



Eleni Gavaris, Rania Gupta, and Abby Thomas



# <u>Table of Contents</u>

Table of Contents	2
Letter from the Chairs	3
How to Use this Guide	4
How to Write a Position Paper	5
Committee Background	8
Topic A: Political Instability Impact on Human Rights in Africa	12
What is Boko Haram? [this should be a general question that covers the general scope of your	•
Topic A]	13
Historical Circumstance of the Political Instability in Africa	
The Rise of Boko Haram	
Impact of Boko Haram on Nigeria and surrounding countries	
Limited Media Coverage	18
Questions to Consider	19
Topic B: Protecting the Rights of Women and Children	20
What are the human rights violations caused by Boko Haram?	21
History of Human right violations in African nations	
Impact of Boko Haram on Children	
The Impact of Boko Haram on Women	
Case Study	23
What Has Been Done?	
Potential Future Solutions	28
Questions to Consider	30



Country Positions 31

# Letter from the Chairs

**Eleni Gavaris** - Hi delegates! Welcome to HMUNC! My name is Eleni Gavaris and I am in 10th grade! This is my first year doing Model UN and taking the class! I have attended 5 conferences this year! Model UN has become one of my passions as it is a great way to debate various topics and gain amazing experiences such as attending conferences and meeting new people! Outside of Model UN, I do cheerleading, skiing, I love going to the beach, and I am a huge Swiftie! I am looking forward to meeting all of you and being your chair this year at HMUNC!

Rania Gupta - Hi delegates! Welcome to HMUNC! My name is Rania Gupta and I am a sophomore! This is my second year participating in Model UN and I have attended four college conferences and three high school conferences, along with chairing HMUNC last year! Model UN has become one of my passions and has helped me gain new experiences and helped better my public speaking! . Outside of Model UN, I love to play volleyball, travel, and am a huge swiftie! I hope you all enjoy our committee Boko Haram this year. I am looking forward to meeting all of you and being your chair this year at HMUNC, good luck!

Abigail Thomas- Hi everyone and welcome to HMUNC! My name is Abigail Thomas and I am a sophomore. This is my first year in Model UN and I have attended multiple highschool and national conferences. Model UN has allowed me to better understand current events, improve my public speaking and gain lifelong experiences. Outside of Model UN, I enjoy Indian classical dance, playing softball and spending time with family and friends. I am looking forward to all of you debating during our committee Boko Haram and being one of your chairs. I hope you all enjoy HMUNC this year and good luck!



# How to Use this Guide

Dear delegates,

This is the background guide for Boko Haram at HMUNC 2024. As your chairs, we have spent a lot of time writing and gathering research in order to create the best possible guide for you, in hopes that it will aid you in your research and debate. We hope that you take some time to read this, as it'll provide a helpful guideline to the topics you will be discussing in debate as well as the potential solutions you may propose. This background guide should serve as one of the many sources you should utilize in order to conduct your research in preparation for our conference!

This background guide is filled with important statistics and subtopics that you may use in debate, and it provides delegates with a holistic understanding of both topics. In your position paper, you must include why your country thinks that these issues are important, how you have already tried to solve the problems and what possible solutions you may use to make the world a better place, and minimize the problem. This background guide will help you understand the basic ideas of the issues, and it is your job to be creative and figure out different solutions. In order to aid you with your process of writing a position paper and finding solutions, we will have questions to consider at the end of every topic as well as descriptions of your position at the end of the background guide! We look forward to hearing the ideas you bring to the table! Good luck!

# Our committee email is: hmuncunhrc@gmail.com

We look forward to seeing you at committee. Feel free to contact us if you have any questions!



Sincerely, Eleni, Rania, and Abby!

# How to Write a Position Paper

We ask that you submit at least one position paper on either Topic A [Political Instability in Africa] or Topic B [Protecting the Rights of Women and Children] to be considered for awards. Position papers should be no longer than one page in length and must have footnotes in MLA format for all sources used.

# Paragraph 1:

- Quote important documents and find different statistics regarding [Political Instability in Africa] or [Protecting the Rights of Women and Children].
- Use the background guide to familiarize yourself with the topics and why the issues are important to [Security Council].
- Cite documents like the UN Charter or other legal documents that pertain to either topic.
- Explain why this issue is important and should be addressed.

#### Paragraph 2:

- Research more to find your country's policies and what they have done to address these specific issues.
- Use the position guides listed at the end of the background guide to help you.
- What laws have been passed? What is your country's stance on both topics? What countries has your country worked with in the past and what countries may it be looking to work with in the future?
- You can include quotes from your country's leader, conventions and resolutions your country has ratified, and statistics about your country to justify your position.



# Paragraph 3:

- Come up with creative ideas that will help either solve or minimize this issue worldwide. How can we improve [Political Instability in Africa]? How do we [Protecting the Rights of Women and Children]? What possible actions can we take?
- Remember to propose solutions relative to your country view and bloc (a bloc is a group of delegates that share similar ideas).
- At the bottom of each topic, we have added in questions to consider to help you find creative and thoughtful ideas.
- Make sure to write about what your country would like to accomplish in this committee.

Position Papers are due <u>May 8th, 2024</u> and must be e-mailed to: hmuncunhrc@gmail.com



# Overview of Boko Haram

**Who:** Boko Haram is a militant Islamic organization with the goal of overthrowing the government and turning Nigeria into an Islamic state. It opposes Western ideology including "voting in elections, wearing shirts and trousers, or receiving a secular education." It was founded by Muhammed Yusef and gained further influence and power under the leadership of Abubakar Shekau.

**What:** Boko Haram have attacked buildings, police stations, conducted shootouts. Boko Haram's attacks have severely impacted the lives of women and children, creating a humanitarian crisis. These issues include widespread displacement, need for psychosocial and emotional support, sexual violence and abductions.

**Where:** Boko Haram is based in northeastern Nigeria, and is also active in Chad, Niger, northern Cameroon, and Mali. Its headquarters are in Maiduguri, Nigeria.

**When:** Boko Haram was founded in 2002, but gained more power in 2011. In 2014, 300 girls were abducted in Chibok, a town in Nigeria.

**Why:** This impact of Boko Haram in Africa needs to be addressed as millions of people are in need for aid. Thus, organizations have allocated money towards humanitarian assistance such as services. Despite all the actions organizations have taken, there is still a lack of funding, so there is a need for continued support and more actions taken to address women, children, displaced persons, and civilians affected by Boko Haram.



# Committee Background

After World War II, in 1945, an international organization called the United Nations (UN) was created. The UN is composed of 193 member states and abides by the principles enshrined

in the UN Charter. Importantly, the UN's main objective is to solve international problems. Some examples of these issues include poverty, territorial disputes, and human right violations. With that said, the UN is made up of 6 main bodies, in which some of them include, The Security Council,



UN Scretaritant, International Court of Justice, and the General Assembly. Each of these bodies has a main focus. More specifically, the General Assembly is the "policy making organ" and is composed of subsidy bodies such as the UNHRC. <sup>1</sup>

# **UNHRC**

The UNHRC is a General Assembly Committee that works "for the protection of all human rights for all people; to help empower people to realize their rights; and to assist those responsible for upholding such rights in ensuring that they are implemented." In brief, they aim to find resolutions to human rights issues. This includes focusing their attention on vulnerable groups at risk of facing these issues. Along with this, they zoom in on economic, political, and social rights that people should have. <sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>quot;About Us | United Nations." the United Nations, https://www.un.org/en/about-us. Accessed 7 April 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> "Mission Statement | OHCHR." ohchr, https://www.ohchr.org/en/about-us/mission-statement. Accessed 7 April 2024.



More specifically, the UNHRC was created in 2006. As emphasized in their mission statement, the UNHRC was created to promote and protect human rights. The Human Rights Council was created to replace the Human Rights Commission. <sup>3</sup> For clarity, the Human Rights Commission was created in 1946 and follows the principles emphasized in the Universal



Declaration of Human Rights, an important document that addresses all the rights that people are entitled to and to avoid future human right abuses.

Circling back, this replacement was the result of the disapprovement the Human Rights Commission faced over member states of the body. Thus, the Human Rights Council has addressed these

concerns and this new organized body follows new rules about voting and member states. <sup>4 5 6</sup> Despite the differences between the Human Rights Council and the previous commission, the purpose has stayed the same as the HRC upholds the same objectives about human rights. Currently, the UN human rights have "helped achieve greater protection of the rights of neglected population groups such as indigenous peoples, older people, people with disabilities, and people belonging to the LGBTQ community." This reveals how no groups of people will be undermined when it comes to the protection of human rights. In addition, the Human Rights Council, in 2011 emphasized the relation between human rights and businesses, resulting in the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> "Welcome to the Human Rights Council | OHCHR." ohchr, https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/about-council. Accessed 7 April 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Farge, Emma, and Tomasz Janowski. "What is the UN Human Rights Council and what does it do?" Reuters, 10 October 2023, https://www.reuters.com/world/india/what-is-un-human-rights-council-what-does-it-do-2023-10-10/. Accessed 7 April 2024.

<sup>5</sup> http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/4810538.stm. Accessed 7 April 2024.

<sup>6 &</sup>quot;Fact Sheet: Reforming the Human Rights Council - United States Mission to the United Nations." United States Mission to the United Nations, 14 December 2020, https://usun.usmission.gov/fact-sheet-reforming-the-human-rights-council/. Accessed 7 April 2024.



creation of a framework to ensure that businesses follow their "human right responsibilities." This reveals how the protection of human rights is extremely important and complex. <sup>7</sup>

# **UNHRC** History

Evidently, the UNHRC is a very active committee with great impacts. To support this, from 2006 to 2022, they have held over 51 regular sessions, 35 special sessions, and 8 urgent debates. They have successfully taken action to improve people's lives as the UNHRC has passed 1,372 resolutions during this time. Some specific examples include resolutions preventing



genocide, another on Human
Rights and Transitional Justice, and
resolutions specific to countries. An
example of a country-specific
resolution include a resolution in
regards to the issues in Libya and
Syria. Futhermore, the special

session adresses "particularly urgent situations featuring serious violations of human rights and elevated risks of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing or crimes against humanity." One example of a special session held was in regards to Boko Haram. <sup>8</sup> Moreover, an example of a major accomplishment of the UNHRC is that they enforced the Voluntary Technical Assistance Trust Fund " to Support the Participation of Least Developed Countries along with Small Island Developing States in the work of the HRC." This includes the establishment of training courses to increase the education on the international human rights system, workshops in Africa, Asia,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> "Brief history of UN Human Rights | OHCHR." ohchr, https://www.ohchr.org/en/about-us/brief-history-un-human-rights. Accessed 7 April 2024.

<sup>\* &</sup>quot;United Nations Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect," United Nations Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect, https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/human-rights-council.shtml. Accessed 7 April 2024.



and the Pacific to evaluate improvement and what needs to be done, and increasing governmental officials' attendance at HRC sessions. 9

# **UNHRC** Currently

Overall, the United Nations have been focusing on the negative effects of Boko Haram. Thus, they have provided emergency funds, condemned the attacks of Boko Haram, provided resources such as shelters, canoes, fishing equipment, and increased education in African countries. This is due to the UN's goal of countering Boko Haram and dealing with the refugee crisis, the children and women in need of physiological support and care, and more. With that said, specific UN bodies such as UNICEF, UNHRC, and the Security council have taken actions.

10

 $<sup>^9</sup>$  "Mandates & achievements | OHCHR." ohchr, https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/trust-fund/mandate. Accessed 7 April 2024.

<sup>10</sup> Khelifi, Oualid. "| Africa Renewal." | Africa Renewal, https://www.un.org/africarenewal/topic/boko-haram. Accessed 7 April 2024.



# Topic A: Political Instability in Africa





# What is Boko Haram?

- A militant group based in Nigeria's northwestern states of Yobe and Borno
- Boko Haram is the title for a group that calls itself "Jama`at ahl al-sunna li-da`wa wa-l-qital"
- The name connotes "[Western] education is forbidden"
- Beliefs are centered on strict adherence to
  Wahhabism, an extremely strict form of
  Sunni Islam



# Historical Circumstance of the Political Instability in Africa

The political instability in African nations can be dated back as consequences of foreign intrusion into African affairs. Many of today's challenges are the outcome of "colonial political

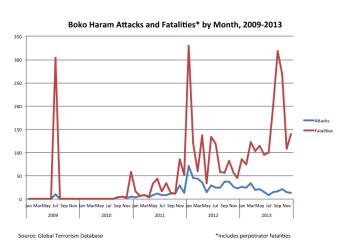


and economic practices, Cold War alliances, and attempts by outsiders to influence African political and economic systems during the decolonization and post-independence periods". Almost all of Africa's states had their borders drawn by colonial powers. This dates back to the Scramble for Africa that took place between 1881 and 1914. This is where European powers competed for natural

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Schmidt, Elizabeth. "Conflict in Africa | Perspectives on History | AHA." American Historical Association, 26 July 2016, https://www.historians.org/research-and-publications/perspectives-on-history/summer-2016/conflict-in-africa-the-historical-roots-of-current-problems. Accessed 7 April 2024.



resources within Africa, some examples include diamond, gold, and salt. This is because



industrialized European countries wanted control over Africa. Due to the competition, European nations gathered during the Berlin Conference that took place between 1884 and 1885. In fact, a representative from Africa was not invited and European powers proceeded to create borders within Africa. Overall, European nations divided

Africa in a way that benefits them without taking into consideration ethnic, cultural and linguistic groups within Africa. These borders often led to ethnic divisions and unequal distribution of resources, causing future conflicts. This has made many African countries home to coups, urban unrest in slums, criminal banditry, and coordinated mass-murder by state authorities.<sup>12</sup>

Even after gaining independence, several African nations experienced challenges in establishing stable governments. For example in Nigeria, by the 1960s, post-colonial Nigeria faced corruption and exploitation, tracing back to the Nigerian Civil War. This war started years of political unrest within Nigeria,



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Driscoll, Jesse. "Social Conflict and Political Violence in Africa." Stanford Program on International and Cross-Cultural Education, 2009, https://spice.fsi.stanford.edu/docs/social\_conflict\_and\_political\_violence\_in\_africa. Accessed 7 April 2024.



including assassinations of Northern Nigerian officials.<sup>13</sup> As the production of oil was becoming popular, it also became a large player for parties involved in the Civil War. After the war ended however, many oil producing areas claimed that they weren't being given a fair share of the oil revenue, particularly impacting micro-minorities. <sup>14</sup> In addition, for many nations "the determination to preserve national unity following independence provided the motivation behind one-party rule, excessive centralization of power, oppressive authoritarian regimes, and systematic violation of human rights and fundamental liberties." <sup>15</sup>

Africa is home to a diverse range of ethnic groups, and the political instability is often magnified by tensions between groups. Ethnic differences are one of the main sources of domestic instability and conflict, and because of this rebel groups are often created. Politicians often also play upon ethnic differences to rise to power. Economic issues such as poverty, inequality, corruption and lack of economic opportunities have all contributed to political instability. Corruption and mismanagement of natural resources have further hindered economic development and have marginalized minority groups. If a government fails to address the economic problems, it leads to further unrest, and even armed rebellion.

#### The Rise of Boko Haram

Boko Haram arose from conflict between Muslims sects and grievances against the state and Christains. The group's history can be broken down into 2 main phases. Muhammad Yusuf was the one who first initiated Boko Haram's first phase. This phase focused on



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Perham, Margery. "Reflections on the Nigerian Civil War." International Affairs (Royal Institute of International Affairs 1944-), vol. 46, no. 2, 1970, pp. 231-246. JSTOR, https://doi.org/10.2307/2613824. Accessed 8 April 2024.

A Steinwand, Jonathan. "Post-colonial Nigeria: Civil War, Fragmentation, Neocolonial Corruption, and Environmental Exploitation." Post-colonial Nigeria: Civil War, Fragmentation, Neocolonial Corruption, and Environmental Exploitation, 6 June 2016,

https://scalar.usc.edu/works/niger-delta-black-gold-blues/14-post-colonial-nigeria-civil-war-fragmentation-neocolonial-corruption-and-environmental-exploitation-casey. Accessed 7 April
<sup>15</sup> Deng, Francis M. "Ethnicity: An African Predicament | Brookings." Brookings Institution, 1 June 1997, https://www.brookings.edu/articles/ethnicity-an-african-predicament/. Accessed 7 April



establishing small camps and schools in the remote regions of Borno and Yobe states during the years 2002-2005. The group formed its identity by practicing against non-Islamic practices. The last part of phase 1 was in 2009, the confrontation of Nigerian police, which resulted in the Nigerian military taking action upon Muhammad Yusuf's associated mosques, and eventually, his judicial murder. Hundreds of members were killed as well. The second phase began under the leadership of Abubakar Shekau. The group began their major operations attacking military, police, universities, banks, and Christian churches. There were also targeted assassinations of political figures, such as Abba Anas bin, secular opposition figures such as Modu Fannami



Godio, and those that challenged Boko Haram such as Ibrahim Birkuti. These shootings align with Boko Haram's purificationist agenda with regard to Islam. In 2011, a dramatic change happened- the use of suicide attacks. The police General Headquarters in Abuja and UN headquarters, also in

Abuja were targeted. <sup>16</sup> Ibrahim Bakoura continues to be a key leader of the group, particularly in southeast Niger. Boko Haram continues to impact Nigeria and surrounding nations, and is a prominent threat to the safety and well being of millions of people.

# Impact of Boko Haram on Nigeria and surrounding countries

Boko Haram has impacted the communities surrounding West Africa's Lake Chad Basin, affecting millions of people in northeastern Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad and Niger. Each country

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Cook, David. "The Rise of Boko Haram in Nigeria – Combating Terrorism Center at West Point." Combating Terrorism Center, https://ctc.westpoint.edu/the-rise-of-boko-haram-in-nigeria/. Accessed 8 April 2024.



has been individually impacted by this group, and many people are still displaced and struggling to survive.

# **Social Impact:**

The activities of the Boko Haram group has forced millions of people into hardships including the loss of lives and property, internal displacement, food insecurity and sexual abuse.



Population explosion, climate change, failure of the state to address the challenges of armed groups, poverty and unemployment are all key factors impacting the social impact of this group. The group has killed an estimated 50,000 people and displaced

more than 2.5 million people since it was established. 18

# **Political:**

Boko Haram has disrupted governance and though its ideology is described as opposition to democracy and Western-style education, its belief is more than hatred for Western influence. Its view includes religious exclusivism that opposes all other systems, including rival interpretations of Islam, and its politics are based upon victimhood of what is seen as decades-long history of persecution against Muslims in Nigeria.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>77</sup> "Socio-Economic Impact of Rural Banditry and Cattle Rustling in Nigeria's North West Region." *Taylor & Francis eBooks*,
https://www.taylorfrancis.com/chapters/edit/10.4324/9781003201953-10/socio-economic-impact-rural-banditry-cattle-rustling-nigeria-north-west-region-mubarak-ahmed-mashi. Accessed 8

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> "National Counterterrorism Center." National Counterterrorism Center | FTOs, https://www.dni.gov/nctc/ftos/boko\_haram\_fto.html. Accessed 8 April 2024.

<sup>&</sup>quot;I'the disease is unbelief': Boko Haram's religious and political worldview | Brookings." Brookings Institution, https://www.brookings.edu/articles/the-disease-is-unbelief-boko-harams-religious-and-political-worldview/. Accessed 8 April 2024.



# **Economic:**

The attacks of this group have destroyed trade and production activities in Nigeria. It has deeply affected the rural agricultural economy, one of the most important sectors of the economy. The group has led to the displacement of farmers in Northwest and Northeast of Nigeria, leaving their farmlands behind. There has been a decrease of milk and meat production and governments have also spent a lot to cater to the needs of refugees. <sup>20</sup>



# Limited Media Coverage

Despite Africa being the secondest largest continent on the Earth, countries within Africa are suffering humanitarian crises that are being underreported. This is contributed to the fact that the Iphone 15, the Barbie movie, and Prince Harry's new book are receiving a significant amount of more media coverage compared to the crisis African nations are facing.

This is revealed through the fact that there way more articles published about these topics compared to issues within African countries.

More specifically, many African countries such as Zimbabwe, Uganda, Burundi, Senegal and more are facing a wide range of issues that are receiving a lack of attention in the media, including climate change, conflicts, poverty,



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> "View of Appraising the Effect of Boko Haram Insurgency on the Agricultural Sector of Nigerian Business Environment | Journal of Law and Governance." Journal of Law and Governance, https://jbsge.vu.edu.au/index.php/jbsge/article/view/999/1398. Accessed 8 April 2024.



violence, hunger, drought, floods, displacement, political issues and more. These crises are being overlooked and are not being heavily covered compared to conflicts such as the war in Ukraine. This is a huge concern because how are these issues going to be addressed if they are not being highlighted in the news and if there are budget cuts? Alarmingly, the UN noted that by 2024 over 150 million people in Africa will need humanitarian aid. So, countries and the media need to start prioritizing African nations in terms of humanitarian assistance as opposed to economic gains. <sup>21</sup> Thus, the rise of Boko Haram along with protecting the rights of women and children need to be addressed.

# **Questions to Consider**

- What potential ramifications will Boko Haram have in the future? What do you believe will be the future of the group and its impact in African nations?
- What potential solutions can be used to alleviate the political instability caused by Boko Haram that has been affected in other nations that have suffered from terrorist group violence?
- How can improving the human rights violations impact political instability?

<sup>21</sup> Yusuf, Mohammed. "Africa's Humanitarian Crises Underreported Amid Conflicts in Europe, Middle East." VOA News, 17 January 2024, https://www.voanews.com/a/africa-s-humanitarian-crises-underreported-amid-conflicts-in-europe-middle-east-/7444130.html. Accessed 11 March 2024.



<u>Topic B: Protecting the Rights of Women and Children</u>





# What are the Human Right Violations caused by Boko Haram?

# History of Human Right Violations in African Nations

Throughout history, African nations have faced major human rights violations. One of the biggest examples of this inequality, absolute injustice, and inhumane treatment Africans endured was slavery. As a result of the Age of Exploration, Europeans traveled to Africa for slaves. This is known as the Transatlantic Slave Trade or the Triangular Slave Trade, in which the Europeans brought slaves to colonies in America. To emphasize how horrific this was, "13 million African people were kidnapped and trafficked across the Atlantic to the Americas." <sup>22</sup>

# The Impact of Boko Haram on Children

Boko Haram has also impacted children as many of them such as schoolgirls have



dropped out due to fear of Boko
Haram. This leads to the decrease
of education rates in regions of
Northern Nigeria. Additionally,
in only a span of about five
months, over half a million
adolescents have had to leave
their homes to seek safety
causing a total of about 1.4

million children to have been displaced in the region.<sup>23</sup> Alongside with women, children have been used as suicide bombers, abducted, and even killed. Moreover, in order to combat

<sup>22 &</sup>quot;The Transatlantic Slave Trade." Equal Justice Initiative, https://eji.org/reports/transatlantic-slave-trade-overview/. Accessed 8 April 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup>"Boko Haram violence displaces 1.4 million children in Nigeria and beyond – UNICEF." the United Nations,

https://www.un.org/africarenewal/news/boko-haram-violence-displaces-14-million-children-nigeria-and-beyond-%E2%80%93-unicef. Accessed 7 April 2024. Accessed 7 April 2024. Accessed 8 April 2024. Accessed 9 April 2024. Accessed 9



malnutrition, foundations such as UNICEF have been working with victims of the attacks by Boko Haram in order to ensure the safety and wellbeing of families. <sup>24</sup> UNICEF was also able to help secure the release of around 180 kids who were supposedly taken by people who had ties to Boko Haram. All of the children were able to receive the immediate care needed but as the

representative of UNICEF in Nigeria said, "These 8 girls and 175 boys are first and foremost victims of the ongoing conflict and their release is an important step on their long road to recovery." Furthermore, children's education has been impacted due to the acts of Boko Haram. There have been many attacks on schools leading to over one million adolescents without any access to education in Nigeria alone. On the other hand,



children are also in the line of harm's way as, "Nigeria's security forces have contributed to the problem by using schools as military bases." In addition, "Boko Haram continued to recruit and use child soldiers, including girls, in its attacks on civilian and military targets." Around 8,000 child soldiers had been recruited by 2017 by Boko Haram. Sadly, there was many instances when human rights would be violated whether it be rape, sexual violence, or maiming. 28

<sup>24 &</sup>quot;BOKO HARAM CRISIS." UNICEF USA, https://www.unicefusa.org/what-unicef-does/emergency-response/conflict/boko-haram-crisis. Accessed 7 April 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> "UNICEF Nigeria welcomes release of over 180 children suspected of Boko Haram ties from administrative custody." UNICEF,

https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/unicef-nigeria-welcomes-release-over-180-children-suspected-boko-haram-ties. Accessed 8 April 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> "Boko Haram Conflict Keeping Kids out of School." Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack,

 $https://protectingeducation.org/resource\_multimedia/boko-haram-conflict-keeping-kids-out-of-school/. Accessed 8 April 2024.$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Fletcher, Ryan. "2022 Human Rights Reports: Insights Into Global Child Soldier Recruitment & Use • Stimson Center." Stimson Center, 7 April 2023, https://www.stimson.org/2023/2022-human-rights-reports-insights-into-global-child-soldier-recruitment-use/. Accessed 7 April 2024.

<sup>28 &</sup>quot;Safeguarding the Lives of Children Affected by Boko Haram: Application of the SAFE Model of Child Protection to a Rights-Based Situation Analysis." NCBI, https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8233023/. Accessed 8 April 2024.



# The Impact of Boko Haram on Women

Women have been heavily impacted by Boko Haram as Boko Haram has exerted their power over women. Notably, Boko Haram overlooks women's role in society. Boko Haram have been able to exert their power by bringing these women under captivity. In doing so, women become easily subjected to assaults such as rape, being forced to convert to Islam and more. In addition, women have been impacted by Boko Haram as they have been used suicide bombers,



sex slaves and more in this conflict. For example, in 2014, in Gombe State, the tactic of female suicide bombers began as the first one was in this region.<sup>29</sup> In fact, during raids conducted by Boko Haram, Boko Haram fighters raped women and girls while they tried to escape and many

witnesses heard screams from houses next door. Other witnesses describe how before being sexually assaulted, their belongings were removed from them such as jewelry. In addition, Boko Haram fighters have captured women and have taken them away from their homes on motorbikes. <sup>30</sup>

# Case Study: Mass-Abductions in Chibok of Schoolgirls

A secondary boarding school in a town in Borno State, Nigeria called Chibok was attacked by Boko Haram. This occurred on April 14th, 2014. Notably, Boko Haram is strongly against Western influence, such as secular education. Therefore, due to their goal of not

<sup>29</sup> Okoli, Chukwuma. "Gender and Terror: Boko Haram and the Abuse of Women in Nigeria." Georgetown Journal of International Affairs, 5 April 2022,

 $https://gjia.georgetown.edu/2022/04/05/gender-and-terror-boko-haram-and-the-abuse-of-women-in-nigeria\%EF\%BF\%BC/.\ Accessed\ 7\ April\ 2024.$ 

<sup>30 &</sup>quot;Nigeria: Boko Haram brutality against women and girls needs urgent response – new research." Amnesty International, 24 March 2021,

https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/press-release/2021/03/nigeria-boko-haram-brutality-against-women-and-girls-needs-urgent-response-new-research/. Accessed 8 April 2024.



partaking in the western world, many schools in the northeastern Nigeria region have been shut down. However, this boarding school in Chibok has never faced attacks, so the students went to the school that day in order to take their finals. <sup>31</sup> Notebly, the school girls that attended this school were Christian which contradicts Boko Haram's goal of turning Nigeria into an Islamic state where Sharia law will be implemented and rigidly adhered to. In order to achieve this, Boko Haram clearly has been using violence towards groups that do not comply emphasized in the kidnapping of the schoolgirls. <sup>32 33</sup>

As a result, during the night Boko Haram abducted nearly 300 girls, specifically 276 during their raiding of the dormitories. <sup>34</sup> The girls that were seized were put in large trucks and taken away. However, some girls found a way to escape but the majority did not. To stress this human rights violation, while these girls were in captivity they were forced to convert to Islam. With that said, they involuntarily had to chant verses from the religious text of Islam called the Quran and were forced to dress modestly in which their hair and bodies were fully covered. To add on, these girls faced physical abuse such as being beaten. They were also starved as they had to eat grass. <sup>35</sup>

Furthermore, girls have been freed due to the negotiations with the Islamic militant group and the Nigerian government, along with the assistance by a humanitarian aid organization called the International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC.) One example includes how 21 girls that were abducted in Chibok were freed and able to



<sup>3 &</sup>quot;Nigeria Chibok abductions: What we know." BBC, 8 May 2017, https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-32299943. Accessed 1 April 2024.

<sup>32</sup> Musab, Abu. "1.2.1. Boko Haram, including JAS and ISIS-WA." European Union Agency for Asylum, https://euaa.europa.eu/country-guidance-nigeria/121-boko-haram-including-jas-and-isis-wa. Accessed 1 April 2024.

<sup>33 &</sup>quot;Nigeria"

<sup>4 &</sup>quot;Nigeria"

<sup>35</sup> Stahl, Lesley. "The Chibok Girls: Survivors of kidnapping by Boko Haram share their stories." CBS News, 17 February 2019, https://www.cbsnews.com/news/the-chibok-girls-survivors-of-kidnapping-by-boko-haram-share-their-stories-60-minutes/. Accessed 1 April 2024.



reunite with their families. <sup>36</sup> However, they are in need of physiological care as many were raped, forced to marry, starved and more. As a result, of the intense care they need due to the horrifics these girls endured, UNICEF along with International Alert "for the past 10 months has been providing psychological support to the female victims of Boko Haram's violence, as well as promoting and addressing negative perceptions that these women and girls endure within the affects communities."

In terms of actions that have been taken, the abduction of the schoolgirls in Chibok led



to the creation of an international campaign called #Bring Back Our Girls in 2014. As emphasized in the name, they want the girls that were abducted to be brought back and alive! As of today, 112 girls are still missing. To put this in perspective, out of the 276 schoolgirls abducted, 57 escaped and 107 are

released. 37

Furthermore, Nigerian representative of UNICEF, Gianfranco Rotigliano acknowledges this positive news about the girls that were freed and able to reunite with their families while emphasizing that "'we must keep pressing for all the women and children held by Boko Haram to be freed.'" <sup>38</sup> This is because despite these positive actions taken, there is still more that needs to be done. To further stress this, Amnesty international notes that over 90 of the school girls abducted in Chibok in 2014 are still missing. <sup>39</sup>

<sup>36 &</sup>quot;Nigeria"

<sup>37 #</sup>BringBackOurGirls - Demanding return of Chibok girls. https://bringbackourgirls.ng/, Accessed 7 April 2024.

<sup>38 &</sup>quot;Emotional family reunions highlight need for psychosocial care for all girls abducted by Boko Haram." the United Nations, 19 October 2016,

https://www.un.org/africarenewal/news/emotional-family-reunions-highlight-need-psychosocial-care-all-girls-abducted-boko-haram. Accessed 1 April 2024.

\*\*PADEBAYO, TAIWO. "A decade since the Chibok abduction, more than 1400 Nigerian students have been kidnapped." AP News, 9 March 2024, https://apnews.com/article/nigeria-abduction-gunmen-e7d9ba127485e893d80eae1218b702fd. Accessed 1 April 2024.



# What Has Been Done?

Many actions have been taken to handle the humanitarian crisis people in African countries have faced as a result of Boko Haram. For example, at the lakeside in Chad, a regional task force along with the Chadian army has been countering Boko Haram.

Moreover, the UNHCR which stands for the UN Refugee Agency has implemented "livelihood programs" in order for civilians to eventually return to normalcy in which UNHCR goal is for civilians impacted by Boko Haram to return to self-sufficiency by reaching economic stability. Thus, UNHCR prioritizes ensuring protection among these groups, providing



shelter, and education. The assistance by UNHCR deals with the fact that a "total of 2.4 million



people in north-eastern Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad and Niger have been displaced as a result of the Boko Haram insurgency." For example, the implementation of more "livelihood programs" enable lake fishermen to return to work as canoes, nets, and fishing equipment have been provided to them. To prove these successful

measures taken by UNHCR; they have provided over 150 households with equipment such as fishing boats and other materials. Thus, the beneficiaries are able to support their families as



they become more self-reliant from these programs. <sup>40</sup> To add on, UNHCR has also been dealing with the situation in Bosso, a town in the Diffa region in south-east Niger as there is a refugee crisis because of the people fleeing their homes. To prove this, over 200,000 people are displaced in the Diffa region. In fact, the spokesperson of the UNHCR, Adrian Edwards stated, "We have not been working directly in Bosso since February 2015, when the insurgency spread from Nigeria to Niger, but we operate through local implementing partners to deliver help." Alongside the collaboration between the UNHCR and local and non-governmental international partners, protection services have been in Bosso and an emergency team was sent to the region.

As mentioned in the case study, UNICEF along with the international alert have worked



by Boko Haram. Besides the providing of physiological support, they have also have been working for countering the fact that many people in the communities fear the females that "have been indoctrinated by Boko Haram" because many believe that they are now suicide

bombers. Therefore, it is vital that UNICEF breaks these speculations on the women as they have already endured a lot by Boko Haram.

Importantly, organizations, agencies and more have been working together. For example, the Swedish International Development Agency along with the United Kingdom Department for International Development has provided funding. This funding allowed the

<sup>40</sup> Khelifi, Oualid. "UNHCR provides a safety net for Nigerians at lakeside camp in Chad." the United Nations,

https://www.un.org/africarenewal/news/unhcr-provides-safety-net-nigerians-lakeside-camp-chad. Accessed 7 April 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> "Thousands continue to flee Boko Haram attacks on Niger town – UN refugee agency." the United Nations, 7 June 2016,

https://www.un.org/africarenewal/news/thousands-continue-flee-boko-haram-attacks-niger-town-%E2%80%93-un-refugee-agency. Accessed 7 April 2024.



establishment of UNICEF's reintegration assistance programme which aided over 700 females.

Moreover, the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) devoted 13 million dollars for immediate humanitarian assistance. This allocation of money will aid 250,000 people in the region of north-east Nigeria. This is needed as people lack the ability to adequately provide for



their families as crops were destroyed and livestock was stolen by Boko Haram. Thus, this funding enables civilians to regain stability. In addition, many people needed physiological support due to the trauma they endured by Boko Haram such as sexual assault and other abuses in which the funding will accomplish

this. To add on, this large amount of funding can go towards food, supplements, and services of protection and health to people greatly affected by Boko Haram. With that in mind, a variety of organizations such as the FAO, UNDSS, UNFPA, WFP and others will help ensure that these resources such as food are distributed where needed. <sup>43</sup>

Importantly, besides organizations, others have also taken action to help people impacted by Boko Haram. For example, for seven months, a Nigerian nurse provided shelter in her house for 50 people fleeing Boko Haram. In addition, she not only provided them with shelter but also other necessities such as food, a bed, and medication. <sup>44</sup>

# **Future Solutions**

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> "Emotional family reunions highlight need for psychosocial care for all girls abducted by Boko Haram." the United Nations, 19 October 2016, https://www.un.org/africarenewal/news/emotional-family-reunions-highlight-need-psychosocial-care-all-girls-abducted-boko-haram. Accessed 7 April 2024.

<sup>43 &</sup>quot;UN allocates \$13 million from emergency fund to support people in north-eastern Nigeria." the United Nations, 27 June 2016,

 $https://www.un.org/africarenewal/news/un-allocates-13-million-emergency-fund-support-people-north-eastern-nigeria.\ Accessed\ 7\ April\ 2024.$ 

<sup>44 &</sup>quot;Nigerian nurse describes sheltering 50 people fleeing Boko Haram."

https://www.un.org/africarenewal/audio-main-view/nigerian-nurse-describes-sheltering-50-people-fleeing-boko-haram. Accessed 7 April 2024.



Despite the various actions taken to counter Boko Haram and deal with the repercussions due to their attacks, there is a lot more that needs to be done. For starters, more funding is needed. This funding can help strengthen the existing establishments and solutions put in the palace. For example, more funding is critical in order for farmers, fisherman, herders and other professions to benefit from the livelihood programmes as it only "covers 8 percent of refugees in the camp and around Bagasola." Therefore, more people will have access to resources such as canoes in order to also achieve economic independence and regain stability. Moreover, the beneficiaries that are already benefiting from these programmes need more resources as well such as bigger boats and nets. These

tools will enable them to ultimately achieve economic independence. 45 Notebly, over 5 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance in the Lake Chad Basin. Beside aid needed, there is also a need for security, stability and development measures taken. 46



Furthermore, in Lack Chad Basin, there are over 3 million people who face food insecurity. With that said, UNICEF Director for Western and Central Africa noted, "Some 134 children on average will die every day from causes linked to acute malnutrition if the response is not scaled quickly." This reveals the urgency of more having to be done. In fact, only 41% of the 55.5 million dollars that UNICEF called upon providing in 2016 has been actually allocated in north-east Nigeria. 47 Importantly, after a terrorist attack in Cameroon on June 29th, officials have not only condemned this attack but also called for action. For example, the Secretary General

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> ""Emotional"



spokesperson vocalized the urge for "'international partners to provide support to the countries of the Lake Chad Basin Commision and Benin, with the backing of the African Union and the Multinational Joint Task Force.'" <sup>48</sup> Similarly, Mr. O'Brien also calls upon the involvement of the international community to play a more of a vital role. Alongside this, he also notes the need to scale up the funding such as the money already provided by CERF. Another example of inadequate funding is highlighted when only 22% of the Humanitarian Response Plan for Nigeria has been funded. <sup>49</sup>

Therefore, delegates should consider what needs to be done when creating potential solutions. Some examples include finding organizations willing to allocate these funds. To add on, delegates want to consider the areas that don't have access to the resources that have been



implemented. This is because areas of disparity need resources provided immediately. More solutions include establishing refugee shelters, mental health facilities to support the women and children who have faced trauma and other sufferings by Boko Haram

and need emotional support. Importantly, make sure to keep in mind that it is crucial that these solutions protect the sovereignty of African Nations.

# **Questions to Consider**

- What are the future potential social impacts of the humanitarian crisis created by Boko Haram?

<sup>48 &</sup>quot;Thousands"

<sup>49 &</sup>quot;Nigerian"



- What potential solutions that have been implemented in other countries can alleviate the harsh gender violence faced by many women and girls in African countries influenced by Boko Haram?
- How can global cooperation be used to have a long lasting impact on the humanitarian crisis in Nigeria and surrounding nations?

# **Helpful Links**

http://www.hmunc.org/

https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter

https://www.un.org/africarenewal/topic/boko-haram

https://www.britannica.com/topic/Boko-Haram

https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-13809501

 $\underline{https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jsVgXJLXtdw}$ 



# **Country Positions**



Essentially, country positions are the countries that each delegate will be representing during the committee. Simply, each delegate is a representative of their assigned country. With that said, delegates should use this part of the background guide to get a general scope of your country's position in relation to the topics that will be discussed. This will serve as a good starting point for your research in terms of your country's stance and what have they done in regards to the issues at hand. Make sure to try to stay as true as possible to your country's policy even if it does not align with your personal beliefs. We highly encourage you to read through other countries' backgrounds to get a sense of what other countries you may want to work with such as creating resolutions.



# **Argentina**

Argentina is a democratic nation who is in support of human rights and has had regulations and



laws put in place to protect them. Argentina's economy is ranked third in Latin America therefore they are able to provide funding if needed to countries affected by Boko Haram such as Niger, Nigeria, Cameroon, and Chad. Since Argentina is a democratic nation themselves, they are against the

overthrowing of the government as it opposes Western Ideology. Argentina also has close ties to the organization UNICEF which is currently helping aid adolescents affected by the acts of Boko Haram.

# Azerbaijan

Azerbaijan is a semi-presidential republic nation located at the boundary of Eastern Europe and



West Asia. The country sufferers from a large informal economy, widespread corruption, unpredictable tax audits, a lack of judicial independence



# Belgium

Belgium is an democratic nation in the EU, and a part of one of the 48 nations to sign the



universal declaration of human rights. As an western country aligned heavily with western ideology, Belgium is a proud member of N.A.T.O. Belgium maintains cordial relations with Nigeria and can help them persevere through Boko Haram.

#### **Brazil**



Brazil is a concerning member state and advocates for regional stability and counterterrorism efforts. Brazil emphasizes the importance of addressing the root causes of political instability and supports initiatives aimed at addressing socioeconomic issues in affected regions. Brazil stresses the need for international support, and helping countries affected by Boko Haram to combat issues, while

still respecting the sovereignty of African nations.

#### **Burkina Faso**

Burkina Faso was once part of the African Union, however its membership has been suspended in 2022 due to military coup. There is an extremely high poverty rate, massive population



displacements and critical food inadequacy. There is a large presence of armed Islamist groups particularly north and east of the country. The security of Burkina Faso has worsened by the deaths caused by militant Islamic



violence as it has increased by 46%. The economy of Burkina Faso is primarily based on agriculture, although the country also stands as Africa's 5th largest producer of gold. Boko Haram is also believed to operate in Burkina Faso which will further increase Burkina Fasos's economic, political and social ramifications.

#### Canada

Canada has played instrumental parts in previous resolutions to uphold human rights within



previously colonized countries, such as the universal declaration of human rights in 1948. With the ability to provide many resources to the committee, as a founding member, Canada plays a key component in the execution of resolutions as well as funding.

# Chad

Chad has been directly affected by Boko Haram due to being so close to Nigeria. The group has killed hundreds, displaced thousands and damaged the regional economy of the Lake Chad



basin. This conflict has triggered a humanitarian crisis, widespread insecurity, substantial displacements of population and the disruption of economic activities. This insecurity has impacted the lives of millions that has affected living conditions, education, health and local governance. Chad is a part of the African Union and

emphasizes the urgent need for regional corporations to combat the threat posed by Boko Haram and other extremist groups.



# The People's Republic of China



The People's Republic of China is controlled by a communist party named the CCP. China has a high GDP therefore they can help provide humanitarian aid for countries such as Nigeria, Cameroon, Niger, and Chad. China is also a part of the Human Rights Council

Membership.

# Democratic Republic of Congo

The Democratic Republic of Congo is a part of the African Union along with the Human Rights



Council. Boko Haram's violence and terrorist activity has spread into Congo through armed groups, and continues to pose a threat to the overall stability. The country's economic stability remains highly vulnerable to external factors, such as continued hikes in oil and food prices.

# **Egypt**



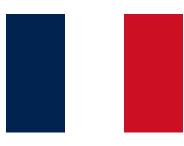
Egypt is a democratic republic nation who is a part of the Human's Right Council Membership. While they are apart of this council, Egypt has faced internal human rights problems in their country including prison conditions that were inhumane, unlawful killings, torture, and more. Since Egypt has endured their own human rights issues in the past, they may have the ability



to speak upon their own experiences in terms of what has worked for their nation to resolve instability and human right violations that African nations are facing.

#### France

France is a democracy that is a part of the Human Rights Council Membership. France has a



high GDP therefore they can help provide humanitarian aid to countries affected by Boko Haram. France is also against overthrowing Western Ideologies and is against the acts done by Boko Haram and is in support of helping the nations affected.

#### India

India is the most populated democratic nation in the world. India is apart of the Human Rights



Council Membership but have faced human rights issues in the past such as disappearance, torture, and unlawful killings. On the other hand, India has the 5th highest GDP therefore they can help with humanitarian aid for countries affected by Boko Haram such as Nigeria, Chad. Cameroon, and Niger.



#### Iran

Iran was founded as the Islamic Republic of Iran in 1979. Notebly, Iran strongly opposes western domination and believes that western interference is unwarranted. To continue, Iran is devoted to supporting African nations who have the same purpose and goals to foster a rigorous GDP.



Thus, Iran has been growing their relationship with African nations. For example, they implemented a foreign aid program under the presidency of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad from 2005 to 2013. More recently, Iran's influence in Africa has increased as Iran's exports have risen by 100% as Iran had 1.28 billion dollars of exports to Africa in 2022. Iran has also violated human rights shown by their execution of dissenters as protesters and bystanders have been increasingly killed by Iranian security forces as there were 582 executions as of 2022 in Iran.

# Japan



Japan ratified the constitution of human rights put forward by the U.N in June, 1979, as an democratic nation. Japan's foreign minister previously put out a statement condemning the actions taken by boko haram and called for a release of hostages.

# Libya

Libya is an African nation who also belongs to the African Union. Since Libya may be going through a political change there is a lot of political instability going on similarity to countries



affected by Boko Haram such as Nigeria. Libya is a part of the Human Rights Council but human rights are violated on a daily basis by armed groups and attacks even though it has been about twelve years since Libya steered away from Muammar Gaddafi's political views.

#### Mali



Mali is an African country that is located in the Sahel Region. Therefore, Mali has also been impacted by



Boko Haram and has experienced political instability. Notably, Mali is a part of the Human Rights Council. This is revealed in the UN News Centre interview where the Regional Humanitarian Coordinator for the Sahel, Toby Lanzer stressed the crisis Mali is facing. This is because the fallout violence led to an immense amount of humanitarian suffering.

#### Mauritania

Mauritania is an African Nation and is part of the African Union. While Mauritania is a part of



the Human Rights Council, there have been many human rights violations such as government corruption, gender-based violence, and arbitrary arrests. Mauritania is not in the best place economically but since their economy is mainly based on fishing, livestock, and agriculture, these resources can potentially be allocated to countries facing the effects of Boko Haram such as Niger, Nigeria, Chad,

and Cameroon.

# Mexico



Mexico believes in international cooperation,
counterterrorism and protection of human rights. The
country advocates for border security and law enforcement
cooperation, without imposing on national sovereignty.

Mexico continues to face widespread poverty of about 40% of

Mexicans living in poverty. Mexico has also supported cooperation projects and programs in favor of the African region. With the 12th largest GDP, Mexico can further provide economic support for African nations affected by Boko Haram.



#### Morocco

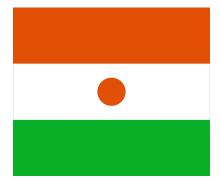


Morocco is an African Nation that is at risk for terror attacks similar to the attacks that countries such as Nigeria, Niger, Chad, and Cameroon have been facing. Moreover, Morocco is not necessarily the most stable country both economically and politically but can still provide experience in order to combat these problems as they

have been facing the same problems as countries affected by Boko Haram.

# Niger

Niger is an African Nation who is currently facing the despairing acts of Boko Haram. Boko



Haram has invaded Niger and taken over many communities causing a refugee crisis as people have fled in hopes to protect their safety as many people have been killed or abducted by Boko Haram. Niger is a part of the African Union and also is a signatory of human rights at many different conventions.

Along with Niger, Nigeria, Cameroon, and Chad have been

affected by the acts of Boko Haram too. Therefore Niger must be at the forefront of receiving aid.



# Nigeria

Nigeria is the most affected African nation by the acts of Boko Haram. Currently, over 50,000 people have been killed due to the act of Boko Haram and people are being taken from their homes causing them to be displaced persons. Villages are also being destroyed and access to





drinking water and basic human needs is a struggle. While organizations such as UNICEF are closely working with countries such as Nigeria that are greatly impacted by Boko Haram, Nigeria needs a lot of humanitarian aid from other countries who

may be in a better place economically and politically in order to combat these actions that are negatively affecting their country. Nigeria is also a part of the African Union and has turned to those nations for additional help as they need all the help they can get. Nigeria is also part of the Human Rights Council.

#### Panama



the root causes of extremism.

Panama is a representative democracy linking central and south America. The country respects the human rights of everyone who lives within the geography. Its constitution guarantees freedom, democracy, and human dignity. They are concerned with the impact of terrorism on global security and advocate for diplomatic solutions to address



# South Korea



South Korea is a democratic nation and has protected human rights legally. The nation has consistently had low unemployment rates, with stable labor market conditions and the 14th largest GDP. It has upheld human rights as one of its core foreign policies and has actively participated in the international community's efforts to promote and protect human rights around the world.



# South Africa

South Africa is an African democratic nation that is also a part of the African Union. South Africa is facing its own internal problems such as government corruption, crimes, so they are not necessary in the best place to help other nations affected by Boko

Haram. South Africa is a part of the Human Rights Council therefore they can condemn the acts of Boko Haram and support countries affected such as Niger, Nigeria, Chad, and Cameroon.



#### Sudan

Sudan is a republic African nation that was once part of the African Union, however its membership was suspended after a military coup deposed the civilian government. Adequate food security is one of the biggest issues and the ongoing fighting and limited



communications and electricity are all humanitarian issues currently going on in the country. However, the country has expressed its commitment to upholding human rights.

### **Switzerland**

Switzerland is a direct democracy nation. Switzerland is economically stable and has one of the



highest GDP due to things such as industrialization and innovation.

Furthermore, Switzerland can help with the humanitarian aid for those affected by Boko Haram. Switzerland is a part of the Human Rights

Council and is against the acts of Boko Haram as they believe in Western Ideologies.

#### **Netherlands**



The Netherlands is a constitutional monarchy and is a part of the Human Rights Council Membership. The Netherland's is economically stable therefore they can potentially help give humanitarian aid to countries affected by Boko Haram such as Niger, Nigeria. Chad, and Cameroon. In the Netherlands, national

legislation protects human rights but at times there can be some risks.

# Togo



Togo is an African nation and a part of the African Union.

Togo is also a part of the Human Rights Council. Togo is in very close proximity to countries affected by Boko Haram



such as Nigeria, Niger, Chad, and Cameroon. Thus, they have to take action to end this violent extremism.

#### U.S.A

The United States is a democracy that has the highest GDP compared to any other country.



Therefore, the United States is able to help with funding for countries affected by the acts of Boko Haram as they are economically in a very stable place. The United States does not support the acts of Boko Haram as they strongly believe in Western Ideologies. While yes, the United States has helped

provide funding for countries such as Nigeria, it is nowhere near enough to combat the detrimental acts that Boko Haram has done to some African Nations.

#### U.K

The U.K is a member of the Human Rights Council. With that said, the U.K strongly supports religious tolerance. Therefore, the U.K strongly condemns Boko Haram's actions as they are



against forcing people to convert to religions and the U.K counters extremism. In fact, the U.K strongly supports empowering women and girls in political, economic and social life and they have taken actions to handle sexual, domestic and other gender-based violence women endure,

such as during humanitarian crises. Most importantly, the U.K has directly helped Nigeria



counter Boko Haram. This is shown by military support as the U.K has provided Nigeria with equipment and training to over 20,000 Nigerian troops. Alongside this, the U.K allocated millions of dollars in an assistance package that is five years long.

# Uganda

Uganda is a country located in East Africa and is a part of the Human Rights Council. Uganda is



one of the African nations that have been facing humanitarian crises such as poverty violence, political instability and more. In terms of Boko Haram, Uganda has been on the fence of deploying Uganda People's Defense Forces (UPDF.) However, despite willing military involvement to counter Boko Haram, the military leadership canceled their plans to deploy forces, instead

they left a notice that their military is ready to fight against Boko Haram.