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ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF EMERGENCY
HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Simulation: General Assembly Plenary 1

Welcome to WIMUN New York 2025,

We are very pleased to introduce you to the most authentic simulation of the United Nations in the world; and hope to contribute to your understanding of the Organisation, its mandate, and its critical role in global affairs.

Through a series of pre-conference webinars that will be offered and documents – like this resource guide – we aim to educate you not only about the global issues on the UN agenda, but also about the ways and means through which those topics are discussed, debated and negotiated by real UN diplomats.

This resource guide will provide you with a head start in doing research to gain a deeper understanding of the global issue that you will be discussing and the actions that the government you have been assigned recommends that the international community should take to address this issue. To make the research process a bit easier, the resource guide has been divided into sections and sub-sections to assist you in researching these two components. We strongly recommend you to give a careful look through the sources listed below so that the interaction with your peers is as exciting as possible.

We wish you all the very best in this journey of learning!

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

Strengthening of the Coordination of Emergency Humanitarian Assistance of the United Nations focuses on enhancing the punctuality and effectiveness of global responses to humanitarian crises; the influx of natural disasters, armed conflicts, and an increase in global health crises, a higher emphasis is placed on prioritizing coordination and delivering relief efforts to affected populations in a timely manner. To initiate the timely execution and rapid response in such crises the United Nations has established frameworks to support the implementation of such measures through the establishment of funds such as the United Nations Global Emergency Response Fund, CERF which enables humanitarian responders to deliver free life-saving assistance towards the affected populations in the situation of a crises such as natural disasters and armed conflicts.

Furthermore, the establishment of agencies such as the OCHA, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, WHO, UNDP, ECOSOC, etc. have contributed significantly to the 3 million people every year across 83 different countries that the United Nations have coordinated humanitarian assistance towards. To achieve these goals, however, the United Nations has faced many discrepancies in the past such as lack of coordination which can be seen in the case of the Haiti Earthquake (2010), resulting in overlapping efforts, misallocation of resources, and delayed delivery of aid. Additional issues such as limited use of technology and data, inadequate local capacity building, and lack of communication between relief and government organizations have also hampered relief efforts in the past.

The United Nations nevertheless, has taken major steps towards the mitigation of such issues with more advanced technology and well-rehearsed responses and protocols towards crisis assuagement which allows them to prioritize going forward, the development of enhanced warning systems, strengthening humanitarian financing, more efficient communication systems, integrating disaster risk reduction and promoting inclusive and equitable assistance. The United Nations' prioritization of integral cooperation on this matter is crucial in mitigating disaster-affected populations as any disruptions to this system will occur at the expense of human lives. With 14 percent of the world's population affected by war and 86,000 lives taken due to natural disasters in the most recent year 2023, these populations grow with the increase of humanitarian crises such as armed conflicts, poverty, and global warming. To aid in the diminution of such issues the United Nations takes on the responsibility of mobilizing and optimally and promptly allocating emergency assistance, oftentimes working alongside the government, NGOs (non-governmental organizations), and/or international organizations to coordinate these responses. Furthermore, this topic seeks to shed light on protecting affected groups ensuring that the humanitarian principles of neutrality, impartiality, and independence are upheld.

Key Points and Main Issues

When discussing "Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations," delegates need to understand the UN's core humanitarian principles—humanity, neutrality, impartiality, and independence—and the roles of key agencies like OCHA, Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), and specialized agencies like UNHCR and WFP. They should explore challenges such as resource gaps, limited access, and data-sharing issues, while emphasizing the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus to balance immediate relief with long-term solutions. Addressing global challenges like protracted crises, climate change, and global inequalities, alongside promoting compliance with International Humanitarian Law (IHL), is critical. Delegates should also consider innovative financing, partnerships with local actors, private sectors, and civil society, and learn from case studies of recent emergencies. Lastly, they should propose reforms to improve efficiency, accountability, and the inclusion of diverse stakeholders in humanitarian coordination. Here is a summary of some of the main issues related to this topic that could help guide the drafting and negotiation of a resolution on this important topic:

- **Coordination Challenges:** The UN's humanitarian assistance often involves multiple agencies, NGOs, and governments. In order to avoid duplication of efforts and ensure that aid reaches those in need, coordination between UN agencies, governments, and NGOs involved in providing humanitarian assistance needs to be improved. Improving coordination between these entities is essential for effective disaster response.
- **Resource Mobilization:** Ensuring that sufficient funds, supplies, and personnel are available for rapid deployment in emergencies. This includes pre-positioning resources in disaster-prone areas.
- **Access and Security:** Humanitarian efforts are often hampered by conflicts, political restrictions, or logistical challenges that prevent aid from reaching those in need. Negotiating access and ensuring the safety of humanitarian workers is critical.
- **Technology and Innovation:** Leveraging new technologies, such as satellite imagery, drones, and data analytics, to improve disaster response. Innovations can enhance early warning systems, logistics, and real-time coordination.

Key Points and Main Issues (cont.)

- **Long-term Impact:** Beyond immediate relief, humanitarian assistance should focus on long-term recovery and resilience-building. This involves integrating disaster risk reduction into development planning with an emphasis on long-term recovery and supporting sustainable livelihoods.
- **Capacity Building:** Enhancing the capacity of local governments and communities to respond to disasters. This includes training, infrastructure development, and the establishment of early warning systems.
- **Humanitarian Principles:** Ensuring that humanitarian action adheres to the principles of neutrality, impartiality, independence, and humanity. This is particularly challenging in conflict zones where access may be restricted.
- **Climate Change Adaptation:** Recognizing the increasing role of climate change in driving humanitarian crises, such as extreme weather events and displacement, humanitarian assistance must also focus on building resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate-related disasters.

[Global Humanitarian Overview 2024, Mid-Year Update](#) **2024**

Mid-year update on the current situation of humanitarian crisis across the globe. Points out important information – such as in regards to funding – and has relevant infographics to be consulted

[We coordinate | OCHA](#) **2024**

United Nations for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs website article that delves into the multiple ways that coordination is approached, analyzing crisis situations and explaining various response systems, such as the Humanitarian Programme Response, the Cluster System and the UN Disaster Assessment and Coordination System.

[OUR COMMON AGENDA](#) **2024**

Report issued by the Secretary-General with the presentation of key proposals for tackling our world's current largest threats, promoting the fulfillment of the sustainable development goals and the 2030 agenda, emphasizing UN's 12 commitments in an attempt to establish an action plan. Although more general, the document provides relevant insight into an adequate approach to emergencies and exemplifies actions asked from Member States.

[A/RES/78/119](#) **2023**

Important and comprehensive resolution on the importance of coordination of humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, it highlights some of the key concerns regarding the issue, such as misinformation, armed conflict and rising violence, and advising Member States to look into it thoroughly and effectively.

[E/RES/2023/16](#) **2023**

ECOSOC resolution on the coordination of humanitarian aid, with some guidance and important opinions on the matter

[A/RES/78/120](#)

2023

Resolution on International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, stressing important actions that should be taken by Member States and the principles that guide UN's humanitarian action.

[OCHA Annual Report](#)

2023

Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs annual report highlighting OCHA transformational priorities, funding and donors information and a map of presence in 2023, mapping out every action of the office.

[A/RES/77/164](#)

2022

General Assembly resolution on risk reduction – an important issue in humanitarian aid. Goes into detail on some relevant risk mitigation systems, such as the Sendai Framework.

[The Highest Aspiration](#)

2020

A Call to Action that puts human rights at the center of humanitarian response. The document approached the matters of rights in time of crisis and at the heart of collective action, highlighting the importance of looking into climate justice and gender equality and promoting actions in accordance with those principles.

Statements

**EU Statement – UN General Assembly:
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian
and disaster relief assistance of the UN, including
special economic assistance | EEAS** **2023**

Highlights the principles that should guide humanitarian and disaster relief organizations, committing to enabling full humanitarian access and finding humanitarian help to be based on protection of civilians

**EU Statement – UN General Assembly: Strengthening
of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster
relief assistance of the United Nations, including
special economic assistance | EEAS** **2023**

European Union statement that highlights the prioritization of respect to humanitarian law, of the fight against hunger and of the impotence to expand the donor base for humanitarian assistance.

**Joint statement by the African Union Commission and
the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States
on the Grave Situation in Gaza** **2023**

This joint statement emphasizes the importance of enabling an effective humanitarian corridor in Gaza, enlightening some of the challenges being faced by civilians such as access to drinking water and the collapse of the medical system.

**Joint statement by the African Union Commission and
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Statements (cont.)

Statement by H.E. Amb. Minata Samate Cessouma

2020

Statement by the Commissioner of Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development of the African Union, pointing out work being done by the group in order to mitigate barriers and setbacks to humanitarian aid protection, as well as taking the opportunity to ask for tighter cooperation between Member States.

Documents

African Group

[Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa](#)

2022

This report tackles internal displacement and the refugee situation in Africa, focusing on international cooperation and local integration and durable solutions, taking into account the current world context post covid and in light of the climate change threats.

[Security Council, 77th year : 9086th meeting](#)

2022

The document focuses on peace consolidation in West Africa, highlighting the importance of regional cooperation, the protection of civilians, and the need for sustained international support to address ongoing crises and promote stability. It covers the problem of terrorism and counter-terrorism, all of which are important bits of humanitarian coordination.

Documents (cont.)

Asia-Pacific Group

[ASIA-PACIFIC REGIONAL DATA HUB UPDATE - July 2024](#)

2024

Datahub with updated information on the situation in Asia-Pacific, including general updates on migration and capacity building. It also serves as a hub of relevant and updated documents published by different countries in the Asian-Pacific group.

[Global Report on Internal Displacement 2024](#)

2024

Report on global internal displacement with specialized data into regional groups, analyzing internal displacement under the light of relevant ongoing conflicts across the world.

[2019 disasters mirror climate crisis in Asia and the Pacific: Opportunities to accelerate adaptive actions](#)

2020

This document discusses the importance of understanding the climate crisis as an important threat that should be tackled. It focuses on the importance of adaptive actions in a post pandemic context.

[Implementation of the Ulaanbaatar Declaration of the 2018 Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction](#)

2019

Report talks about the importance and the difficulties in implementing the Ulaanbaatar Declaration in the Asia-Pacific region, going through the best manners to approach its implementation.

Documents (cont.)

Latin America and Caribbean Group

Year in Review 2022: Regional Office for Latin
America and the Caribbean

2022

General report on the current humanitarian situation in Latin America, highlighting the importance of preparedness and prevention, providing an important update on ongoing humanitarian response plans in Venezuela, Haiti and Colombia. The report also references financing and provides data on how funding is being used.

Documents (cont.)

Western European and Others Group + Eastern European

[General Assembly Adopts Texts to Support Conflict-Affected in Georgia, Address Central Asian Illicit Drug Trade](#)

2024

Comments on the conflict in Georgia and the Asian illicit drug trade in an attempt to adopt a resolution. Stresses the importance of looking into internal displacement – with due attention to avoiding forced demographic changes, and of effectively implementing guidance set forth by resolutions. Includes comments from other countries on the proposed resolution.

Political Groups

[MONTHLY ACTION POINTS - Women, Peace and Security](#)

2024

Report lays out a map for the short term monthly objectives across some African Countries, setting out action points and important recommendations on dealing with humanitarian conflicts

[Africa Climate Security Risk Assessment Executive Summary 0.pdf](#)

2023

A report from the African Union analyzing the impacts of climate change and global warming on peace and security, listing out a series of complications identified in the African continent, as well as key findings on each of the issues raised and recommendations for future actions

[The AHA Centre Annual Report 2022](#)

2022

The annual report of the ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance, established the priorities set in their aim to "rinse, recover and reunite" after the challenges exacerbated in the COVID-19 pandemic. The report also contains a map of humanitarian disasters in Asia in 2022 and dives into the coordination mechanisms developed to tackle them, including the ASEAN Disaster Monitoring and Response System and the Center Information Management Network, as well as many other systems.

[AU Statement](#)

2022

Statement H.E. Fatima Mohammed at ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs segment

Political Groups (cont.)

The European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid

2024

European Union document that elaborates on the EU's understanding of humanitarian aid as a collective responsibility, focusing on the importance of respecting international law – including international humanitarian law, covering the gender dimension and specifying the principles applied to humanitarian aid.

International Organisations

Roadmap1 IASC CLIMATE CRISIS ROADMAP

Inter-Agency Standing Committee roadmap to a collaborative action aiming to tackle the climate crisis, with respect to the Climate Charter. The report introduces the impacts of climate change on humanitarian needs and establishes the importance of coordinated and effective humanitarian Action.

THE FRONTLINE SCORECARD An Assessment Tool for Climate and Disaster Risk Management in Health Systems **2024**

The frontline scorecard is a study that goes into the impact of natural disaster risk management in the field of health systems. The document talks about the importance of effective and protected health access and offers indicators on how to measure effective aid and risks.

Lessons From Disaster Governance - GFDRR **2024**

Study analyzing the implications of the explosion in Beirut and the measures taken to deal with that crisis and reaching conclusions on how to, based on the results, optimize strategic decision-making, funding, relationship with the government etcetera...

International Activity Report 2023 - MSF **2023**

Report of the activity in 2023 of the Medics Sans Frontieres, a non-governmental organization that provides medical humanitarian aid. The report highlights the missions currently being held by the MSF, providing an interesting panorama of current humanitarian emergencies.

Millions have died in conflicts since the Cold War; most of them in Africa and intrastate conflicts - Our World in Data

2024

Article with data that supports the rise in conflict deaths in recent years, differentiating the impact of such conflicts in different world regions. The article studies articles from 1989 – the end of the Cold War – and 2022 in an attempt to better understand modern armed conflicts and casualties for each conflict type and region.

Global Humanitarian Assistance Report 2023 - Development Initiatives

2023

A very comprehensive report on global humanitarian assistance, with factsheets, data, articles and insights into the recent trends in humanitarian assistance and funding, the characteristics of crisis, the importance of locally-led action for a better humanitarian system and the problem of a cycle of crisis. The report contains important information on several Member States specifically, as well as on the topic generally, highlighting the impact of gender, age and even climate finance on humanitarian needs.

Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crises (CFS-FFA)

2023

Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crisis, sets out a series of principles indispensable to tackling food insecurity in areas affected by the protracted crisis, addressing the important humanitarian concern of food insecurity.

[European Commission Humanitarian Aid & Civil Protection](#)

2024

The article explains the action of the European Commission for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection, highlighting its action and funding in several humanitarian crises in the international scenario and explaining how disaster relief assistance is approached in Europe

[Welt Hunger Life - Countries](#)

2024

Welt Hunger Hilfe – a German non-profit and non-governmental agency working towards world hunger – profiles their action by country. Contains an interactive map with more information on projects for each of the countries involved.

[National Secondary Data Review - Indonesia](#)

2023

Report of key actions and interesting data on the humanitarian action in Indonesia, looking into migration trends and issues. Relates the current situation with progress on achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

[KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS AT USAID](#)

2023

Report on the key accomplishments achieved by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), comprising information on American investment in disaster relief outside of the US and international presence

[ACTED - Annual Report 2023](#)

2023

Annual report and data factsheet, by region, on the world of Acted - Agency for Technical cooperation and development – a french ngo that works in humanitarian aid promotion

Asia-Pacific (cont.)

[Adolescent mental health in China requires more attention](#)

2020

Summary: This article published by Lancet identifies the need for greater attention to be given to Adolescent mental health in China.

[Five Years of Fear and Loss: The Devastating Impact of War on the Mental Health of Yemen's Children](#)

2020

Summary: Report published by Save the Children International on the impact of Yemen's civil war on the mental health of children in the region.

Africa

[Mental health problems in Somalia after decades of humanitarian crises: a qualitative exploration of perceptions and experiences](#) **2024**

Summary: This paper provides a qualitative exploration of perceptions and experiences of mental health problems in Somalia after decades of humanitarian crises in order to develop an evidence-based, effective, equitable, and humane programme for mental health in the country. While the study is focused generally on the Somali population, the majority of participants (68.1%) were younger than 35 years. The results highlight how armed conflict is taking a toll on the mental health of Somali people, especially on the children and the young people.

[Prioritizing children’s mental health amidst Sudan’s humanitarian crisis: policy recommendations for immediate action](#) **2023**

Summary: This paper contains policy recommendations for immediate action to prioritize children’s mental health amidst Sudan’s humanitarian crisis. Crucial strategies include enhancing healthcare accessibility for children and their caregivers, promoting education, and improving household living conditions. The paper also recommends partnerships with local non-governmental and humanitarian organizations to implement public health programs effectively.

[Adolescent mental health research in Tanzania: a study protocol for a priority setting exercise and the development of an interinstitutional capacity strengthening programme](#) **2021**

Summary: The study aims are twofold: first, to identify gaps and priorities in adolescent mental health research in Tanzania and second, to identify gaps in capacity needed to deliver this research agenda, which will inform the development of a national research capacity programme to address these gaps. This research highlights the critical role that research plays in the development of adolescent mental health policies.

Africa (cont.)

Mental health and psychosocial well-being among adolescents in Tanzania **2021**

Summary: A report focused on the mental health and psychosocial wellbeing among adolescents in Tanzania. This report is focused on identifying the key drivers of mental ill-health and psychosocial well-being among two subgroups of adolescents

Americas

[Kids' mental health is in crisis. Here's what psychologists are doing to help](#)

2023

Summary: In addressing the complex and growing mental health needs of the youth population, this report focuses on the current strategies being adopted to address the youth mental health crisis.

[Data and Statistics on Children's Mental Health](#)

2023

Summary: This web page published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provides data and statistics on children's mental health in the United States.

[Mental Health Disparities: Mexico's Struggle to Bridge the Gap](#)

2023

Summary: This webpage summarizes the results of a survey conducted for World Mental Health Day that uncovered a notable discrepancy in mental health awareness and accessibility in Mexico.

[Promoting Mental Health and Well-Being in Schools: An Action Guide for School and District Leaders](#)

2023

Summary: An action guide designed for school and district authorities on the best methods to promote mental health and well-being in schools, published by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Americas (cont.)

[Youth and Young Adult Peer Support Expanding Community-Driven Mental Health Resources](#)

2022

Summary: With increasing stressors among youths, this plan was created to address the current youth mental health crisis. It covers the challenges and opportunities in youth and young adult mental health, the importance of peer support and lived experience leadership, a comprehensive approach to youth peer support, and key considerations to make a difference in supporting mental health services.

[Youth Risk Behavior Survey Data Summary & Trends Report: 2011-2021](#)

2021

Summary: This report published by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provides the most recent surveillance data and 10-year trends on risk behaviors and experiences related to adolescent health and well being among high school students in the United States.

[AAP-AACAP-CHA Declaration of a National Emergency in Child and Adolescent Mental Health](#)

2021

Summary: Joint declaration endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Children's Hospital Association on the soaring raated of mental health challenges in the United States during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Europe

**[A Comprehensive Approach to Mental Health:
Progress So Far](#)**

2024

Summary: A fact sheet about the 20 new flagship initiatives mentioned in the 'Comprehensive approach to mental health' adopted by the European Commission in June 2023.

**[Russian adolescent mental health in 2002, 2015 and
during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021](#)**

2022

Summary: This study examined changes in adolescent mental health and substance use in Russia between 2002, 2015 and during the pandemic in 2021.

Eastern Mediterranean

**Trapped: The Impact of 15 Years of Blockade on the
Mental Health of Gaza's Children**

2022

Summary: Report published by Save the Children International on the impact of life-threatening situations and 15 years of blockade in Gaza on the mental health of children in the region.