

By: Collins Castillo

Is the Proposition of Landmines “Landing”?

The thirty delegates on the SPECPOL committee were engaged in an enrapturing debate, focused on the ethical implications of landmines as a military weapon, if they are humane to use in civilian spaces, and if continuing to use them would be beneficial all around. There were two main arguments presented, one of which being that landmines should be completely eradicated from all countries in the Middle East, and the other position being that as long as they were carefully moderated, the use of landmines is ethical and can continue as is.

Notably, Sudan was a big voice on this issue, going into depth about how it affects the delegate's country the most. Being so passionate on this issue, he was a leading power in steering the rest of the room towards a compromise between the two main “parties” in the room. This middle ground was that completely getting rid of landmines was not plausible, but removing the obvious ones that would hurt civilians and making sure to educate the people on the weapon is.

“I have noticed that the room is divided into two main parties; being tolerant of landmine use, or completely supporting the ban of them. However, it does not have to be this way. As UN members, we have to remember that it is within our power to compromise and find an equal solution.”

—Sudan

This highly intelligent quote was from Sudan, stated during a moderated caucus. It was met with outstanding agreement from multiple countries, namely Ireland, Canada, India, Spain, Chile, and the Republic of Korea. Since this was such a turning point in the meeting, it made almost all of the countries involved unanimously realize that they could all have something they agreed with on a basis level. They continued to take this sentiment on with them into an unmoderated caucus, continuing to turn the tides as the delegates drafted solution papers.



CRISIS UPDATE

Sea mines have been placed along the coast of Portugal, injuring citizens in a large number of repeated casualties. However, the country has outlawed these weapons, greatly shocking the masses as these tragedies continued to happen. In a recent urgent news update, it's revealed that a terrorist group has actually been the one placing these devices along the coast! They dubbed themselves “Ashabab”, seeking “change” for their brothers and sisters. This collection of individuals has no clear motivation, other than the fact that they wish to harm the inhabitants of Portugal. If the country “meets their demands”, then they will deactivate the sea bombs and leave the people be. However, if they try otherwise, they will detonate immediately.

“Immediate landmine removal is quite frankly implausible. It would be too much of an effort to remove ALL of them before starting other efforts. Said ‘efforts’ could include educating the citizen populace on the dangers of landmines, and creating a database in the meantime.”

—Spain