



**MBMUN (Summer) 2021**

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## Welcome to the G20 Summit

Country List	
Argentina	Italy
Australia	Japan
Brazil	Republic of Korea
Canada	Mexico
China	Russia
France	Saudi Arabia
Germany	South Africa
India	Turkey
Indonesia	United Kingdom
United States	European Union



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## **Word of Welcome from the Executive Board**

Dear Delegates,

We welcome all of you to the MBMUN 2021 Summer Edition. Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, we believe this online initiative of conducting an MUN in these tough times will give all of you the best opportunity to furnish all of your diplomatic and debate skills. MUN is an amazing opportunity for all of you to be involved in international relations, get a better understanding of how to solve those issues and be a global leader. MBMUN is also a great opportunity to interact with people from all over the world with different nationalities. Together, we aim to make the most meaningful and extraordinary conference.

We also welcome you to the G20 summit. As a group of 20 economically powerful countries first joined to resolve international economic crises, the G20 has developed into a group that aims to tackle other international issues such as the Sustainable Development Goals and Anti-Corruption issues that are being addressed in this committee's agenda.

The study guide below is to guide you through the agenda of Anti-Corruption, and an overview and the introduction to the debate. The Dais is expecting heated debates along with productive solutions for the various problems yet to be discussed. We also acknowledge that the conference will flow following the MBMUN Rules and Procedures.

We understand that having to address two agendas is not an easy task and we express our deepest gratitude that you are participating in the conference. Finally, we are looking forward to meeting all of you on July 16th and we promise that it will be the most meaningful weekend of your life. See you soon!

Best Regards,

Eunsul Kim, Vice Chair



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## **Introduction to the Committee**

The G-20 (Group of 20) comprises 19 nations (+ the European Union) that make up 60% of the world's population and 80% of the global GDP. It was established in 1999 after the Asian Financial Crisis with the aim to discuss matters relating to the promotion of global financial stability. Since 2010, there have been annual meetings and summits to discuss issues, with the host country changing every year depending on the organization's current head/ Secretariat. While at first their meetings were only attended by members, organizations like the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) , the World Bank (WB), the World Trade Organization (WTO) have recently been attending summits alongside guest nations like Spain, the United Arab Emirates, Thailand and more.



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## **Introduction to the Agenda**

The G20 is an economic-based organization of 20 countries from different economic sectors and levels. After battling economic crises, addressing environmental problems, developing each member nation in the G20, one of the newly arisen issues in both the international committee and within the G20 is the battle of tackling corruption.

As the issue of anti-corruption is highly intertwined with each member nation's sovereignty, supremacy of the government regime, and citizens' human rights, it is critical to find the balance between violation of nations' sovereignty and the protection of the citizens' rights when addressing this issue. Corrupted institutions harm the path to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and furthermore, damages the economy of each nation which affects all nations in the G20.

Tackling corruption has been only recently added into the G20's agenda. Established in 2010, the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group (ACWG) provides a background for the committee to work with. The ACWG has launched projects with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the World Bank (WB), the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) for assistance and supervision of its work. The work done by ACWG so far is now limited to country-specific guidelines on tackling the issue of corruption. Some examples of guidelines were the enforcement of liability of legal persons for issues regarding bribery. There are also yearly progress reports regarding each country on the implementation of guidelines drafted by the ACWG to monitor a country's actions. The ACWG works closely with the UNODC for recovering stolen assets from a nation by an individual. Since this can happen across borders, the UNODC takes close attention to money laundering and the regulation on



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income and asset disclosures. As corruption and illegal assets may lead to terrorism financing the UNODC is working to prevent those cases.

The issues of corruption in a government also may lead to humanitarian crises. This is related to corruption since when the government is corrupt, it is not able to fulfill its responsibilities of providing security, rights to the citizens. Without rights provided to the citizens, it may potentially cause a humanitarian crisis. Therefore, citizens and governments have an increasing amount of conflict with citizens demanding rights and the government neglecting or not being able to provide them with rights. Those conflicts may eventually lead to usage of violence. Another major issue of corruption is demonstrated when a government acknowledges that it will not be transparent to the public due to security of information (national interest). It is the committee's duty to find a balance between respecting a nation's sovereignty (which does not mean giving it the chance to opt out entirely of anti-corruption measures passed in council) and battling corruption.

As there are more international issues arising on battling corruption, it can be concluded that the actions so far implemented by the G20 are still weak and there needs to be a more effective resolution to the issue. The Myanmar military coup also started with the government's corruption with the improper regime of governance taken by power instead of democracy. The definition of corruption may vary on each country's political systems. Nepotism may be viewed as corruption in a democratic government. It is the delegates' duties to determine to what extent government actions are defined as corruption. The committee is highly encouraged to debate upon the solutions that could be implemented with existing resources and a method to seek cooperation from each member nation.



## **History of the Agenda**

People have expressed their disapproval towards government corruption since the beginning of history. The purpose of a government is to provide security to a country, protect human rights and provide social needs to its citizens. However, those cannot be achieved when a government is corrupt.

With the ending of World War II on September 2nd, 1945, most countries in the world had adopted a form of democracy. There have been a lot of issues with the first political systems as democracy began to settle in the majority of western countries. The issues of corruption in the political system were resolved by citizens in each member nation by actively protesting and asking for justice and righteousness such as the Arab Springs or the Gwangju Incident in the Republic of Korea. Both of the events started when the citizens found out the government was using illegal methods to gain governance and had bribes. The second event that happened in 1945 was the formation of the United Nations. This needs to be highly noted due to the fact that the United Nations Charters were also created. The acknowledgement of member nation's sovereignty and territorial integrity, this has influenced the agenda significantly by limiting foreign intervention. A demonstrative event for battling corruption occurred during the Arab Springs. Citizens stood up for their human rights since the government could not provide them with necessities.

In 2010, the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group was formed. With the assistance of United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and many international bodies, the ACWG has been able to come up with action plans for each year. All member nations of the G20 have



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ratified the United Nations Convention Against Corruption, giving a major step towards anti-corruption worldwide. No matter what political system; democracy, communism, dictatorship, or constitutional monarchy, each type of government has flaws and benefits. It is the duty of the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group and for all of the world to overcome those flaws in each government and prevent corruption.

## **Key Terms**

### **Bribery**

Bribery means the exchange of a valuable item such as money for personal benefit, usually for a political or social position. The main issue with bribery is that it is under table money or done in secrecy, so it is hard to catch.

### **Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI)**

The Corruption Perceptions Index or CPI is the global index rating 180 countries and territories on the level of corruption. The CPI is updated every year. Corruption Perceptions Index is a monitoring system of the level of corruption. The CPI can be utilized to identify and research corruption. The CPI level is determined by each country's transparency. Transparency is allowing the citizens to be aware of the government's decisions and its process that led to those decisions. Over the years, New Zealand has rated first in the CPI. Among the members of the G20, Germany, United Kingdom, and Australia rank the highest in the Corruption perceptions Index.

### **Governance**

Governance is defined as the power that rules or controls the nation. No matter what government system each country adopts, governance is key to each country. By losing governance, it would throw the country into chaos and lead to the violation of human rights.



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Losing governance often happens due to corruption in the government. It is also critical to think of ways to maintain governance.

### **Transparency**

Transparency is opening information to the public. If the government lacks transparency, it is most likely that the government is trying to hide something, possibly bribery or corruption.

Transparency or the access of information to the public is essential for each government.

### **White Collar Crime**

White Collar Crime simply refers to crimes of corruption committed by individuals who are interested in finance. The motivation of the crime comes completely from finance. This might also refer to faking one's academic degrees or more. This is relevant since it destroys the trust of a citizen toward a government. Furthermore, individuals in the government commit white collar crime with money laundering.



## **Stance of Parties**

### **Argentina**

Argentina has severe cases of corruption with the police abusing its power, political corruption, tax evasion, etc. Argentina has a long history of corrupt government leaders and has an ongoing battle of tackling corruption. There have been vigorous efforts made by Argentina to solve the issue of corruption. Several parties in Argentina declared “No corruption” and Argentina is desperate for a change.

### **Australia**

Australia is one of the least corrupt countries in the world, ranking 167th place of being corrupt or 13th place of being an anti-corrupt country. There has been no major issue regarding corruption in Australia and Australia has implemented many laws regarding anti-bribery/anti-corruption such as the Commonwealth Criminal Code Act of 1995.

### **Brazil**

The issue of corruption is severe in Brazil. Corruption exists in all levels and all kinds. ‘Operation Car Wash’ is one of the most noted corruption cases in Brazil. It is urgent to resolve the issue of corruption immediately. Although there are anti-corruption legislations existing in Brazil, the laws are not properly kept or regulated.

### **Canada**

Canada has low levels of corruption due to their strong anti-corruption framework that prohibits any form of bribing academic degrees, etc. As Canada is one of the leading countries in terms of anti-corruption, countries worldwide will be able to look upon Canada’s framework and the implementation of laws.



## **China**

China has corruption related to *guanxi*, which is the term for bribery in the local lexicon. The government is making vigorous efforts to get rid of *guanxi*; yet it is still regarded as almost a culture and a tradition in the regions. *Guanxi* is especially common in Chinese business culture; there are more multinational companies joining China due to its *guanxi* policies and reform policies

## **France**

France has low levels of corruption compared to other countries, but there is still existing corruption in the government. Especially regarding the recent bribery scandal for white collar crime with the French former President Sarkozy, France is highly alert about corruption. Former President Sarkozy has been found guilty attempting to bribe a judge into giving him a position in politics. Compared to other European Union countries, France can be judged as more corrupt due to tax evasions.

## **Germany**

Germany is listed as the 12th of the least corrupted countries on the CPI. This was possible due to the strong infrastructure and the institutions Germany has, strict regulations, and laws under the general law concerning bribery and anti-corruption.

## **India**

In India, corruption is widespread in the police system and in public services. Often, one party of the government ends up monopolizing business sectors on certain goods and their delivery. There are many cases of bribery in courts, too. Despite the government's attempts to reduce the level of corruption through laws and punishments, corruption remains a serious issue in India.



### **Indonesia**

Indonesia has low cases of corruption. However, it faces other economic issues due to the strict anti-corruption laws that are enforced. The laws restrict economic activity in Indonesia and lowers the competitiveness of businesses. Indonesia's main goal is to restore the balance between economy and anti-corruption.

### **Italy**

Italy is described as the most corrupt country in the European Union. The citizens in Italy lost their trust towards the Italian government with frequent corruption issues. The corruption issues in Italy concern the political parties and the parliament, the two major parts of the government. Despite the fact that Italy has managed to make many improvements, corruption scandals are common in Italy.

### **Japan**

There are low cases of corruption in Japan. This was possible by legislation but also because of the cultures and traditions of Japan. Traditional rules such as the exchange of gifts condemn bribery.

### **Republic of Korea**

The Republic of Korea has had high cases of corruption till recently with South Korea's former President Park accepting bribes, etc. The citizens of the Republic of Korea are fighting against corruption. In each case of government corruption, the citizens unite together and protest. It is significant that no form of violent exchange has occurred while fixing corruption or during the protests.



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### **Mexico**

Mexico is listed as the 31st country in terms of corruption on the global Corruption Perceptions Index out of 180 countries and territories. With issues arising regarding drugs and the corrupted government around the issues of drugs/the usage of drugs, Mexico is judged internationally due to the violation of human rights. Mexico's police officers are violently punishing people associated with drugs. However, they often get away due to government corruption.

### **Russia**

Russia has extremely high cases of corruption. Corruption has been common throughout Russia's history due to the system the government takes. Bribery and lobbying are common in Russia. However, this is an issue since lobbying also happens in the weapons market. Russia is not taking any form of action against corruption. Alexei Navalni, an anti-corruption activist is running for office against corruption in Russia and his actions are changing the Russian government but still there needs to be more that is done.

### **Saudi Arabia**

Saudi Arabia has moderate cases of corruption. It has significantly improved since the Arab Spring movement and is continuing to improve. The main issues of corruption in Saudi Arabia concern the abuse of power in companies and governments. However, Saudi Arabia is investigating and making great progress such as the mass arrest on corruption and more.

### **South Africa**

South Africa is listed as the 44th most corrupted country on the global Corruption Perceptions Index out of 180 countries and territories. There is an increased case of private usage of public resources in governments; yet, there are no working regulations to stop the ongoing issue.



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### **Turkey**

Turkey is listed as the 40th country that is corrupted on the global Corruption Perceptions Index out of 180 countries and territories. Turkey's government is not transparent as it should be because of the lack of knowledge of how the government should work, etc. President Erdogan is abusing his power in order to send the military to foreign territories, violating human rights of citizens.

### **United Kingdom**

The United Kingdom is also one of the least corrupt countries. The United Kingdom has developed an anti-corruption agency for the purpose of battling corruption. However, like the United States, lobbying is legal in the United Kingdom, and it is allowed for members of the Parliament to be lobbied.

### **United States**

The United States is also a major stakeholder in the agenda as the United States influences the majority of the countries who have adopted the system of democracy. While being called the "Symbol of capitalism and democracy", the United States has proceeded to achieve the transparency of businesses. However, lobbying is made official and legal in the United States. As long as it does not have corruption, the United States will have a great influence on western countries' opinions on the issue.

### **European Union (EU)**

The European Union consists of many European countries whose corruption is at different levels. However, the majority of the European nations rarely have a case of corruption. The European Union has extended the anti-corruption to international level by a cooperation of countries and the establishment of an Anti-Fraud Office under the European Union.



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## **Major issues in the current policy**

The issues regarding the current policy is that due to the adoption of the United Nations Charters and of the recognition of supremacy of the government regime and sovereignty of each nation, foreign intervention or direct action regarding corruption is not possible in the committee and is only in the authorization of the United Nations Security Council. Furthermore, even if drafting resolutions or guidelines for member nations in terms of anti-corruption, it cannot be mandated that each country will ratify the resolution. And even if ratified, there is no feasible method or organization yet to monitor the anti-corruption efforts that are made by each country.

The current convention against corruption has the sturdy support of international bodies, funding, and more. The common actions are the punishments of criminals nationally. That has failed since it was common for those criminals to move abroad and escape the punishment. Furthermore, the current actions are regarding the recovery of assets, not necessarily the prevention of corruption. However, it has not been successful regarding the implementation of the convention. Since there was no standard for corruption, the countries couldn't monitor the corruption. There were also no regulations of laws that are enforced internationally since it was hard to come to a meeting point for what action should be taken and to what extent is taken as corruption. The current actions have been only regarding the recovery of assets from the World Bank.

The actions required in the committee are de jure, de facto. Regulations and the implementation of those regulations. The legal implications would be about an universal regulation on the acceptance of criminals who have committed crimes related to corruptions, universal monitoring system for corruption, and the international prevention methods on corruption.



With the lack of policies, infrastructure and more, the members of the Executive Board ask the delegates to focus on resolving those problems in order for a more fruitful debate and an effective resolution.

## **Scope of Debate**

The members of the Executive Board want the debate to be as meaningful and effective as possible. Therefore, the Executive Board highly recommends the delegates to follow Compare and Contrast-Effect-Solution Format during the debates. As much as the agenda is focusing on combating Anti-corruption Worldwide, the issue of corruption and the solution belongs to each nation. Therefore, the chairs would highly recommend a discussion on national policies in order to compare and contrast each nation's situation in order to come to a better understanding and collaborate.

Some Possible Moderated/Unmoderated Discussion Topics are the following:

### **❑ Definition of corruption**

As each country's political systems are different, the definition of corruption may differ. Nepotism can be taken as a form of corruption in a democratic government's view. However, a communist government may simply take it as a legal method of improving relations. It is the delegates' duties to define to what extent is taken as corruption and what isn't. Dictatorship may be considered as corruption by its definition. However, it may be taken otherwise. This is essential since there are no universal standards on corruption. A standard is required in order to monitor the levels of corruption in the



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world. The study guide simply defines corruption as the government not being able to provide basic needs to its citizens. However, delegates must debate on the specifics of the definition of corruption.

#### **❑ United Nations Convention against Corruption and its implementation**

The UNCC deals with prevention, regulations and laws, enforcement of the laws, and punishments and recovery from corruption. Numerous countries have ratified and acted as a signatory for the document. However, the implementation of the UNCC was only limited to the recovery from corruption such as returning assets to rightful owners. The other 4 parts of the document are not implemented properly as in order to do so, there needs to be mandatory international cooperation to regulate, and prevent corruption. The delegates must discuss upon how to bring UNCC to its most effectiveness and create methods on how to utilize an existing resolution

#### **❑ Problems of corruption occurring in member nation or in regions of the world**

The problems of corruption are broad and numerous. From bribery to stolen assets from governments, different crimes are happening all over the globe. In order to solve the issue, we must first identify the problem that is arising. Each member nation faces different problems and the committee must acknowledge everyone in order to create the most fruitful solutions regarding the issues.

#### **❑ How to utilize the ACWG and other international bodies**

Instead of the creation of a new international body, the executive committee highly recommends the utilization of an existing resolution and international bodies as it already has the resources and information adequate to resolve the issue. Corruption can not be regulated simply within the single nation since a criminal at a nation may move to another nation to continue illegal activities. There also needs to be detailed



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fundings and division of work among international bodies regarding prevention, monitoring, minimizing and recovering.

**\*Please note that the content listed above is only recommendations, not mandatory. If delegates feel like those topics are inappropriate due to the flow of the debate, they are welcome to introduce any topics to the committee. This is only a reference.**

### **Past International Actions/Timeline of Events**

**September 1945:** WW2 ends; the United Nations is formed in October

**May 1961:** military coup in Korea. Korean citizens protest against dictatorship and turn the government into democratic system

**November 1975:** G7 is formed

**1993:** Italy's Mr. Croci is tracked due to the bribery scandals

**September 1999:** G20 is formed

**March 2000:** Former associate President Estrado of the Philippines is accused of stock manipulation of the BA gaming company.

**October 2003:** United Nations Convention against Corruption has been drafted

**December 2005:** United Nations Convention on Corruption is enforced and ratified by all G20 nations and becomes official.



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**2006:** Germany's company, Siemens commits bribery to government official and asks citizens in the EU to pay higher price than original in order to gain profit

**2010:** G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group is formed

**2015:** Korea's former president Park Geun-Hye is imprisoned for abuse of power and bribery

**2020:** Former of Mexico, President Enrique Pena Nieto is officially fired due to the bribery scandals

**2021:** Frances's former president Sarkozy is imprisoned due to committing bribery and the abuse of power



## **Proposed Solutions**

Some solutions that the delegates may take into consideration are:

### **1. Creation of a corruption monitoring international system or network**

There is no method currently to monitor each member nations' implementation of the regulations. In many cases, countries ratify a resolution but hardly implement it in their own countries. Without a monitoring system, a drafted resolution would not be upheld and would be meaningless. Furthermore, a corruption monitoring international system or network is needed for transparency and the regulation of each government's corruption. If a government is corrupt, they will not reveal the fact to the public or deny it in front of international bodies. In order to prevent that, a corruption monitoring network needs to be made in order to regulate a country to a certain degree where it would not violate its sovereignty.

### **2. Provision of humanitarian aid or international support to citizens protesting against corruption**

As mentioned above, a foreign country or an international body cannot step into the matters within the nation. Therefore, if there is corruption, the citizens must fight for it within the nation. Since foreign intervention is not in order due to problems with recognition of territory, the method that does not violate a country's sovereignty is the provision of humanitarian aid to citizens protesting against corruption. Although this may seem like a second hand matter, humanitarian aid is highly relevant. A government's responsibility is to provide security, to provide public services, and protect human rights. When a government is corrupt, they are unable to fulfill those



responsibilities and citizens end up lacking basic needs such as food, water, and more.

Humanitarian aid will be able to act as a short term solution to the issue.

### **3. Creation of rules and international regulations on punishment of corrupt government officials**

When there are laws enforced to eliminate corruption, there needs to be a form of punishment for corrupt government leaders. Furthermore, there are a lot of cases where corrupt government leaders flee to other countries in order to avoid punishment for their actions. This can also be a breach in international security and peace as government leaders often have national information and when a foreign country accepts him/her, they might leak information, which is a major threat to both individual countries and the international society. Therefore, there needs to be an agreement of countries agreeing on punishments of corrupt government officials.

### **4. Transparency of government information in the Internet**

Transparency of government actions is important to earn citizens' trust and in terms of prevention of corruption. By providing the public with transparent information, this will improve relations nationally and would be able to prevent future corruption since all actions would need to be available to the public. However, this is also a delicate issue since it needs to be decided on to what degree should a nation be transparent since this may also leak out important government information or violate the rights to privacy.



## **Questions A Resolution Must Answer**

The following are the list of questions that a resolution must answer:

1. How would the new guidelines or the policies drafted previously be able to be enforced in individual nations without the violation of a nation's sovereignty and increased conflict?
2. How should international countries support citizens fighting against corruption if no foreign intervention is allowed?
3. To what degree or a standard is foreign intervention allowed or justified?  
E.g.) When a country uses military against citizens
4. What actions can be taken in order to monitor each country's corruption levels? What methods can be used in order to be knowledgeable about each country's governments?  
\*Be minded that countries would not open to international organizations about their own government networks.
5. In order to prevent or stop corruption, are we able to trust individual countries to implement national laws or should an international organization step in?
6. Would having punishments to government officials who are corrupt be adequate?  
Would there be a standard?



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7. Are some government systems (democracy, communism e.t.c) better in dealing with corruption? If so, should member nations implement those government systems into their own country?

## **Conclusion**

With issues arising related to corruption, the world is restless with numerous problems to solve. Corruption is one of the major issues that the world is facing and that needs to be resolved right now. With issues such as the Myanmar military coup, corruption is spreading in governments. The G20, the 20 countries with a prosperous economy, are gathered today in order to resolve the issue of anti-corruption. It is the committee's duties to balance out a nation's rights to sovereignty, battling corruption and the human rights issues. There may be obstacles within the committee regarding national interests of each nation that can vary, and the chairs hope that the delegates can overcome those challenges.

As all voices of delegates are highly valuable and voices of minor member countries must be heard in the committee regardless of their position in the committee. It is also the duty of the major stakeholders to assist those minor countries let their voice be heard. All delegates are responsible for resolving the issue and leading a thorough discussion in the committee.

All delegates are highly recommended to do research before the conference as it will be required while writing the position papers. Delegates must be engaged in debates in both moderated and unmoderated caucuses and have a deep insight into the issue and have an idea of how to resolve it. It is the delegates responsibility to stick to their foreign policy and



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make sure their ideas and voices are heard. Furthermore, all delegates must respect each other and also be inclusive during the debates in order to have a fruitful discussion.

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Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals



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Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

## **Word of Welcome by Executive Board**

Dear Delegates,

We welcome all of you to the MBMUN 2021 Summer Edition. Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, we believe this online initiative of conducting an MUN in these tough times will give all of you the best opportunity to furnish all of your diplomatic and debate skills. MUN is an amazing opportunity for all of you to be involved in international relations, get a better understanding on how to solve those issues and be a global leader. MBMUN is also a great opportunity to interact with people from all over the world with different nationalities. Together with your assistance, we aim to make the most meaningful and extraordinary conference.

We also welcome you to the G20 summit. As a group of 19 economically powerful countries (and the European Union) first joined to resolve international economic crises, the G20 has developed into a group that aims to tackle other international issues such as the Sustainable Development Goals and Anti-Corruption issues that are being addressed in this committee's agenda.

The study guide below is to guide you through the agenda of the Sustainable Development Goals, and an overview and the introduction to the debate. The Dais is expecting heated debates along with productive solutions for the various problems yet to be discussed. We also acknowledge that the conference will flow following the MBMUN Rules and Procedures.

We understand that having to address two agendas is not an easy task and we express our deepest gratitude that you are participating in the conference. Finally, we are looking forward to meeting all of you on July 16th and we promise that it will be the most meaningful weekend of your life. See you soon!



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Best Regards,

Syed Wahib Mohammed Rizvi, Head Chair

Gaye Juliana Delos Santos, Vice Chair

## **Introduction of the Committee**

The G20 (Group of 20) comprises 19 nations (+ the European Union) that make up 60% of the world's population and 80% of the global GDP. It was established in 1999 after the Asian Financial Crisis with the aim to discuss matters relating to the promotion of global financial stability. Since 2010, there have been annual meetings and summits to discuss issues, with the host country changing every year (depending on the organization's current head/Secretariat.) While at first their meetings were only attended by members, organizations like the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the World Bank (WB), and the World Trade Organization (WTO), others that have been attending summits alongside include guest nations like Spain, the United Arab Emirates, Thailand and many more.

## **Introduction of the Agenda**

In 2015, the United Nations launched the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. These goals encompass issues ranging from environmental to humanitarian to worldwide cooperation. These issues aim to create a better world by 2030; recognizing that all issues are interconnected and in order to fix one, one must fix another.

During the conference, there will be a special focus on five goals; **Goal 6** (Clean water and Sanitation), **Goal 7** (Affordable and clean energy), **Goal 11** (Sustainable cities and communities), **Goal 12** (Responsible consumption and production), and **Goal 13** (Climate Action). This is to ensure that the committee session will have a concrete goal in mind and a



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common theme bringing all these goals together. Human relationship with the planet. And helping to reduce the effects of Climate Change.

## **Goal 6: Clean water and sanitation:**

**“Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all”**

Although everyone deserves safe and affordable drinking water, unfortunately many do not get the safe water they need, leading to unnecessary disease and death. Water scarcity affects over 40% of the world. By 2025, it is estimated that over 1.8 billion people will be living in regions with intense water scarcity. However, this number is projected to rise due to the effects of climate change.

### **Targets:**

1. ‘By 2030, **achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water** for all.’
2. ‘By 2030, **achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene** for all and end open defecation, *paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations.*’
3. ‘By 2030, **improve water quality by reducing pollution**, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, *halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally.*’
4. ‘By 2030, substantially **increase water-use efficiency across all sectors** and **ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater** to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity.’
5. ‘By 2030, **implement integrated water resources management at all levels**, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate.’



6. 'By 2020, **protect and restore water-related ecosystems**, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes.'
7. 'By 2030, **expand international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries** in water- and sanitation-related activities and programmes, including water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies.'
8. '**Support and strengthen the participation of local communities** in improving water and sanitation management.'

## **Goal 7: Affordable and clean energy**

**“Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.”**

In the decades from 1990 and 2010, 1.7 billion more people have gained access to electricity. However, as the world population continues to climb, more and more people will need access to cheap and accessible electricity. Currently, the cheapest and most accessible options are electricity derived from fossil fuels. However, these greatly harm the environment and lead to further problems down the road. A question the G20 needs to address is how will nations be able to balance these two problems while simultaneously still making sure to meet the targets?

### **Targets:**

1. 'By 2030, ensure **universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services**'
2. 'By 2030, **increase the share of renewable energy** in the global energy mix'
3. 'By 2030, **double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency**'
4. 'By 2030, **enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology**, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and



advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology’

5. ‘By 2030, **expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services for all in developing countries**, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States, and land-locked developing countries, in accordance with their respective programmes of support’

## **Goal 11: Sustainable cities and communities**

**“Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable”**

Over half of the world’s population lives in cities, and it is estimated that this number will increase to two-thirds by 2050. As more and more people continue to move into cities, slums and low quality services continue to threaten the well being of people living there. To make cities sustainable for all, quality and affordable public services like housing and transport will need to be available for everybody. Slums should be replaced by inhabitable houses. Green spaces should be built for the betterment of people.

### **Targets:**

1. ‘By 2030, ensure **access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services** and **upgrade slums**’
2. ‘By 2030, provide **access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety**, notably by expanding public transport, with *special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons*”
3. ‘By 2030, **enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization** and **capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management** in all countries’



4. 'Strengthen efforts to **protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage**'
5. 'By 2030, significantly **reduce the number of deaths** and the number of people affected and substantially **decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters**, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations'
6. 'By 2030, **reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities**, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management'
7. 'By 2030, **provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces**, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities'
8. 'Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning'
9. 'By 2020, substantially **increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters**, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030<sup>1</sup>, holistic disaster risk management at all levels'
10. '**Support least developed countries**, including through financial and technical assistance, **in building sustainable and resilient buildings utilizing local materials**'

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<sup>1</sup> Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. (2015). Retrieved June 15, 2021, from Undrr.org website: <https://www.undrr.org/publication/sendai-framework-disaster-risk-reduction-2015-2030>



## **Goal 12: Responsible consumption and production**

### **“Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns”**

As the wealth disparity grows, the disparity between the distribution of essential goods between social classes grows with it. The global population is estimated to reach 8 billion in 2024. Nations will have to find ways to conserve the world’s natural resources and figure out problems like resource management, proper disposal of waste, food waste, etc. for the future generations. The G20 will have to help the world develop more responsible consumption patterns if we want our descendants to thrive in the future.

#### **Targets:**

1. ‘Implement the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production, all countries taking action, with developed countries taking the lead, taking into account the development and capabilities of developing countries’
2. ‘By 2030, **achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources**’
3. ‘By 2030, **halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains**, including post-harvest losses’
4. ‘By 2020, **achieve environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes** throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment’
5. ‘By 2030, substantially **reduce waste generation** through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse’



6. **‘Encourage companies**, especially large and transnational companies, **to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information** into their reporting cycle’
7. **‘Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable**, in accordance with national policies and priorities’
8. ‘By 2030, **ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles** in harmony with nature’
9. **‘Support developing countries** to strengthen their scientific and technological capacity to move towards more **sustainable patterns of consumption and production**’
10. ‘Develop and **implement tools to monitor sustainable development impacts** for **sustainable tourism** that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products’
11. **‘Rationalize inefficient fossil-fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption** by removing market distortions, in accordance with national circumstances, including by restructuring taxation and phasing out those harmful subsidies, where they exist, to reflect their environmental impacts, taking fully into account the specific needs and conditions of developing countries and minimizing the possible adverse impacts on their development in a manner that protects the poor and other affected communities’

### **Goal 13: Climate Action**

#### **“Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts”**

Scientists have warned the world of climate change’s effects for the past decades and while there have been some actions against climate change, it is simply not enough to keep up with the damage we are doing to the planet. Climate does not just affect the environment, annual losses from earthquakes, tropical cyclones, tsunamis and flooding reach hundreds of billions of dollars. It has been estimated that the world will need to limit



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the increase in global temperature to 2 degrees celsius above the pre-industrial levels to be able to avoid climate change's worst consequences. How will the G20 abide by this target?

**Targets:**

1. **'Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters** in all countries'
2. **'Integrate climate change measures** into national policies, strategies and planning'
3. **'Improve education**, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on **climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning'**
4. **'Implement the commitment undertaken by developed-country parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change** to a goal of mobilizing jointly \$100 billion annually by 2020 from all sources to address the needs of developing countries in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation and **fully operationalize the Green Climate Fund through its capitalization as soon as possible'**
5. **'Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management** in least developed countries and small island developing States, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities'



## **History and Timeline of the Agenda:**

### **1962, *The Silent Spring* by Rachel Carson is published**

A book considered to be the most influential environmental book of the 20th century was released. It helped to spark global environmental movements and concerned the impact of chemical pesticides. Its legacy can be seen today in the way that much of the SDGs' focus is on protecting the natural environment.

### **January 1969, Santa Barbara Oil Spill**

In January of 1969, 15 million liters of oil was released onto the Californian coast, killing thousands of animals. It was considered the worst oil spill at the time and sparked global attention, alarming the world to think about conserving the environment. This event led to the creation of the first Earth Day on April 22, 1970, where 20 million people celebrated the concept of saving the planet.

### **1972, Conference on the Human Environment and growing environmental concerns**

With growing worldwide environmental concerns, the United Nations (UN) held a "Conference on the Human Environment" in Stockholm, Sweden. It was the first of its kind to formally recognize that our economical endeavours will ultimately impact the environment.

In the same year, "The Limits to Growth", a joint study released by the MIT and the Club of Rome, questioned the impact of the growing human ecological footprint and speculated that because of it, civilisation would collapse by 2100.



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### **1984, The Brundtland Report**

In 1983, the UN established the “Brundtland Commission” as a result over the growing concerns of the world’s unsustainable economic growth. Four years later, they released the Brundtland report that developed principles for sustainable development. It also brought to light the fact that the world’s environmental problems were the result of the non-sustainable consumption practices and production of the developed world.

### **June 1992, The Earth Summit (UN Conference on Environment and Development)**

The Earth Summit was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. At the summit, 178 nations signed Agenda 21. It was a comprehensive plan that would be taken up in all levels of government, aiming to achieve global sustainable development by 2000.

### **September 2000, Millennium Summit**

At the Millennium Summit at the UN Headquarters, all member states adopted the Millennium Declaration. This led to the 8 Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), aiming to reduce extreme poverty by 2015.

### **2002, World Summit on Sustainable Development**

The “Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation” were adopted at the summit. Based on past commitments (Agenda 21, Millennium Declaration )they reaffirmed global commitments to eradicate poverty and preserve the environment, emphasizing global cooperation.

### **June 2012, United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)**

The foundation for the SDGs was born. As the MDGs would be ending soon, they had decided to build upon the ideas of the MDGs and create the SDGs that’ll last from 2015-2030. Negotiations for the SDGs started. Aside from the planning of the SDGs, the UN also implemented measures for sustainable development and mandates for future work programmes.



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### **2013, Open Working Group**

A 30 member group was set up by the UN General Assembly to make a proposal for the SDGs. Coined the “Open Working Group” they were nominated by different member states from the five United Nations regional groups to ensure that there would be a balanced representation of problems and ideas. Over 10 million people from all over the world expressed their views and ideas in the consultations that helped create the 2030 Agenda. The initial list of 300 goals were whittled down to 17 in the next two years.

### **January 2015, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is born**

At this point in time, negotiations began in the General Assembly on the SDGs. These negotiations brought forth the creation and adoption of the “2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” with the 17 SDGs as its foundation. The agenda was officially launched at the “UN Sustainable Development Summit” in September of the same year.

### **November 2016, the Paris Agreement**

On 12 December 2015, the Paris Agreement was adopted by 196 parties at Copenhagen 21. It is a legally binding international treaty in response to Climate Change and aims to limit global warming by lowering 2-1.5 degrees (celcius) compared to pre industrial levels. To achieve this, countries will have to continuously introduce and enact increasingly ambitious plans to combat climate change. This will require extensive social and economic reforms to be possible. The agreement also aims to reach a carbon neutral world around the mid century.

### **July 2017, Ratification of the Goals**

To make the SDGs more specific and easier to complete, the United Nations (UN) adopted an agenda that outlined specific targets for each goal.



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## **Key Terms:**

**Energy mix:** the combination of different primary energy sources that make up the total primary energy supply of a country. These also take into account energy uses from transportation, residential purposes and other similar services in the country - not just electricity.

**Renewable Energy:** energy from a source that does not deplete when used / is able to naturally replenish fast enough that supply is nearly infinite .

**Sustainable development:** development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

**Sustainable Development Index:** an index that ranks each nation on their progress to completing the 17 main goals and their targets based on information and data collected worldwide

**Subsidies:** a sum of money granted by the state or a public body to help an industry or business keep the price of a commodity or service low.



## **Stance of Parties:**

### **Argentina**

Argentina has one of the highest water consumption rates in the world but at the same time, severely lacks the access to water in some regions in the nation. Argentina has been trying to solve the issue by implementing laws to add chlorine to tap water, but the efforts were unsuccessful and the pressure towards the government for clean water started rising. Argentina is one of the leading countries in achieving SDG 7. Access to clean energy by possessing a high potential of utilization of clean energy. However, natural gas remains as the primary source of energy in Argentina. Argentina's main industries are mining and generating energy and is one of the biggest economies. It was also successful in achieving SDG 12. Argentina is one of the countries who will be severely impacted by climate change. Argentina is making vigorous efforts on climate action by implementing national laws such as the National Action Plan on Forests and Climate Change. The nation is working towards achieving sustainable development goals with collaboration between civil society organizations and the government.

### **Australia**

Australia has high water consumption and yet is one of the driest countries on Earth. With fires in Australia, the availability of water decreased sharply to a state where it became a water crisis. Australia implemented the Water Act to deal with SDG 6 but needs further assistance to make sure that a crisis will not happen again. It is leading in achieving SDG 7 with 30% of the country's energy coming from renewable energy. One of the laws that Australia has enacted is the Renewable Energy Target (RET). The nation has focused on



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responsible consumption of mining and is trying to promote responsible consumption in different indigenous and non-indigenous societies. Australia's ways in achieving SDG 13 is heavily related with SDG 6 with the issue of wild forest fires. As wild forest fires emit greenhouse gases and at the same time reduce the water supply, it is an issue that needs to be addressed immediately.

### **Brazil**

Brazil has a stable source of water and has increased sanitation levels to 90% and access to clean water to 97% in recent years. Unlike many other countries, Brazil has a national system for monitoring water quality and finance. Brazil also had success in achieving SDG 7 as it has 80% of its energy being from renewable sources. However, Brazil has several issues regarding consumption

of resources as citizens and companies often burn forests to create land for agriculture and other reasons. This also affects SDG 13 since burning of trees releases greenhouse gases into the atmosphere.

### **Canada**

Canada has issues regarding almost all of the four SDGs. Canada has a large supply of clean water, claiming 7% of the world's freshwater supply. However, there is an over consumption of water due to the mindsets of citizens that the supply of water is endless. Although Canada has high potential for renewable energy development, it still uses natural gases as a primary source of energy. There is also a high overconsumption of electronics leading to a lot of electronic waste. The majority of Canadians also consume 50% more food than the average of the world leading to a high number of food waste. The country has reduced its greenhouse gas by 30% and has implemented many legislations. However, there is still more work that needs to be done as Canada is releasing a high amount of greenhouse gases.



## **China**

China has severe issues with all four of the SDGs (like Canada). With a large mass of land, the pollution of water is widespread in China, making access to clean water and sanitation difficult to achieve by laws only. Furthermore, China's main industries revolve around fossil fuels. Even though China has one of the world's biggest sectors on wind and solar energy development, there is not enough energy generated by renewable sources to match China's high population. Consumption takes an important part in boosting China's economy. China's government is working hard to lower carbon emissions levels by 65% by 2030. However, China is facing many challenges due to its economic industries, large population, and land size.

## **France**

France faces no big problems in terms of the supply of water. However, this issue is intertwined with the SDG 13 of climate change, as when climate change occurs, there will be a decreased supply of water in France. France's energy mainly comes from renewable sources, with nuclear energy being the primary source of energy and hydroelectricity. France has enforced several laws and taxes on private and public consumption in order to achieve SDG 12. The country has also set an ambitious goal and is one of the leading countries in climate action ever since the Paris Agreement. France set a goal of eliminating all forms of greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

## **Germany**

Germany's water comes from the underground and is quite expensive. The country currently isn't suffering from water shortage but is expected to have one in the near future. Germany is also one of the leading nations in terms of the implementation of renewable energy. As the world's third-largest country with wind energy, Germany has the majority of its energy from renewable sources. Germany's government has implemented laws to fulfill SDG 12 such as



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the National Program on Sustainable Consumption. Through the implementation of renewable energy, Germany is also trying to achieve SDG 13.

### **India**

India has severe cases of pollution in terms of the atmosphere and the water. As only less than 50% of India's population has access to clean water, the issue is severe and needs to be solved as soon as possible. India has set multiple goals on renewable energy by increasing the solar power capacity throughout the whole country. Still more work needs to be done. India also emits the most greenhouse gases as the world's fourth-largest country for carbon emissions. India is currently at the stage of laws and regulations in order to address climate change. However, there is a lot of pollution in India.

### **Indonesia**

24 million individuals in Indonesia severely lack access to clean water. They also do not have proper sanitation facilities to clean drinking water. In order to resolve the issue, Indonesia has established new laws regarding water resources. However, due to the lack of infrastructure, the law is not properly implemented. Indonesia is among the world's greatest emitters of carbon dioxide. The government has drafted plans to increase renewable energy by 30% by 2050. However, at its current rate, the country will not achieve it. Indonesia will receive devastating consequences due to the impacts of climate change such as rising sea levels and more. Meaning it is imperative that the government should act. Indonesia has so far drafted plans to reduce carbon emissions but still needs to seek international support on achieving all four of the SDGs.

### **Italy**

Italy has high access to fresh water and sanitation and has successfully addressed SDG 6. One-third of electricity generated in Italy is produced by renewable energy sources and Italy is aiming to increase the percentage of renewable energy in the coming years. Among European nations, Italy is the third largest user of renewable energy. SDG 12 is growing to



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be a bigger issue and would need better implementation as conscious consumption is increasing. Italy is working on reducing carbon emissions for achieving SDG 13.

### **Japan**

Japan has also achieved SDG 6 with 97% of the population having access to clean water through pipes. Japan is utilizing renewable energy for 10% of its energy. Due to the Fukushima nuclear disaster, it is facing more challenges and is cautious towards using nuclear energy. Japan's Fukushima disaster, which released harmful substances into the ocean, has become an international issue as the nuclear waste may affect marine life as well as the fishing industry of many nearby nations. Japan is working towards resolving climate change by aiming to be carbon neutral by 2050

### **South Korea**

South Korea's overall SDG score is 78.3, ranking 20th out of 193 countries. More specifically, for SDG 7, 100% of their population has access to electricity. However, Korea's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion for electricity production remains a concern as it is still higher than the desired amount. Especially for SDG 13, major challenges still remain to address and resolve climate change, as of now, Korea still struggles in decreasing the emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> that is arising from consumption of energy which includes the many manufacturing local industries and the needed electricity nationwide. Significant challenges remain for SDG 6,7 and 12 while the country is faring better for SDG 11. Although moderate progress is being made with 11, progress for the rest is stagnating or decreasing. To be able to meet the goals by 2030, the ROK will have to make drastic changes to its systems and policies because as of right now, the country will not be able to make it.

### **Mexico**

Mexico's overall status with the 5 goals is disappointing to say the least. Compared with other countries in terms of progress, Mexico stands at 69 with an overall score of 70.4/100. Major challenges remain with SDG 6 and 12. With SDG 6 needing significant improvements



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with increasing the percentage of people having access to proper sanitation ( it has been stagnating around less than 50% in the past few years) and SDG 12 needing to significantly lower the amount of energy related CO2 emissions. SDG 7, 11 and 12 requires significant improvements but are faring generally better than goal 6 and 12. However, only SDG 11 is on track to be completed by 2030, every other goal would need drastic policy changes to be on track.

### **Russia**

Out of other nations, Russia ranks 57 in terms of progress with a score of 71.9/100. Significant challenges remain with SDG 6, 12 and 13. Russia has big issues with dealing with its solid and electronic wastes sustainably, minimizing their emissions of CO2 emissions in relation to energy usage, importing water instead of acquiring it locally and properly treating wastewater. Challenges remain for SDG 7 and 11, although they are more on track on being achieved. Problem areas include: lessening CO2 emissions from energy production and rampant air pollution and more. All 5 goals are not on track to be completed by 2030, so policies will need to be enacted and enforced to turn the tides around.

### **Saudi Arabia**

Saudi Arabia is a nation located in the Arabian Peninsula, it is 95% desert and contains one of the largest sand deserts in the world. Therefore the majority of its water needs are met by groundwater and desalination plants. SDG 6 and 13 remain huge challenges to face for the Kingdom. Although 100% of the population have access to basic drinking water and basic sanitation, only 11.75% of wastewater back in 2018 were treated, a far cry from the goal of 100%. Major challenges also remain with lessening the CO2 emissions coming from energy consumption nationwide. SDG 7 is on track to be achieved by 2030 but is held back from the high carbon intensity from energy production. With the other goals, there are major issues with air pollution and being able to tackle electronic waste sustainably.



### **South Africa**

South Africa ranks 110 overall in terms of progress with the SDGs with an overall score of 63.4 /100. It is currently doing the best with Goal 12 as two targets have been met, but challenges still remain with the rest. Significant challenges remain with SDG 6,7, 11 and 13. With SDG 6, there are still many people not having access to basic sanitation services and drinking water and wastewater not being treated properly. The biggest challenge with SDG 7 are the high CO2 emissions from electricity followed by many people with limited access to electricity. Following a similar trend, the biggest issue with SDG 13 are the high CO2 emissions coming from the energy sector. Overall, none of the goals are on track to be achieved but with major improvements, the situation will turn out differently.

### **Turkey**

Turkey ranks 70 overall in terms of progress with the SDGs with an overall score of 70.3/100. None of the 5 goals are on track and major challenges remain especially with SDG 13. It's CO2 emissions from energy are unfortunately very high and are continuing to increase, this also results in an increased effective carbon rate - raising the cost that CO2 emissions cause the nation. Other major problem areas for other goals include : a low percentage of wastewater being treated, high carbon intensity from energy production, air pollution, and proper disposal of electronic and solid waste. Progress with SDG 11 and 13 have been stagnating while the rest are moderately improving.

### **United Kingdom**

The United Kingdom currently ranks 13 overall in terms of progress with the SDGs with an overall score of 79.8/100. Although significant challenges still remain with SDG 7, it is on track to reach the goal. SDG 6 has been achieved with the exception of one target. Significant challenges remain with SDG 7 like increasing the share of renewable energy in its energy supply and lowering CO2 emissions from electricity, however, it is still on track to be completed. Similarly with SDG 11, most targets are on track to be achieved ( although



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challenges still remain in most targets), however satisfaction towards public transport systems have been decreasing which hinder the goal from being achieved. Even though most of the aforementioned goals are on track, the United Kingdom has major issues with completing SDG 12 and 13. With 12, it has the most difficulty dealing with its electronic waste and keeping the SO<sub>2</sub> emissions low enough to meet the goal. While with SDG 13, its CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from imports and its energy sector is very high which causes its effective carbon rate to rise meaning that the cost CO<sub>2</sub> has on the country rises.

### **United States**

The United States currently ranks 31 overall in terms of progress with the SDGs with an overall score of 76.4/100. SDG 6 is nearly completed, however there needs to be improvements in instituting safely managed and improved sanitation services for more of the population and conserving freshwater resources. Similarly with SDG 11 many targets have been achieved and it is even on track to be completed, however, there is only very moderate satisfaction over the public transportation systems and high rent prices causes many burdens and financial stress. A significant challenge remains with SDG 7, most notably with increasing its renewable energy share. However, SDG 12 and 13 pose the most challenges. The country has a huge problem with dealing with its electronic waste sustainably and lowering its SO<sub>2</sub> and nitrogen emissions from imports and local productions. And with SDG 13, it has a similar issue with the UK. CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from imports and the energy sector continue to rise, causing the effective carbon rate to rise meaning that the cost CO<sub>2</sub> has on the country rises.

### **European Union (EU)**

Because the EU is a group of many countries with different situations and variables impacting its progress it can be hard to pin down what actions should be taken. Sweden currently takes the number 1 spot when it comes to progress with the goals, however, looking closer reveals that the country has issues with SDG 12 and 13 as major challenges still remain with completing them. This trend can be found within all of the top 10 nations,



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all of which are part of the EU. Even the lowest ranking country (Luxembourg at 44) follows the same trend. Therefore, it would make the most sense to focus on both goals as it is clear that the EU faces the greatest challenge with them. However there are still major issues with other goals in other nations. For example, while Luxembourg has major difficulty with SDG 7, it has already been achieved in Sweden, Denmark and Finland - the top three nations. With the disparity between nations and their progress, the delegate of the EU must walk a careful path to make sure that the policies and changes they support and lobby for are ones that have taken into consideration the situations of the individual countries of the EU.

### **Major issues in current policy**

One of the main concerns that are held by several international organizations is the slow movement and growth towards modern and effective solutions to achieve Sustainable Development Goals that were set for them. One of the main reasons is the population explosion which leads to resources going towards managing the population better rather than achieving ideal climate change conditions; other reasons for lack of environmental action also include lack of proper resource allocation towards combating its effects, which points to an absence of political willpower in many countries. In 2009, G20 Leaders in Pittsburgh committed to “rationalise and phase out over the medium term inefficient fossil fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption”. However, since then little progress has been made towards the commitments given by the G20 leaders of the time.

Another major concern is the lack of action by local authorities in ensuring that the standard and quality of current energy production remains the same. There are several infrastructure issues with major energy creators and in several G20 nations which have a private energy sector, there is a lack of proper checks on the functioning of the energy companies. The local authorities also are unable to enforce their authority to ensure proper standards as observed in certain EU nations.



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The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has been documenting the size and scope of fossil fuel subsidies (FFS). The OECD contributed to developing a flexible, country-led methodology for undertaking voluntary peer reviews of other countries' FFS. The OECD supports countries' efforts to undertake such peer-reviews, most recently supporting the fossil fuels subsidies' reviews of China and the United States, and in 2017 chaired the review of Germany and Mexico under the German Presidency. As of 2018, the work is ongoing on the peer reviews of Italy and Indonesia. The OECD supports the implementation of the Hamburg G20 Energy and Climate Action Plan.

In 2016, a new Green Finance Study Group (GFSG) was established under the G20 Finance Track to identify institutional and market barriers to green finance. The OECD, drawing on its expertise in

green bonds and greening institutional investors, actively contributed to the five sub-group work streams of the GFSG. This included providing substantive inputs to the *G20 Green Finance Synthesis Report* that presented options to enhance the ability of the financial system to mobilise private capital for green investment.

### **Scope of Debate:**

The members of the Executive Board want the debate to be as meaningful and effective as possible. Therefore, the Executive Board highly recommends the delegates to follow the **Compare and Contrast-Effect-Solution Format** during the debates. Thus, the chairs would highly recommend a discussion on national policies in order to compare and contrast each nations' situation in order to come to a better understanding and collaborate.

Some Possible Moderated/Unmoderated Discussion Topics are the following:



❑ **National Policies on the agenda**

The completion of the goals hinges on the actions and policies taken on by governments around the world. Implementation of action done will need to be incorporated into all relevant frameworks and policies to make sure they are enacted in ways which will drive the goals forward. Each delegate will have to examine the national policies enacted in their own countries and converse with other delegates to help find the best solutions possible for their own problems and other nations as well. Seeing as each country will have their own unique path in achieving all the goals, the Dais is looking forward to seeing all the distinctive planned policies, actions already taken from all delegates.

❑ **Actions to take and ones taken (internationally and locally)**

Raising awareness about SDGs is a very crucial step towards achieving the listed SDGs in order to improve grassroot actions and enhance local communities. Taking an exemplary example of the Swedish revolution on recycling, it has managed to make positive changes by rearranging and reorganizing its energy sector based on the orientation of UN agreed goals. Each government should align the main core of its development goals based on the worldwide agreed goals. The future actions that can be taken by governments to form effective plans to reduce their carbon footprints and revitalize their energy sectors towards greener energy sources.

Taking another example of Denmark and other Scandinavian nations, who have achieved an overwhelming majority of the 17 goals of SDGs, their models are well planned and organized, giving proper attention to the current situation and needs and further adopting themselves quickly to newer methods.

❑ **Progress on the Paris Agreement**

As stated, the Paris agreement was an agreement between all member states that aims to limit global warming by lowering 2-1.5 degrees (celcius) compared to pre industrial levels. As such, it is in each country's best interest to protect their relevant



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ecosystems from corroding and to focus on effectively reducing their carbon footprints by targeting industries that emit the most greenhouse gases. Another important step that is often undervalued is preventing food wastage and in the correct manner. The UN estimates that if wasted food was a country, its greenhouse-gas emissions would rank third globally. That's in part because of the food system's outside climate impact: It accounts for an estimated 19 percent to 29 percent of global anthropogenic greenhouse-gas emissions. Incentivizing Carbon Farming and adopting a Carbon tax is another crucial step to achieving the agreed terms in the Paris Agreement as it was mentioned.

Other topics could include;

- Utilizing local and international organizations**
- Individual progress on the goals themselves**

and more

**\*Please note that the content listed above is only recommendations, not mandatory. If delegates feel like those topics are inappropriate due to the flow of the debate, they are welcome to introduce any topics to the committee. This is only a reference\***

### **International Actions:**

Actions that can be taken internationally as a whole are arranging SDG-related training for public management and working employees, and encouraging initiatives and creating incentives to initiatives to raise awareness in the supply chain of energy.

Establishing internal reports, checking and targets is another step towards achieving goals



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created by the country and the UN as well. Large companies as well as many governments have already created fair targets to achieve sustainability and creating groups which link the private sector and public sector on this particular issue is essential in every plan of action. The United Nations Global Impact Network has already explained previously that commitment is required by every related government institute and department to focus properly on the goals that have been set. Implementing new modes of accountability and creating a stable observer body that maintains a view of institutions with regards to the goals is another step that will be important in the near future.

### **Project Everyone**

Although not a UN-led initiative, Project Everyone was an independent campaign established by Richard Curtis in September 2015 to spread awareness about the SDGs. It was backed by various UN agencies, corporations and organizations such as : UNICEF, World Food Program (WFP), the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation, Google, Unilever and many others. Their “Tell Everyone” campaign reached over 3 billion people within the first 7 days of the launch of the SDGs. An initiative under the campaign was their “World’s Largest Lesson” in which they partnered with UNICEF to raise awareness and build initiative in children around the world. Project Everyone

provided materials, videos and activities which were translated in 30 languages for the lessons. In its first year, millions of children from over 160 countries had participated. Since then, the campaign has continued to partner up with various organizations to promote and help achieve the SDG targets.

### **Sustainable Development Goals Advocates**

The Advocates are 17 influential public figures that are tasked with the mission of pushing for more progress on the goals worldwide through spreading awareness with the platforms they are given. The advocates come from all parts of the influential world. Governments, entertainment, sports, business and activist organizations. The UN hopes



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that the Advocates will use their unique standing in all their unique circles to foster ambition and change for the furtherment of the SDGs.

### **Global Goals Week**

Global Goals Week is a weekly event occurring annually in September; it is an opportunity to talk about the progress of the SDGs, raising awareness on how it can be achieved locally and on an international scale. It was first launched by Project Everyone, the UNDP and the United Nations Foundation back in 2016. In 2019, over 30,000 people participated from over 115 nations.

### **Proposed Solutions:**

There are a number of possible solutions to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Currently, all UN Member States have agreed to work towards achieving these goals by the year 2030. This is included in the UN Resolution called the 2030 Agenda. To properly achieve these goals it requires immense political will and immediate action by all stakeholders who have committed to achieving these goals. As you are constructing your resolutions and your speeches, you should acquaint yourself with the proposed solutions. However, this is not the only possible solution, make sure to continue exploring and think outside of the box to come up with a solution to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals which will satisfy all member countries.

#### **1. Collaboration is key to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals**

The completion of the SDGs do not fall upon the shoulders of just one nation or one group of nations -it falls on each and every single one. Therefore collaboration between all member nations are required to make sure that the actions taken by one is one that actually helps without disregarding another. The world is more connected than ever, therefore it is imperative to use this connection to help achieve the SGDs. Further collaboration can be achieved through having frequent



biannual meetings to share ideas. Another way to collaborate would be to collaboratively invest in data and statistics to maintain coverage of population groups to track if Sustainable Development Goals are met worldwide. Although the information available is extensive, it is not enough. There is a lot of missing information concerning the goals in many nations, and it would be highly beneficial in regards to future action to know and be able to take into consideration all information.

## **2. Providing / increasing financial support**

To complete the goals, projects from governments and independent organizations are a must. However, as with everything, capital is required. Therefore there should be financial support to already existing local / international organizations and government led initiatives whose actions are related to completing the goals. Other than financial support, publicly recognizing these organizations would help them gain recognition from more people which would allow them to be able to do more projects which would help in progressing with the goals because a lot of these independent organizations heavily rely on donations and sponsorships.

Aside from organizations and government initiatives, there could also be increased investment in private sectors that contribute to the agenda. These could be to the development of better and more efficient technology, especially eco-friendly / environmentally-aware technology. However, the Dais recognize that this is an ideal situation and many nations do not have the capital to invest in new projects and organizations. It will be up to delegates to determine how to solve this issue to ensure equitable access to sustainable development technologies for all.

## **3. Encouraging governments of member states to reform and modify their legislatures and administrative frameworks**



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The Dais believes that it is imperative that governments reform old legislatures and frameworks and adapt them to the changing needs of the world. Examples of possible reforms are the reduction of government subsidies to fossil fuel companies and other similar companies. This will not only save money and help the country move towards a more ecological path, but it will also free up capital that the government could use towards other projects. This extra capital could go towards the development of eco-friendly tech and infrastructure or green energy or bettering slums or achieving any of the targets from any goals. The possibilities are truly endless.

**These are all possible general solutions to achieving the 5 Goals. Delegates are highly encouraged to go beyond these suggestions and enact other and more specific solutions that pertain to specific Goals.**

### **Questions a resolution must answer**

The following are questions that a resolution must answer:

1. How would the new guidelines ensure that it meets/helps to meet the targets of one goal yet doesn't disadvantage/ backtrack progress for another?
2. How would local governments support organizations that are already working towards meeting targets of the goals?
3. To what degree do governments have a hand in meeting the targets?
4. What is the most effective way of meeting a target without forgetting another?



5. What measures can be taken by international organizations and nations in holding each other accountable for failing to meet / being on track to fail meeting a goal or target?
6. How would the new guidelines ensure unity with organizations, citizens, local projects and other nations in achieving the goals.?
7. What new guidelines would positively impact my country and others as well?
8. Are the new guidelines balanced?

## **Conclusion**

With only nine years left until the end of the Sustainable Development Goals, it is imperative that they be reached. Climate change and its effects are catching up to the world. Scientists warn that the effects of it would become irreversible in 11 years, although this figure is not absolute as the time left will only shorten if worldwide carbon emissions and other main causes of climate change do not slow down. All 5 goals greatly contribute to helping to stop the effects of climate change or at the very least - help prepare for it's effects.

Completing Goal 6 ( Clean water and sanitation) worldwide would ensure that people would have access to clean water and proper sanitation to help them soften the effects of even the worst of droughts, unpredictable weather and higher temperatures as a result. Ensuring that the extremest of situations would not happen and that the world adapts to the changes. Completing Goal 7 (Affordable and clean energy) would greatly help cut down



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the carbon emissions released every single year as the world turns away from carbon heavy power sources like coal and using sustainable energy sources like wind, solar and more.

These are but a few examples of the effects that completing these goals will bring to the world and how they will greatly shape people's lives. With the G20's influence and economic prowess, proposals and changes brought about by the committee will surely create ripples of action throughout the world. The world must act now or face challenges never seen before.

The G20 is gathered here today to help the world act. Therefore the Dais expects the delegates to prioritize saving the future with other delegates in hand. There may be challenges during committee sessions that may bring forth issues of national interest, but as the Dais, we are confident in each delegate's abilities to overcome them.

The Dais highly recommends each delegate to do in-depth research beyond this guide before the committee. This is to ensure that delegates are well prepared to tackle any related topic during the conference and also to prepare for the position papers. Delegates must remember to adhere to their own nation's foreign policy. The only way to find solutions to completing these goals is to cooperate and share ideas with one another (tying in with Goal 17), therefore making sure that your ideas and interests are heard during committee sessions would help to ensure that the solutions proposed will benefit all nations involved. Furthermore, we ask delegates to respect each other, be inclusive and diplomatic at all times during committee sessions.



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