreement with the government, however some members of MPCP considered him a traitor and decided to continue. Nevertheless, Sendero Luminoso's activities did decrease, until the first decade of the 21st century when they decided to strike back attacking different multinationals (specially those ones that came from the VRAEM region). (Insight Crime, 2019).

EZLN Mexico:

The EZLN -or Zapatista Army of National Liberation- was founded the 17th of November of 1983 by non-indigenous members of the National Libertarian Forces, indigenous inhabitants of Las Cañadas/Selva Lacandona, and members of former rebel movements. It went public on January 1st, 1994. On that same day they issued their first declaration and revolutionary laws from the Lacandona jungle, and it amounted to a declaration of war to which the government declared illegitimate. (Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, 2017)

*Please notice that Colombian paramilitary groups aren't mentioned, however if you want to mention them during the debate it is completely correct (if not necessary), nevertheless this UNHCR committee is based on the so called "guerrillas" displacement (focusing specially in FARC).

Topic A: Approach

Colombia:

According to a study made by Colombia's National Centre for Historical Memory more than 5 million people were forced to leave their homes between 1958 and 2012 and currently (2019) there are 7,671,124 internally displaced civilians and 1 in 3 of the 7.6 million displaced people are children suffering from lack of shelter, malnourishing(ment), and insecurity, besides, since 1985, 8,000 minors have disappeared. (David James Cantor, n.d.)

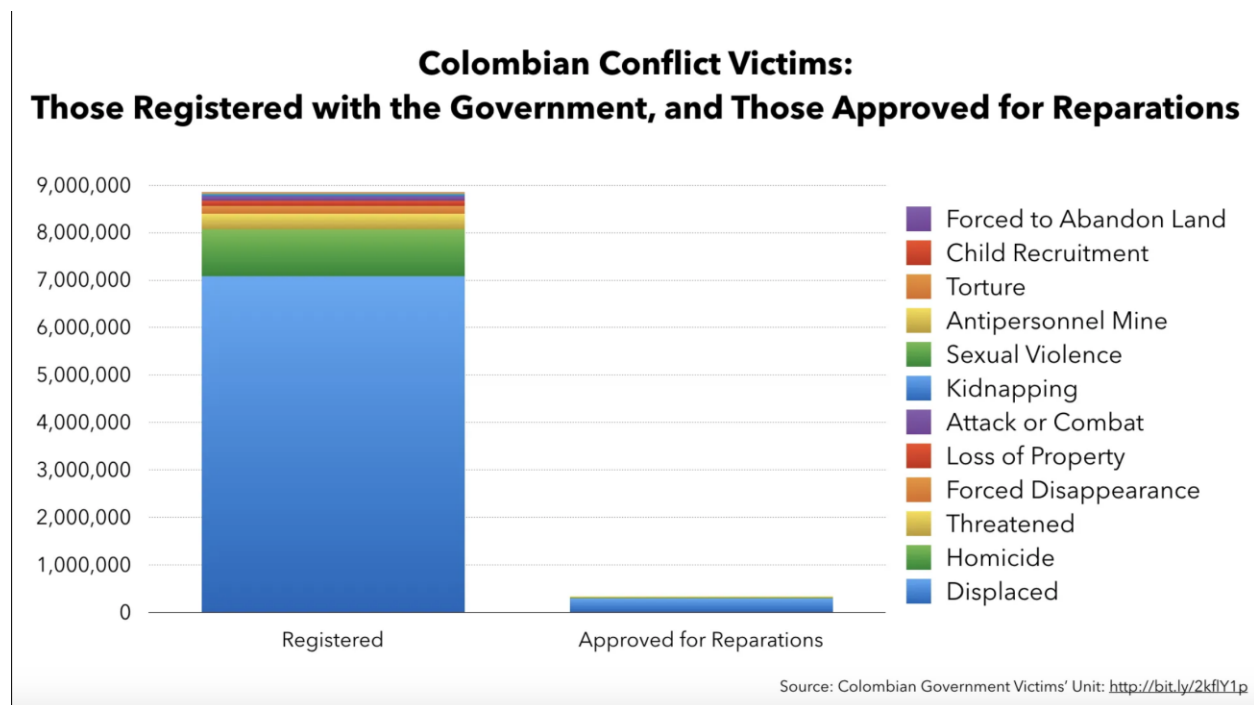
According to UNHCR, in 2016 (the year the peace agreement was signed) 11,363 people (3,068 families) were forced to leave their homes due to violence; and from January to March of 2017 (a year after the peace agreement was signed) 3,549 people (913 families) were displaced from their homes. (UNHCR, 2017)

The most affected groups have been the Afro-Colombian (10% of the 7.6 million people displaced) and indigenous (3% of the 7.6 million people displaced) communities since they have endangered their survival. (UNHCR, 2017)

"Since the signing of the peace agreement, increased violence by new armed groups has resulted in killings, forced recruitment - including children-, gender-based violence and limited access to education, water and sanitation (sanitary

purposes), as well as movement restrictions and forced displacement of the civilian population.

The UN refugee agency reiterates the need to ensure that the civilian population has access to protection and assistance. At the same time, any eventual returns of IDPs to their areas of origin need to take place in conditions of safety and dignity” (UNHCR, 2017)



Some of the Many Reasons Why the United States Should Keep Supporting Colombia's Peace Accord. (2017, February 1). Retrieved from <https://colombiapace.org/2017/02/01/some-of-the-many-reasons-why-the-united-states-should-keep-supporting-colombias-peace-accord/>.

Peru:

According to the Commission of the Truth and Reconciliation and a study made in 2019, Sendero Luminoso (MPCP) during the denominated internal armed conflict between 1980-2000, caused a massive amount of deaths, from 31,000 to 48,000 people, and it keeps forcing (causing) internal displacements all around Peru. (Insight Crime, 2019)

The Women Ministry (MIMP) is the part of the government in charge of supporting the displaced, however because of its lack of precision, in 2016 a multi sectoral commission was made to elaborate strategies for prevention, protection, and integral attention to the IDPs. Nonetheless, the MIMP hasn't approved it.

Mexico:

According to a 2014 report by the IDMC (International Displacement Monitoring Centre), "30,000 IDPs have been living in protracted displacement in Chiapas since the 1994-1995 Zapatista conflict with no durable solutions in sight" (IDMC, 2015). And another report by IDMC in 2012 stated that "99% of those affected were members of indigenous groups with an acknowledged special attachment to their land" (IDMC, 2012). This means that with psychological and economical attachment to their land, these indigenous displaced people lack resources and shelter. They live in improper circumstances.

Unfortunately, another issue are the EZLN and zapatista's supporters that have also been displaced. "Sin Embargo", a digital Mexican newspaper reports that the State government operator with the support of the police, force indigenous groups and Zapatista's supporters to leave their land (Sin Embargo, 2015), and "El Universal" another Mexican newspaper reports that in 2016 indigenous Zapatistas staged several protests in Chiapas to end the "harassment and threats" and claimed that a group of 36 out of 47 displaced supporters of EZLN were living in "inhumane conditions, without employment or medical attention" (El Universal, 2016).

An IDMC and Norwegian Refugee Council report stated that: "the longest-running situation of displacement (in Mexico) was caused by the Zapatista uprising in 1994 in the state of Chiapas. Indigenous communities that support the Zapatista movement have continued to be displaced and have also caused the displacement of people not aligned with the Zapatista movement, and recent estimates have suggested that between 9,000 and 24,000 internally displaced people (IDPs) remain in protracted displacement" (IDMC and NRC, 2011).

A study made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), and the Instituto Mora, calculated that up to 2011 there were 25,671 displaced in Chiapas (amount that by now could be estimated to be 30,000), which is equivalent to about 5,320 families. This study claims that there is no authority on the government that can give the information with clarity about who are the displaced Chiapanecos, how many they are, where they are, or in which conditions they live in.

Basically, between the EZLN and the land conflict, this massive internal displacement has taken place. They are the forgotten victims of the conflict between the Zapatistas and the Mexican state which began in the 1990s. (SDG, (n.d.))

Topic A - questions and investigation topics

- What is a displaced person? What is the difference between displaced and refugee?
 - Colombian Armed Conflict- What is it? Roots and Affected.
 - Chiapas situation and victims.
 - Peru armed conflict.
 - (Please revise the “Expectations” section)
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Topic A - QARMAS

- How can Colombia assure peace or at least security for the displaced when even after the peace agreement was signed, new armed groups were formed and caused more displacement?
 - How can safety be assured for the displaced? (In all of the cases)
 - How can aid be received if humanitarians do not have the necessary information on Chiapas displaced and affected?
 - How will the displaced be able to live in habitable conditions having all of their rights protected?
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Topic A - recommended sources

- To understand the armed groups:
 - <https://www.farc-ep.co/nosotros.html>
 - http://www.nacionmulticultural.unam.mx/100preguntas/pregunta.php?num_pre=48
 - <https://www.excelsior.com.mx/topico/ezln>
 - <https://es.insightcrime.org/noticias-sobre-crimen-organizado-en-peru/sendero-luminoso/>
 - <http://www.derechos.org/nizkor/peru/libros/cv/ii/ori.html>
- To understand the refugees, displaced, and their conditions:
 - <https://www.unhcr.org/colombia.html>
 - <https://youtu.be/M2WKCZrobIM>

- <https://www.sdgfund.org/case-study/peace-building-displaced-chiapas-mexico>
- <https://globalpressjournal.com/americas/mexico/abandoned-homes-fearful-children-forced-displacements-common-southern-mexico/>
- <https://www.unhcr.org/publications/refugeemag/3b5549374/refugees-magazine-issue-103-idps-home-hurt.html>
- <https://www.ictj.org/sites/default/files/ICTJ-Brookings-Displacement-Reparations-Peru-CaseStudy-2012-English.pdf>

Topic B: Context

“After gaining independence in 1960, Mali endured decades of instability until Alpha Oumar Konaré was elected president in the country's first democratic election in 1992. He was succeeded in 2002 by Amadou Toumani Touré, a former army lieutenant-colonel who ruled until a coup launched last year (2012) by a group of young officers angry at the military's failure to stop Islamist insurgents.”
(Mark Tran, January 16, 2013)

The violence in Mali started in 2012 as a conflict between northern Mali and southern Mali, and continued between the government and various Islamist groups due to ideological differences. When Islamists moved into the northern regions, when they started forcing the Sharia law, constraining marriages, amputations and public whippings ((Shannon Warren, October 17, 2016)and (Olga Khazan, January 19, 2013)). On 16 of January 2012, different insurgent groups started fighting a campaign against the Government of Mali to gain independence or greater autonomy for northern Mali, specifically for a region called Azawad. Later on an organization called MNLA (National Movement for the Liberation of Azawad) started fighting to convert northern Mali into an independent homeland of the Tuareg people(1 (see bottom)), and took control of it

by April 2012 (Mark Tran, January 16, 2013). Afterwards, French (and international) intervention came in and tried to drive out Islamists and still many fled from northern Mali to southern regions inside Mali and into neighboring countries (International Organization for Migration, March 2013).

According to The Guardian, the 2012 rebellion was mostly a consequence of Gaddafi's downfall in Libya. In early 2012 the rebels swept the north Mali military forces and started forcing the Sharia Law, banned smoking and music, and started forcing women to wear headscarves.

1. Tuareg people: community that is part of the Berber group of people (mostly Muslims). The Tuareg people have a population of about 2 million individuals who have spread throughout the Sahara Desert in countries including Mali, Algeria, Libya, Niger and Chad. They are a substantial ethnic population that spread across the borders of several countries, but have no majority in any country. They are looking for better representation or their own territory. The country that is hosting the majority of Tuareg people is Mali with approximately 950,000 Tuaregs. Additionally, Tuareg people are associated with Libya's former dictator Muammar Gaddafi because he promoted them in the Libyan army and encouraged them to be loyal to him. After his death, his son Saif al Islam Gaddafi has been refuging with them (Andrew Meldrum, 2011). After this, the Tuareg from Libya fled to Mali and created NMLA: "The Tuaregs have been long-time opponents of Mali President Amadou Toumani Toure's government, complaining that the central government located in the southern capital city of Bamako has ignored the Tuareg in the country's impoverished north. The Tuaregs are rebelling against the Toure government, which has been in power since 1991." (Andrew Meldrum, 2011)
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Topic B: Approach

Before the crisis:

Before the 2012 crisis, Mali was a mostly migrant sending country (inside Mali and through borders) “Mali had also become a relatively important transit country, both for migrants attempting to reach northern Africa or Europe, and for trans-Saharan migration, and was host to a number of labour migrants and refugees.”

(International Organization for Migrants, March 2013).

The movements of migration in Mali reflected the **circular migration** and its importance: a third of Malian rural workforce migrated seasonally to urbanity outside of Mali’s territory in order to find work in neighboring countries (International Organization for Migration, March 2013) and (Di Bartolomeo, 2010)).

There were many reasons for the circular migration around Mali, among them the first mentioned are the **rural workforce migrating to urban areas for better opportunities**: “Traditionally, seasonal labour migration from the arid parts of Mali, Mauritania and Niger has taken place to plantations and mines on the coast of Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal.” (International Organization for Migration, March 2013). Another reason is the **pastoralist movements** “Approximately 500,000 Tuaregs and other pastoralist groups in Mali, such as Sonike, Toucouleur, Moors and Peuls, have been moving along traditional routes from the North to the South of Mali, as well as towards coastal countries and Western Africa” (International Organization for Migration, March 2013) and (United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), 2011).

Furthermore, the circular migration was mainly possible because of **ECOWAS** (Economic Community Of West African States), making migrating easier because of the **lack of visa requirements** for the member states of ECOWAS: “The absence of a visa requirement for ECOWAS citizens, the ease of travel for Malians throughout both the ECOWAS and Maghreb regions, the lack of reliable data collection and porous borders stretching for thousands of kilometres are all factors that have facilitated irregular transit migration.” ((International Organization for

Migration, March 2013) and (Di Bartolomeo, 2010)). Therefore, that **facile ways of migration** and **lack of laws and control**, led to a **high level of human trafficking** and smuggling mainly for the bourne of sexual exploitation and forced labor, besides from this, the lack of control was taken as an opportunity as **cross-border trafficking** licit and illicit elements such as psychoactive and psychedelic substaces and weapons ((International Organization for Migration, March 2013) and (IRIN News, 2013)). As a consequence, “Competition over the control of smuggling routes and the reported tolerance of Malian state officials’ towards criminal activity are seen as factors which have contributed toward the establishment of extremist groups in Mali.” ((International Organization for Migrants, March 2013) and (Lacher, 2012)).

With the migration movements throughout Western Africa, in 2010-2011 a food crisis arrived affecting the migration mobility patterns and making it more difficult for the used migratory to be able to move around. These circumstances also affected the migratory ability to cope with the 2012 events in Northern Mali. “This underlying factor of vulnerability is an essential element to consider when looking at the current crisis and potential post-crisis and recovery options.” (International Organization for Migration, March 2013).

To understand the circular migration it is important to understand that Mali wasn’t always a way through, but also a destination for different refugees; that after the conflict in 2012, have also been affected and at stake. “In the past decades, Mali has also received various large waves of refugees from neighbouring countries, such as Mauritania (after the Mauritanian-Senegal war in 1989), Côte d’Ivoire (after the Civil War started in 2002) and Sierra Leone (following internal conflicts in the 1990s). While most of these refugees returned home, a residual case- load remained in Mali. Before the outbreak of the current conflict in January 2012, 15,624 refugees and 2,497 asylum seekers were registered with UNHCR in Mali” (International Organization for Migration, March 2013).

During and after crisis:

After the MNLA started forming, Malians started realizing their lives were going to change and started fleeing the country. UNHCR spokesman Adrian Edwards said in January of 2013 that “refugees are telling us they fled the ongoing military intervention, the absence of subsistence opportunities and basic services, and the imposition of Sharia Law” (Adrian Edwards, 2013). In a lapse of a year (between 2012 and 2013) almost 230,000 people had been forcibly displaced in Mali, and approximately 144,500 people fled to neighboring countries; among which are 54,000 in Mauritania, 50,000 in Niger, 38,800 in Burkina Faso and 1,500 in Algeria (European Commissioner, 2019).

As of January of 2013 (merely a year after) the neighboring countries were already lacking food and shelter for the Malian refugees. A survey made by MSF in Mauritania found that nearly 1 in 5 Malian refugees children are malnourished and 4.6% were in danger of dying. And through that year the UN’s world food agency suspended the distribution of food in northern Mali due to the lack of security.

Another humongous problem refugees are facing is that the states receiving them are not economically developed. Thus, these **states are not stable** and if they cannot have stability in their own country, how can they provide it to refugees from Mali? This results in a very complex issue because they try to supply their country and another country with things they don’t really have. (Olga Khazan, 2013).

According to the European Commission Mali’s humanitarian crisis keeps worsening, an estimated 3.2 million people (16% of the country’s population) are affected by the crisis. Since 2018, Mali has been seeing a worrying increase in violence and insecurity, these include violations of the **International Humanitarian Law**.

“The number of internally displaced people has more than doubled throughout 2018. Since the beginning of 2019, there have been 133 000 newly internally displaced people, with the total now reaching 279 850 people.” (European commissioner, 2019), besides from this, many other Malians are still living in conflict affected zones and remain unreached. Additionally, the access for humanitarians is very treacherous and dangerous; firstly in Mali, and secondly in Nigeria and Burkina Faso, where violence is very present making humanitarian aid more difficult since it hampers their access to the people in need. “Security incidents affecting humanitarian non-governmental organisations have increased significantly over the past couple of years. In 2018, there were around 215 such incidents compared to 116 in 2016. So far in 2019, humanitarian organisations have faced 48 security incidents” (European commissioner, 2019)

“Access to education in Mali is increasingly under pressure as more than 950 schools are now closed down. An estimated 450 000 children are out of school because of the different crisis situations. With increasing violence against civilians and shrinking access for humanitarian workers to vulnerable people, the need for protection keeps rising; 3.2 million people in north and central Mali alone are in need of humanitarian aid, the majority of whom being children and women. Access to healthcare in most of the northern regions is dependent on humanitarian aid. In 2018, this situation has spread to the central regions, thus calling for increased humanitarian resources in that sector.” (European commissioner, 2019)

Different organizations such as the European Commissioner and of course UNHCR have done different humanitarian aids, built shelters, hospitals, wells, and a lot of other things to help the refugees, however the war keeps developing and every time there are more victims and more affected by the conflict in Mali.

Topic B- research questions and investigation topics

- Malian northern conflict
 - Tuareg people
 - MNLA (National Movement for the Liberation of Azawad)
 - Mali refugees conditions and necessities
 - International intervention
 - International aid received
 - Libya situation and how has that affected Mali's crisis
 - Nigeria and Burkina Faso security and Malian refugees condition
 - Humanitarians at risk while helping Malian refugees
 - Education and malnourishment of Malian children
 - Affected countries
 - International laws violated
 - Possible solutions
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Topic B- QARMAS

- How can Malian neighboring countries be able to provide aid when they are in complex conditions as well?
- How can humanitarians help Malians in conflict-zoned areas without risking themselves?
- What is a possible solution for the Malian children malnourishment and lack of education?

- How can Tuareg people have their own territory without risking or putting at stake other ethnic/religious groups and people?
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Topic B- recommended sources

- To understand the conflict:
 - https://www.iom.int/files/live/sites/iom/files/Country/docs/Mali_Migration_Crisis_2013.pdf
 - <https://amp.theguardian.com/world/2013/jan/16/mali-guide-to-the-conflict>.
 - https://ec.europa.eu/echo/where/africa/mali_en.
- To understand the refugees and their conditions:
 - <https://www.unhcr.org/news/stories/2019/3/5c90f91f4/bringing-life-city-mali-ravaged-war.html>.
 - <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/malisituation>.
 - <https://www.euractiv.com/section/justice-home-affairs/news/eu-mali-sign-deal-to-return-refugees/>.
 - <https://www.acaps.org/country/mauritania/crisis/malian-refugees>.

*Some of the sources are also part of my bibliography which means that part of the information can be found in this guide, however I consider it is important for you to also check them out to have a wider understanding. Besides, there is a lot of useful information that is not mentioned in this guide that can be found in those sources.

Bibliography

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