

# **ASP MUN Conference**



## ***HISTORICAL SECURITY COUNCIL GUIDE***

**Topic: Korean War**

**Chair: Jana Mataria**

**Vice-Chair: Mohammad Loai**



**Chair Letter:**

*Dear Delegates and Observers,*

*As the chair of this year's UN Historical Security Council, I would like to inform you that I am honored to chair this committee alongside my Vice Chair Mohammad Loai. As experienced ASPMUN members, we want you to know that we are here to offer you help! We know how confusing MUN can be at first, and we promise to do our best to alleviate some of the stress and confusion. I want you to be certain that everyone on the MUN board, including me, is currently doing their best to ensure that this year's conference will be successful and meets your expectations. Also, as the chair of the Historical Security Council, I already know that this ASPMUN conference is going to be a fruitful one, full of heated debates and amazing resolutions. We will also try our best to make this a fun and entertaining committee. Finally, if you have any questions feel free to contact me or my Vice Chair, Mohammad Loai, via email: [matariajana07@gmail.com](mailto:matariajana07@gmail.com) & [mohammadloai.refai@gmail.com](mailto:mohammadloai.refai@gmail.com)*

*Best regards,*

*Jana Mataria*

*Chair, Historical Security Council*

*ASPMUN*



### **Background on the UN Historical Security Council:**

*Essentially, the Historical Security Council (HSC) is the same as the Security Council; the only difference is that HSC debates historical disputes of the past. Like the UN as a whole, the Security Council was established in 1945 after World War I I . It consists of five permanent members (China, Russian Federation, France, United Kingdom, and the United States of America) which hold the veto power and ten non-permanent members. The Security Council can utilize the enforcement of sanctions or even authorize the use of force to preserve or restore international peace and security. In this conference, we will go back in time to the dates of **July 10th and 11th 1951** and assume that the topic at hand is still an on-going conflict.*



## **Overview & Timeline of the Conflict:**

*The Korean War is a historical conflict that lasted from 1950 to 1953. It was an outcome of World War II, the rise of communism and capitalism across the world, and the domination of The Soviet Union (USSR) and The United States of America (USA) in Asia. It is also important to keep in mind that this conflict was a part of the Cold War. In fact, it was “the Cold War at its hottest”, a conflict where millions were wounded, killed or displaced. Many war crimes, atrocities, and genocide were committed by both opposing sides. The core of this conference lies in finding a resolution that can put an end to this ongoing war. As mentioned earlier, this is the Historical Security Council, which means it debates issues that took place in the past. For this conference, the end dates are **July 10th & 11th 1951**, and any information used after these dates will not be credible within the conference whatsoever.*

## **THE DIVISION OF KOREA: HOW DID THE KOREAN WAR BEGIN**

- 1910-1945: Japan annexed Korea and controlled it till the end of World War I in 1945.
- After the liberation of Korea in 1945, it was split into two independent states divided by latitude 38° N (the 38th parallel)
  - The northern zone became known as the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) and was controlled by the communist Soviet Union under the rule of Kim Il Sung.



- The southern zone became known as the Republic of Korea (South Korea) and was controlled by the capitalist United States of America under the rule of Syngman Rhee.
- Both governments claimed to be the legitimate rulers of all of Korea and neither accepted the borders permanent, leading to conflict between the two Koreas.

### NORTH KOREAN INVASION OF SOUTH KOREA

- 1949: The Chinese People's Liberation Army provided training to the North Korean army and the Soviet Union supplied weapons to North Korea
  - Meanwhile, the US withdrew its forces from South Korea.
- June 25, 1950: North Korea invaded the South Korean capital Seoul. The war officially began.

### UNITED NATIONS INTERVENTION & SOUTH KOREA'S COUNTER ATTACK

- June 25, 1950 & June 27, 1950: The UN passed resolutions calling for the invasion to be stopped and for UN member states to provide military assistance to the Republic of Korea's army (South Korean army)
  - The USSR was boycotting the UN at the time, so it did not attend the conferences and therefore did not veto the resolutions



- Early July 1950: UN troops from countries including the US, Canada, UK, Australia, New Zealand, and France arrived in South Korea
  - North Korea was able to quickly and efficiently push back the UN troops to Busan
- August 1950: South Korea was finally able to start fighting back more effectively.
- September 1950: South Korea along with UN forces took over Wolmi Island and Icheon (key harbor defense sights below the 38th parallel)
  - This forced North Korea to retreat back to above the 38th parallel
- September 28th, 1950: South Korea was recaptured.
- The USA called for the invasion of North Korea.
- October 7, 1950: The UN, urged by the US government, approved the move across the 38th parallel.
- October 12, 1950: The UN forces took over Pyongyang (North Korea's capital) and the Yalu River, which ran along the border with China.
- China sent 250,000 troops to assist the North Koreans
  - The UN forces were pushed out of North Korea.
- Early 1951: Chinese and North Korean forces took over Seoul



- January 4, 1951: Chinese and North Korean forces recapture Seoul
- March 14, 1951: UN command and US army regain control of Seoul and pushed North Korean forces back to the 38th parallel. This is the fourth time Seoul “changed hands”
- Early July 1951: The battle lines remained relatively stable, leading to a stalemate. (THIS IS THE LAST UPDATE ON THE TOPIC)

**NOTE:**

*In order to reach the full UN Historical Security Council experience, I would like to emphasize again on the fact that delegates and observers should not use any information or any event that happened after the dates of **July 10th & 11th 1951**, as our committee is enacting this date and is going back to the past when this war was still on-going. Any information brought after this date is NOT credible and cannot be used.*



**Helpful Resources:**

1. [Korean War | Combatants, Summary, Years, Map, Casualties, & Facts | Britannica](#)
2. [A Short History Of The Korean War - The Cold War | IWM](#)
3. [The Korean War Controversy: An Intelligence Success or Failure? - CIA](#)
4. [Multiple Perspectives on the Korean War](#)
5. [Korean War Key Events - Army Benevolent Fund](#)
6. [The Korean War \(1950-1953\) - AlliiertenMuseum](#)

*Good Luck, &  
May the Odds be Ever in Your Favor*