

Model Diplomacy Simulations: Climate Change

Overview

Model Diplomacy is a free classroom simulation of either the U.S. National Security Council (NSC) or the UN Security Council that takes place both online and in the classroom in a blended learning environment. It presents hypothetical situations based on real issues of the past and present. It has several cases that include a climate change angle.

Materials

The Model Diplomacy website

Instructional Plan

Model Diplomacy cases that include a climate change angle include:

Global Climate Change Policy

The president of the United States plans to attend a major upcoming international climate summit. Members of the National Security Council will need to consider a strategic goal for the summit, bearing in mind the potential impact of climate change, the potential effects of proposed mitigation measures, and the need to secure international support for the U.S. approach from both developed and developing countries.

• Boko Haram in Nigeria

Boko Haram, a radical Islamist movement, is waging an insurgency against the Nigerian government. Its campaign, estimated to have killed at least twenty thousand people in recent years, threatens the stability of Nigeria, a major oil producer and Africa's most populous country. Following a massive Boko Haram attack in Lagos, Nigeria's president has requested that the United States sell heavy military equipment to the country. The National Security Council needs to advise the president on whether to authorize the sale, which is currently prohibited under U.S. law because of the Nigerian military's reported human rights abuses.

• Humanitarian Intervention in South Sudan

Rival South Sudanese factions have been fighting a civil war since the end of 2013, causing mass displacement, tens of thousands of deaths, and widespread hunger. Negotiations between the leaders of these factions are stalled, and South Sudan's dry season approaches, which could lead to intensified fighting and a humanitarian crisis of

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potentially historic proportions. The president has asked the National Security Council for options on whether and how the United States should pursue a humanitarian intervention in or around South Sudan.