



GATORMUN XXIII

**The United Nations Security Council (UNSC)
Background Guide**

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The United Nations Security Council (UNSC)

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Letter from the Director:

Dear goats,

Welcome to 1960! And welcome to the United Nations Security Council! As members of this committee, you will be tasked with oversight over the international system in the protection and advocacy of human rights, peace, and security. This year, you will work to address issues ranging from ethnic conflict to gender issues; Those of you competing here will debate and work collaboratively to define an era of decolonization and inequality as it brings the social fabric of Africa to the edge.

My name is Ken, and I'm a student at Florida International University, pursuing Political Science and International Relations, with certificates in Middle Eastern Studies, African & African Diaspora Studies, and Political Transitions & Human Rights. I'm a dinosaur in MUN, having almost a decade of experience. I began in middle school and have continued with it ever since. I even competed at GatorMUN while in High School, winning Outstanding Delegate both years I competed and leading my school's team to a delegation award my senior year! Outside MUN, I love to hang out on campus with my friends or by a pool with. I'm super passionate about fitness— I'm always dancing, lifting, or swimming—and I'm an avid sports fan. I especially love college football, follow Ben Shelton religiously, and never miss a rugby match.

The United Nations Security Council continues to play a pivotal role in identifying, discussing, and vindicating human rights crisis around the world. The topic chosen, although historical, was selected because it continues to encapsulate some larger issues facing the world regarding human rights, ethnic conflict, and democratic governance. The committee will be debating the Congo Crisis. This topic holds serious gravity in terms of the people still impacted by this issue. I, and all of us at GatorMUN, urge you to devote time and attention to the issues presented to best consider the best way to bring them to light. I can't wait to see what you have in store!

I'm beyond excited to see you!

Ken Nava

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Rules of Procedure

Quorum

A majority of voting members answering to the roll at each session shall constitute a quorum for that session. This means that half plus one of all voting members are present. Quorum will be assumed consistent unless questioned through a Point of Order. Delegates may request to be noted as "Present" or "Present and Voting."

Motion to Suspend the Rules for the Purpose of a Moderated Caucus

This motion must include three specifications

- Length of the Caucus
- Speaking Time
- Reason for the Caucus

During a moderated caucus, delegates will be called on to speak by the Committee Director. Delegates will raise their placards to be recognized. Delegates must maintain the same degree of decorum throughout a Moderated Caucus as in formal debate. This motion requires a simple majority to pass.

Motion to Suspend the Rules for the Purpose of an Unmoderated Caucus

This motion must include the length of the Caucus. During an unmoderated caucus, delegates may get up from their seats and talk amongst themselves. This motion requires a simple majority to pass. The length of an unmoderated caucus in a Crisis committee should not exceed fifteen minutes.

Motion to Suspend the Meeting

This motion is in order if there is a scheduled break in debate to be observed. (ie. Lunch!) This motion requires a simple majority vote. The Committee Director may refuse to entertain this motion at their discretion.

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

This motion is in order at the end of the last committee session. It signifies the closing of the committee until next year's conference.

Points of Order

Points of Order will only be recognized for the following items:

- To recognize errors in voting, tabulation, or procedure
- To question relevance of debate to the current Topic
- To question a quorum.

A Point of Order may interrupt a speaker if necessary and it is to be used sparingly.

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Points of Inquiry

When there is no discussion on the floor, a delegate may direct a question to the Committee Director. Any question directed to another delegate may only be asked immediately after the delegate has finished speaking on a substantive matter. A delegate that declines to respond to a question after a formal speech forfeits any further questioning time.

Points of Personal Privilege

Points of personal privilege are used to request information or clarification and conduct all other business of the body except Motions or Points specifically mentioned in the Rules of Procedure. Please note: The Director may refuse to recognize Points of Order, Points of Inquiry or Points of Personal Privilege if the Committee Director believes the decorum and restraint inherent in the exercise has been violated, or if the point is deemed dilatory in nature.

Rights of Reply

At the Committee Director's discretion, any member nation or observer may be granted a Right of Reply to answer serious insults directed at the dignity of the delegate present. The Director has the ABSOLUTE AUTHORITY to accept or reject Rights of Reply, and the decision IS NOT SUBJECT TO APPEAL. Delegates who feel they are being treated unfairly may take their complaint to any member of the Secretariat.

Directives

Directives act as a replacement for Draft Resolutions when in Crisis committees, and are the actions that the body decides to take as a whole. Directives are not required to contain operative or preambulatory clauses. A directive should contain:

- The name(s) of the author(s)
- A title
- A number of signatories/sponsors signatures' necessary to
- introduce, determined by the Director

A simple majority vote is required to introduce a directive, and multiple directives may be introduced at once. Press releases produced on behalf of the body must also be voted on as Directives.

Friendly Amendments

Friendly Amendments are any changes to a formally introduced Directive that all Sponsors agree to in writing. The Committee Director must approve the Friendly Amendment and confirm each Sponsor's agreement both verbally and in writing.

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Unfriendly Amendments

Unfriendly Amendments are any substantive changes to a formally introduced Directive that are not agreed to by all of the Sponsors of the Directive. In order to introduce an Unfriendly Amendment, the Unfriendly Amendment must be the number equivalent to 1/3 of Quorum confirmed signatories. The Committee Director has the authority to discern between substantive and non-substantive Unfriendly amendment proposals.

Plagiarism

GatorMUN maintains a zero-tolerance policy in regards to plagiarism. Delegates found to have used the ideas of others without properly citing those individuals, organizations, or documents will have their credentials revoked for the duration of the GatorMUN conference. This is a very serious offense.

Crisis Notes

A crisis note is an action taken by an individual in a Crisis committee. Crisis notes do not need to be introduced or voted on, and should be given to the Crisis Staff by sending the notes to a designated pickup point in each room. A crisis note should both be addressed to crisis and have the delegate's position on both the inside and outside of the note.

Motion to Enter Voting Procedure

Once this motion passes, and the committee enters Voting Procedure, no occupants of the committee room may exit the Committee Room, and no individual may enter the Committee Room from the outside. A member of the Dias will secure all doors.

- No talking, passing notes, or communicating of any kind will be tolerated during voting procedures.
- Each Directive will be read to the body and voted upon in the order which they were introduced. Any Proposed Unfriendly Amendments to each Directive will be read to the body and voted upon before the main body of the Directive as a whole is put to a vote.
- Delegates who requested to be noted as "Present and Voting" are unable to abstain during voting procedure. Abstentions will not be counted in the tallying of a majority. For example, 5 yes votes, 4 no votes, and 7 abstentions means that the Directive passes.
- The Committee will adopt Directives and Unfriendly Amendments to Directives if these documents pass with a simple majority. Specialized committees should refer to their background-guides or Committee Directors for information concerning specific voting procedures.

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Roll Call Voting

A counted placard vote will be considered sufficient unless any delegate to the committee motions for a Roll Call Vote. If a Roll Call Vote is requested, the committee must comply. All delegates must vote: "For," "Against," "Abstain," or "Pass." During a Roll Call vote, any delegate who answers, "Pass," reserves his/her vote until the Committee Director has exhausted the Roll. However, once the Committee Director returns to "Passing" Delegates, they must vote: "For" or "Against."

Accepting by Acclamation

This motion may be stated when the Committee Director asks for points or motions. If a Roll Call Vote is requested, the motion to Accept by Acclamation is voided. If a delegate believes a Directive will pass without opposition, he or she may move to accept the Directive by acclamation. The motion passes unless a single delegate shows opposition. An abstention is not considered opposition. Should the motion fail, the committee will move directly into a Roll Call Vote.

Tech Policy

Technology will not be allowed throughout the course of the committee. Delegates are prohibited from using their technology inside the committee room. However, they are encouraged to do research before and during assigned breaks.

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Special Mechanics

This committee, as a specialized agency, will operate under a hybrid GA-Crisis format. The first two sessions will function as a Crisis committee, during which delegates will be expected to write crisis notes, author directives, and respond to crisis updates. The final two sessions will transition into a General Assembly format, where delegates will draft and present resolution papers through a traditional authors' panel. Due to the limited time available, crisis arcs will follow a strict timeline and limited scope. For example, arcs involving delegates forming and running entirely new countries will not be permitted; however, the creation of puppet states or regional governments may be allowed if grounded in realism. This is to ensure the continuity of the Security Council's composition for the General Assembly portion. Delegates are expected to keep crisis actions plausible and contextually appropriate. For any uncertainties, please contact me directly for clarification.

Because of the condensed schedule, a degree of leniency will be given in evaluating performance. Resolution papers are not expected to be lengthy, but delegates should demonstrate thorough research and strong command of their country's foreign policy. Likewise, crisis arcs need not be as detailed or expansive as in a traditional crisis committee, given the time constraints.

As this is a United Nations Security Council, special mechanics will apply. The committee will consist of the 11 official members of the Council, joined by four special representatives invited at the Council's discretion. The roles and context of these special representatives are outlined in the Character Dossier. While these four representatives will not possess voting rights on final directives or resolutions, they will still participate fully in debate, motions, and drafting. Only the 11 voting members will vote on directives and resolutions, with the Permanent Five retaining their veto power over any passed measure. To balance this lack of voting rights, the four special representatives will receive unique privileges:

- **Priority in For & Against Speeches:** During debate on directives or resolutions, the special representatives will be granted first choice when selecting speakers for both For and Against speeches.

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- Amendment Power: Only the four special representatives will be permitted to submit amendments during amendment periods, requiring collaboration between voting members and non-voting delegates.
- Speeches with Reservation: After the passage or failure of directives and resolutions, special representatives may deliver unlimited speeches with reservation, allowing them to elaborate freely on their positions without time constraints.

Finally, delegates should note that the General Assembly topic will depend on the outcome of the Crisis portion. Should the Council's actions lead to, for example, the detonation of a nuclear device in the Congo, the colonization of the moon, or travel to another dimension, delegates will be expected to address these issues in the General Assembly—no matter how unconventional. Because there will be a short break between sessions, delegates are encouraged to take detailed notes during the Crisis portion and use the break to research emerging topics and prepare for the second half of committee.

Unless otherwise specified, this committee will operate under traditional GatorMUN Rules of Procedure.

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History of the Congo

The land we now call the Congo was once a vast stretch of Central Africa that became the focus of fierce competition among Europe's great powers. To resolve these rivalries, the territory was ultimately granted not to a government, but to one man—King Leopold II of Belgium. Through the Association Internationale pour l'Exploitation et la Civilisation de l'Afrique Centrale, a body he wholly owned and chaired, Leopold claimed to be advancing humanitarian and civilizing missions. In reality, the Congo Free State soon became notorious as one of history's darkest colonial scandals.

By the early 1900s, reports of atrocities in the Congo had begun to circulate widely. In 1904, British Consul Roger Casement, acting at the request of his government, produced the Casement Report, a harrowing account of widespread violence, forced labor, and cruelty. Even governments long accustomed to overlooking colonial suffering could not ignore the scale of the abuses. Casement's findings led to the prosecution of European officials involved in mass killings during rubber expeditions, including one Belgian officer held responsible for the deaths of over 120 Congolese people. No census was taken until 1924, but Casement estimated that as many as ten million lives had already been lost—through war, famine, disease, and a collapse in birth rates. The scandal became so overwhelming that in 1908, under mounting international pressure, Leopold was forced to hand over the Congo Free State to the Belgian state, which annexed it as the colony of the Belgian Congo.



Under Belgian rule, the Congo was governed according to the *trinité coloniale*—a partnership of state power, missionary influence, and corporate privilege. Private companies enjoyed extraordinary benefits, with the government often stepping in to crush strikes or quell native resistance. The colony was carved into rigid administrative divisions and ruled directly, a sharp contrast to the British or French preference for indirect rule through traditional leaders. Racial hierarchy also shaped every aspect of colonial society. White settlers who arrived during and after World War II came from all walks of life in Europe, yet regardless of class, they occupied a position of unquestioned superiority over the Congolese population.

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Under the Belgian government, economic development grew due to rubber cultivation, later replaced by extensive mining operations across the region. By the mid-20th century, however, the Congo had changed rapidly. Although the economy grew, this was largely and almost solely beneficial to the European colonizers. The Congolese population, itself made up of many ethnic groups, was largely used solely for physical labor but otherwise left to their

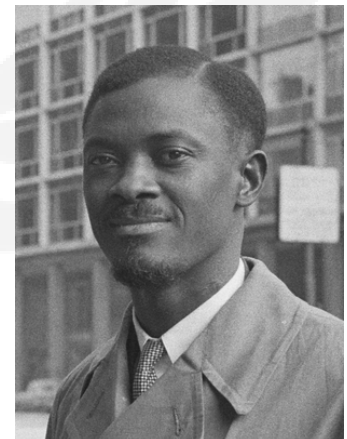
own devices. The 1940s and 1950s brought a wave of urbanization, and the colonial government responded with ambitious development programs meant to showcase the Belgian Congo as a “model colony.” In the cities, a new African middle class, the *Évolués*, began to emerge—educated, Europeanized, and increasingly aware of their own power. By the 1950s, the colony boasted a wage labor force larger than any other in Africa. But with this growing middle class came a growing nationalist movement and desire for independence

Rise of Congolese Political Movements

During the latter half of World War II, a new social stratum began to emerge in the Congo: the *évolués*. This African middle class, born from the colony’s wartime economic boom, found work in skilled positions such as nurses, clerks, and teachers. Early on, however, many *évolués* sought to leverage their unique status not for political change, but for small privileges that set them apart from the rest of the Congolese population. They established elite clubs where members could enjoy symbolic markers of status—better seats at cinemas, access to European-style bars, or permission to wear certain clothes. These privileges were minor, but they reinforced the *évolués*’ sense of distinction.

Beyond the *évolués*’ exclusive associations, other groups of Congolese—labor unions, ethnic syndicates, and alumni networks—also began to organize. These groups became melting pots of ideas where the seeds of independence grew. Yet their sheer number, and their fragmentation along ethnic and ideological lines, meant they were often divided in how to pursue the common goal of liberation

Out of this fractured landscape, three political movements rose to prominence. The strongest was the Congolese National Movement (MNC), a broadly liberal party that drew support across ethnic lines. Figures like Patrice Lumumba, Albert Kalonji, and Cyrille Adoula gave the MNC national reach, and the party favored a gradual path to independence, much like Britain’s transitions in South Africa, Australia, or Canada. Challenging them on the right was the Alliance des Bakongo (ABAKO), a movement rooted in the Bakongo people of the Lower Congo and led by Joseph Kasa-Vubu.



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ABAKO rejected gradualism entirely, calling instead for the immediate and unconditional declaration of independence. The third force was the Confédération des Associations Tribales du Katanga (CONAKAT), led by Moïse Tshombe and based in the mineral-rich province of Katanga. CONAKAT was conservative, regionalist, and closely aligned with powerful economic interests tied to mining.

The movement toward independence accelerated rapidly in 1959. On January 4th, an ABAKO demonstration in Léopoldville erupted into riots. It took days for the *Force Publique*—the colonial gendarmerie—to restore order, and many lives were lost. The violence shocked Belgium. On January 13th, King Baudouin acknowledged the inevitability of Congolese independence, though he stressed that the process would not be “hasty or rash.”

But unrest only spread. Demonstrations and riots broke out across the colony, met with brutal suppression by the Force Publique and even white settler militias. Alarmed by the growing instability, Prime Minister Gaston Eyskens’ government convened a roundtable conference in Brussels, scheduled for January 20, 1960, bringing together leaders of the major Congolese parties. Belgium hoped to exploit the deep divisions among them to secure agreement on a gradual transition.

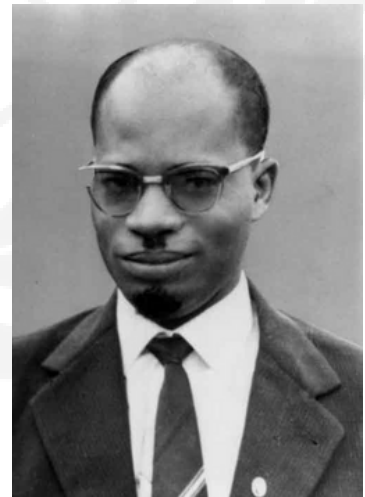
Instead, the opposite occurred. In secret meetings before the conference, Congolese delegates set aside their rivalries and agreed to present a united front. They would accept nothing less than immediate independence, and they insisted that the conference’s resolutions be legally binding. Confronted with this unity, and mindful of both U.S. and Soviet hostility to colonialism, Belgium capitulated.

Barely a year later, on June 30th, 1960, the Congo became independent.

Current Situation

Independence came quickly to the Congo. After national elections in May 1960, the country officially declared independence on June 30th of that year. In the lead-up to those elections, three major political blocs had emerged from the fractured political landscape: ABAKO, which had joined forces with a splinter group of the MNC led by Albert Kalonji (forming MNC-Kalonji); the more moderate MNC-Lumumba; and CONAKAT, led by Moïse Tshombe, who sought to preserve Katanga’s close ties to Union Minière, the powerful Belgian mining company based in Brussels.

The results, announced on May 22nd, placed MNC-Lumumba first, winning 33 seats in the Chamber of Deputies with 23.4% of the vote.



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With the support of several smaller parties, Patrice Lumumba secured a governing majority and became Prime Minister. ABAKO and CONAKAT placed third and sixth, respectively. A moderate constitution was quickly adopted, creating a semi-presidential system in which power would be shared between a President and a Prime Minister. Yet the Belgian government had made no serious preparations to withdraw from the Congo. Thus, when independence was declared on June 30th, the new Republic of Congo was born into crisis.

The first spark came from the Force Publique, the colonial army still commanded by Belgian officers. Its commander, Lieutenant General Émile Janssens, flatly refused to allow wage increases or promotions for Congolese soldiers. His decision triggered a mutiny by Black troops, which quickly spread across the country and devolved into racial violence. Lumumba dismissed Janssens and replaced him with Victor Lundula, who was promoted to Major General and placed in charge of the newly renamed Armée Nationale Congolaise (ANC). A rising figure, Major Joseph-Désiré Mobutu, was appointed chief of staff.

Meanwhile, Belgium moved unilaterally to protect its citizens. On July 9th, Belgian paratroopers landed in the Congo—without the consent of the Congolese government or authorization from the UN Security Council, as required under Article 42 of Chapter VII. Their very presence deepened hostilities, and soon white Belgians began fleeing the country en masse as refugees.

The political situation fractured further. President Joseph Kasa-Vubu and his allies were willing to accept Belgian intervention, while Prime Minister Lumumba denounced it as a violation of sovereignty and called on Congolese to defend their republic.

Then came a more dramatic blow. On July 11th, Moïse Tshombe declared the mineral-rich province of Katanga independent, with himself as president. Katanga, home to the massive mining operations of Union Minière du Haut-Katanga (UMHK), quickly gained the company's financial backing. Fearing nationalization under Lumumba, Union Minière lent support not only to Tshombe but indirectly to the Belgian government, which gave the secession tacit approval. Tshombe publicly justified Katanga's independence as a way to protect the Baluba people, though the economic interests at stake were clear.



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International attention exploded. On July 14th, the UN Security Council called for a Belgian withdrawal and authorized a peacekeeping force to replace them. But the UN's mandate was limited: while Congolese leaders expected the peacekeepers to help suppress Katanga's secession, the UN insisted that the crisis in Katanga was an internal matter outside its authority. And then matters grew worse still. On August 9th, Albert Kalonji—once an ally of Lumumba—declared the independence of South Kasai, another mineral-rich region. Barely six weeks after independence, the Republic of Congo seemed on the verge of collapse, its unity shattered by mutinies, foreign interference, and rival secessionist movements.

Questions to Consider:

1. How should the Security Council address Belgium's continued military presence in the Congo without the consent of the Congolese government?
2. To what extent should UN peacekeepers intervene in Katanga and South Kasai? Should secession be treated as a strictly internal matter, or as a threat to international peace and security? What steps can the Security Council take to support the territorial integrity of the Congo while avoiding direct involvement in its internal political disputes?
3. How can the UN ensure that its forces are perceived as neutral, given accusations by Congolese leaders that the UN is failing to act decisively against secessionists?
4. What measures should the Security Council consider to prevent further escalation of ethnic violence and protect civilians on the ground?
5. Should the Security Council recognize and strengthen the authority of Prime Minister Lumumba's government, or instead act as a mediator between competing Congolese leaders and factions?
6. In the event that UN forces prove insufficient to restore order, should the Security Council authorize stronger measures under Chapter VII of the UN Charter?

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Positions List

To note: As this committee is a hybrid General Assembly–Crisis committee, this Character Dossier differs from traditional crisis dossiers. Since delegates will participate in both a General Assembly and crisis setting, the dossier is written to represent national governments rather than individuals. While it outlines several potential powers and resources available to each delegation, delegates are encouraged to conduct independent research into their respective government structures to determine what additional assets or tools may be realistically within reach. For instance, while the dossier highlights the CIA as a resource available to the United States, this does not preclude the delegates of Italy or Tunisia from leveraging their own national intelligence agencies. Conversely, the dossier notes the Soviet Union’s vast propaganda apparatus, a unique tool not mirrored by smaller states such as Ecuador or Ceylon. Delegates are encouraged to remain creative yet grounded in realism when employing national powers in their crisis arcs. For any questions or clarifications, please reach out to me, your Director, at the email provided in the Letter from the Director.

Members of the United Nations Security Council:

The United States of America: The American representative is a confident, pragmatic diplomat backed by immense economic, military, and intelligence resources. *With the ability to direct vast U.S. aid funds, shape media coverage through its global press agencies, and quietly deploy CIA assets to support preferred Congolese factions, Washington wields extraordinary leverage.* The ambassador frames U.S. policy as a balance between supporting African independence and preventing communist infiltration. They view the Soviets as opportunists exploiting chaos, the Belgians as shortsighted colonial remnants, and the Congolese leadership as in need of firm guidance. The United States hopes to stabilize the Congo under a pro-Western government and present the UN as a tool of freedom rather than ideology, while avoiding any situation that hands Moscow moral or territorial advantage in Africa

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: *The Soviet ambassador is an electrifying speaker whose words carry the weight of a superpower with global ideological reach, an intelligence network stretching across continents, and an unmatched propaganda machine capable of turning world opinion overnight.* To Moscow, the Congo is not simply an African crisis—it is the front line in the global struggle against imperialism. The Soviet delegate attacks Western hypocrisy with zeal, portraying Lumumba as a martyr of liberation betrayed by colonial interests. They should maintain a cold contempt for the American representative, seeing them as the polished face of capitalist control, and treats Belgium as an anachronism. The Kremlin’s goal is to secure a resolution condemning Belgian interference and legitimizing Lumumba’s government, ensuring that postcolonial Africa leans toward socialism while avoiding UN measures that could curb Soviet influence.

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The Republic of China: Representing the Nationalist government in Taipei, the Chinese ambassador moves carefully, aware that every word must reinforce his government's legitimacy. *Though reliant on American support, they carry quiet influence through the financing for development programs and diplomatic goodwill among Asian and African nations.* Their calm, deliberate tone contrasts with the fiery rhetoric of the great powers, and their position on the crisis—pro-sovereignty, pro-UN peacekeeping, and firmly anti-communist—aligns them subtly with Washington. The ambassador views the USSR as a destabilizing force and sympathizes with the West's concerns about Lumumba's Soviet ties. Taipei hopes to emerge as a model for responsible governance among decolonized states, while avoiding being overshadowed by Beijing's absence or reduced to a pawn in Cold War theatrics.

The United Kingdom: *The British representative is measured and deliberate, a veteran diplomat representing an empire in twilight but still commanding deep intelligence networks and financial power through London's institutions.* Behind his polished courtesy lies a calculating effort to preserve British influence across Africa while maintaining Western cohesion. They view the Americans as brash but useful allies, the Soviets as reckless agitators, and the Belgians as having mishandled a delicate transition. Britain quietly supports a UN-administered peacekeeping effort that protects Western interests without openly appearing imperial. The government in London hopes to avoid a precedent that could ignite instability in its remaining colonies, while reinforcing the image of Britain as the steady hand of global diplomacy.

Republic of France: France's ambassador is proud, articulate, and protective of national independence. *Backed by a robust presence in Francophone Africa and control over key financial systems tied to its former colonies, they use their position to remind the world that France remains a power to be reckoned with.* Viewing Belgium's intervention with sympathy but caution, they urge respect for sovereignty while opposing the kind of U.S.-led "internationalism" that might weaken France's own influence in Africa. His tone toward the Soviets is cold but less confrontational than Washington's, as he subtly works to position Paris as a mediator between extremes. France hopes to exit the meeting with European credibility intact and its African partners reassured, while avoiding any outcome that sets a precedent for UN overreach or U.S. dominance in postcolonial affairs.

Republic of Ecuador: The Ecuadorian representative, though hailing from a small nation, speaks with conviction and principle. *Ecuador brings little military or financial power, but its reputation for neutrality and fairness grants it moral weight in the chamber.* They view the Congo's suffering as a reflection of global injustice, condemning both the remnants of colonialism and the superpowers' struggle for dominance. By aligning with the Afro-Asian bloc and advocating strongly for UN neutrality, Ecuador hopes to reinforce the role of smaller nations as moral arbiters within international politics. Its delegation seeks a peaceful, consensus-driven resolution while avoiding any slide into the polarizing logic of the Cold War.

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Republic of Argentina: The Argentine delegate, polished and restrained, represents a nation seeking to reclaim international respect through diplomacy and moderation. *Argentina wields economic strength, especially in exports and industrial trade, and commands regional influence among Latin American states.* Viewing both superpowers with wary distance, the ambassador emphasizes sovereignty, non-intervention, and regional self-determination. They regard the crisis as a test of whether the UN can act independently of bloc politics. Through quiet coordination with other neutral states, Argentina hopes to build a middle path for peace that avoids the extremes of both colonial restoration and revolutionary upheaval.

Dominion of Ceylon: The Ceylonese ambassador embodies the postcolonial conscience of the chamber. *Coming from one of Asia's most respected neutral nations, he commands moral influence far beyond his country's size.* Through close ties with other Afro-Asian delegates, they work tirelessly to remind the Council that the Congo's independence symbolizes the broader liberation of the Global South. They distrust both Belgian paternalism and Soviet opportunism, calling instead for genuine UN stewardship rooted in neutrality and development. By mobilizing moral pressure and shared postcolonial identity, they hope to strengthen the Non-Aligned Movement's emerging voice while preventing the Congo from becoming a pawn in superpower rivalry.

Polish People's Republic: The Polish envoy carries the disciplined tone of a socialist loyalist, but the subtle diplomacy of a state that knows the value of appearing moderate. *Backed by the Eastern Bloc's industrial and technical support networks, Poland offers aid, advisors, and media platforms to promote the socialist vision of decolonization.* The ambassador frames their country's position as one born from shared historical struggle, comparing Poland's past under foreign domination to the Congo's present. Though they closely echo Soviet lines, they strive to maintain a gentler tone, seeking solidarity with African and Asian nations without alienating neutral ones. Poland hopes to expand its diplomatic reach through technical assistance while avoiding being dismissed as Moscow's echo.

Republic of Tunisia: Tunisia's ambassador, articulate and persuasive, speaks with the moral authority of Africa's first independent republic. *Though materially modest, Tunisia commands influence among postcolonial nations and is skilled at building coalitions within the UN.* The delegate's rhetoric blends conviction with diplomacy, advocating for immediate Belgian withdrawal and the preservation of Congolese unity. To them, the crisis is not simply about the Congo—it is about Africa's dignity and the right to self-determination free from all foreign dominance. Tunisia's government hopes to emerge as a moral leader of the African bloc, while avoiding division among the continent's new states or the entrenchment of superpower spheres in African politics.

Republic of Italy: The Italian ambassador, mild-mannered but perceptive, represents a European power eager to prove its transformation from colonial aggressor to constructive partner.

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Italy's ties to the Vatican and humanitarian organizations provide it with soft power tools—aid, mediation, and religious diplomacy—that few others can match. They position their country as a neutral intermediary, offering logistical support to UN missions and relief to displaced Congolese. Italy hopes to help broker compromise between rival factions, portraying itself as Europe's conscience in a time of transition. Rome's government wishes to avoid appearing partisan, striving instead to rehabilitate its international image through active peacekeeping.

Special Representatives and Observer States:

Republic of Congo: The Congolese representative is fiery, proud, and visibly burdened by the stakes of his nation's struggle. With no material power to match the great states, they rely on moral force, mineral wealth, and appeals to the conscience of the Afro-Asian world. Their voice quivers with urgency as he denounces Belgian troops, condemns secessionists, and warns that neutrality from the West only aids aggression. They look with hope toward the Soviets and fellow Africans, but mistrusts the motives of every great power. Congo's government seeks recognition as the sole legitimate authority and the complete withdrawal of foreign forces, fearing that without it, independence will prove only a mirage.

Kingdom of Belgium: The Belgian delegate, defensive yet polished, speaks for a small but wealthy European state clinging to its economic lifeline in the Congo's mineral riches. *Backed by powerful corporations, financial institutions, and informal support from conservative allies in Europe, they frame Belgium's intervention as a moral and practical necessity.* Their tone alternates between contrition and defiance—acknowledging missteps while blaming the chaos on Congolese inexperience and Soviet meddling. Belgium's goal is to preserve a degree of influence over the resource-rich Katanga region while deflecting international condemnation. Brussels hopes to emerge with its commercial interests intact, avoiding any resolution branding it a colonial aggressor.

State of Katanga: The Katangan representative exudes confidence and charm, dressed in Western clothes and carrying the polished demeanor of a person accustomed to wealth. *Representing Moïse Tshombe's secessionist regime, they use Katanga's copper and uranium resources as diplomatic currency, offering economic partnership to sympathetic states in exchange for recognition.* To Western ears, they speak of order, prosperity, and resistance to communism; to the UN, of self-determination and federal reform. They mistrust Lumumba's central government and dismisses Soviet rhetoric as dangerous idealism. Katanga's government hopes to emerge as a recognized or at least tolerated state within a looser Congolese federation, while avoiding any forced reintegration or sanctions that could cripple its economy.

South Kasai: The South Kasai envoy, quiet but deliberate, presents their people's plight with restrained emotion. *Their region, though small, controls valuable diamond fields—an asset he uses to fund relief and secure diplomatic attention.*

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They portray secession not as rebellion, but as a tragic necessity to protect civilians from tribal violence. To sympathetic delegates, they offer cooperation and economic partnership; to the UN, they appeal for protection and recognition of autonomy within a federated Congo. Their government hopes to survive through diplomacy and pragmatism, avoiding both isolation and annihilation in a conflict that has already consumed too many lives.



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