



United Nations

Security Council

COMITEE : Security Council

SUBJECT: Resolving the Yemen civil war

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POSITION: Vice-President

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Personal Introduction

Dear delegates,

I am Angelos Gkikas and it's an honor for me to be addressing you in this conference as one of the representatives in the Security Council alongside co-chair Ombeline Boulliat. I'm eager to share with you the amazing experience I had during the previous debates I participated in.

The MUN is not an endless discussions about global issues, let alone a boring simulation. It is an opportunity for everyone to learn more about the world we will have to manage in the future. Although that sounds like a heavy responsibility, I can assure you the LFHMUN is anything but boring: you get to meet people from all around the world that you will eventually have to oppose during our debate but before you know it, you'll find yourself writing a message to put in the gossip box with them.

I am happy to discuss this with all of you. If there are any questions, I'm happy to help. You can contact me at angelos.gkikas@lfh.gr.

Subject Introduction:

The issue that we are going to be addressing, the Yemen civil war, is one that poses many challenges to international security, humanitarian intervention, and strategic stability. During this debate, our aim is the formulation of action plans taking into consideration the complexities involved in this conflict.

The Yemen Civil War is an intricate and ongoing conflict involving domestic, regional, and international actors. The war began in 2014 and primarily addresses the war between the internationally backed government and the Houthi rebel movement and other groups. The war escalated to some of the world's worst humanitarian catastrophes, and millions of people suffer from famine and displacement, as well as the important lack of vital supplies.

The conflict has wider geopolitical implications, as regional powers such as Saudi Arabia and Iran are deeply involved, making Yemen a battleground for proxy warfare. The situation also affects international security, with concerns over terrorism, maritime security in the Red Sea, and the broader stability of the Middle East.

This study guide will help you understand some of the most critical details regarding the war in Yemen including its causes, main players, and solutions. However, It's important that you also carry your own research especially about your country's position.

Geography:

The Republic of Yemen is a country located in the Middle East. It is the southernmost state on the Arabian Peninsula thus bordering Saudi Arabia to the north and Oman to the west. The southern

and eastern part of the country are bordered by the Red Sea as well as the Gulf of Aden and the Arabian Sea. The western located capital and seat of government of the state is Sanaa.



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Key Words:

- **Houthi Movement (Ansar Allah):** A political and military group originating from northern Yemen, currently controlling significant parts of the country.
- **Internationally Recognized Government:** The government led by the President of Yemen, backed by Saudi Arabia and allied forces.
- **Saudi-led Coalition:** A military alliance formed in 2015 to support the Yemeni government against the Houthis.
- **Proxy War:** A conflict where external nations support opposing sides, often as part of a larger geopolitical struggle.
- **Humanitarian Crisis:** The severe shortage of food, medical supplies, and other necessities affecting millions of Yemenis.
- **UN-led Peace Process:** Efforts by the United Nations to broker ceasefires and peace agreements to end the conflict.
- **Terrorist Groups in Yemen:** Organizations such as Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) and ISIS, which exploit the instability.

- **Red Sea Maritime Security:** The protection of vital global trade routes from piracy, terrorism, and conflict spillover.

General Overview:

The Yemen Civil War: an ongoing conflict to solve

Causes:

- **Political Instability**

Yemen has historically struggled with weak governance and political instability. Under the long rule of Ali Abdullah Saleh (1978-2012), corruption, nepotism, and authoritarianism were rampant. Saleh's regime failed to address deep-seated economic and social issues, leaving the country fragmented and vulnerable to conflict. After his ouster, the transitional government under Abdrabbuh Mansur Hadi inherited these challenges but lacked the capacity to stabilize the country, creating a power vacuum that armed groups exploited.

- **Arab Spring (2011)**

The Arab Spring protests in 2011 swept across Yemen, with citizens demanding an end to corruption, unemployment, and authoritarian rule. President Saleh was forced to step down in 2012 after months of protests and international pressure. However, the political transition that followed, led by his deputy Abdrabbuh Mansur Hadi, failed to address the root causes of discontent. The new government struggled to maintain control, and the country remained deeply divided, setting the stage for further conflict.

- **Houthi Rebellion**

The Houthi movement, a Zaidi Shia rebel group from northern Yemen, had long felt marginalized by the central government. They capitalized on the government's weakness and widespread dissatisfaction with Hadi's leadership to expand their influence. In 2014, the Houthis captured the capital, Sana'a, and eventually forced Hadi to flee to Aden and later to Saudi Arabia. Their takeover of the government escalated tensions and triggered a broader conflict.

- **Sectarian Tensions**

Yemen's population is divided along sectarian lines, with Sunnis making up the majority and Zaidi Shias forming a significant minority. The Houthi movement, representing the Zaidi Shia community, has historically clashed with Sunni factions. These sectarian divisions were exacerbated by regional powers, with Saudi Arabia supporting Sunni groups and Iran backing the Shia Houthis, turning the conflict into a proxy war.

- **Regional Power Struggle**

The Yemen War is deeply intertwined with the broader rivalry between Saudi Arabia and Iran for dominance in the Middle East. Saudi Arabia, leading a coalition of Sunni-majority states, intervened in 2015 to restore Hadi's government and counter the Houthis, whom they viewed as an Iranian proxy. Iran, on the other hand, provided political, financial, and military support to the Houthis, further fueling the conflict.

- **Economic Collapse**

Yemen was already one of the poorest countries in the Arab world before the war, with high unemployment, widespread poverty, and limited access to basic services.

The conflict devastated the economy, leading to hyperinflation, food shortages, and a collapse of public services. Economic hardship fueled resentment and made it easier for armed groups to recruit fighters, perpetuating the cycle of violence.

- **Failure of Political Transition**

The UN-backed political transition process that began after Saleh's ouster in 2012 aimed to create a more inclusive government and address long-standing grievances. However, the process was poorly implemented and failed to bring about meaningful change. Key stakeholders, including the Houthis and southern separatists, felt excluded, leading to further unrest and the eventual collapse of the transition.

- **External Intervention**

The Saudi-led coalition's military intervention in March 2015, aimed at restoring Hadi's government, significantly escalated the conflict. The coalition's airstrikes and blockade caused widespread destruction, displaced millions, and led to a humanitarian catastrophe. While the intervention initially aimed to curb Houthi advances, it prolonged the war and deepened Yemen's suffering.

- **Historical Grievances**

Marginalization of certain groups, particularly the Houthis in the north and southern separatists, has been a recurring issue in Yemen. The Houthis felt excluded from political power and economic opportunities, while southerners resented the dominance of northern elites following Yemen's unification in 1990. These historical grievances fueled armed resistance and contributed to the fragmentation of the country.

- **Terrorism and Extremism**

The presence of extremist groups like Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) and ISIS further complicated the conflict. These groups exploited the chaos to expand their influence, carrying out attacks and controlling territory. The fight against terrorism became a justification for external intervention, but it also diverted resources and attention from addressing the root causes of the conflict.

Consequences:

- **Humanitarian Crisis**

The war has caused one of the world's worst humanitarian crises, with over 24 million people (80% of the population) in need of aid. Widespread famine, malnutrition, and lack of access to clean water and healthcare have led to immense suffering. Diseases like cholera have spread rapidly due to the collapse of healthcare systems.

- **Mass Displacement:**

Millions of Yemenis have been internally displaced or forced to flee the country as refugees. The destruction of homes, infrastructure, and livelihoods has left many without shelter or means to survive, creating a massive displacement crisis.

- **Economic Collapse:**

The war has devastated Yemen's economy, leading to hyperinflation, currency devaluation, and widespread poverty. Unemployment rates have soared, and the country's GDP has plummeted, leaving millions unable to afford basic necessities like food and medicine.

- **Destruction of Infrastructure:**

Critical infrastructure, including hospitals, schools, roads, and water facilities, has been destroyed by airstrikes and fighting. This has severely hindered access to essential services and made recovery efforts nearly impossible.

- **Food Insecurity and Famine:**

The war has disrupted food production and distribution, leading to severe food shortages. A Saudi-led blockade on ports has restricted imports of food and fuel, exacerbating the crisis. Millions are at risk of starvation, with children being the most affected.

- **Health System Collapse:**

Yemen's healthcare system has been decimated by the war. Hospitals have been bombed, medical supplies are scarce, and healthcare workers are often unpaid. This has left the population vulnerable to preventable diseases and unable to access life-saving treatments.

- **Rise of Extremism:**

The chaos of the war has allowed extremist groups like Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) and ISIS to expand their influence. These groups have taken control of territory, carried out attacks, and exploited the instability to recruit fighters.

- **Regional Instability:**

The war has heightened tensions in the Middle East, particularly between Saudi Arabia and Iran, who back opposing sides in the conflict. This has further polarized the region and complicated efforts to achieve peace.

- **Environmental Damage**

The war has caused significant environmental harm, including the destruction of agricultural land, pollution from bombings, and damage to water systems. This has long-term implications for Yemen's ability to recover and sustain its population.

- **Child Suffering:**

Children have been disproportionately affected by the war. Thousands have been killed or injured, and many more face malnutrition, lack of education, and psychological trauma. The UN has described Yemen as one of the worst places in the world to be a child.

- **Internationalization of the Conflict:**

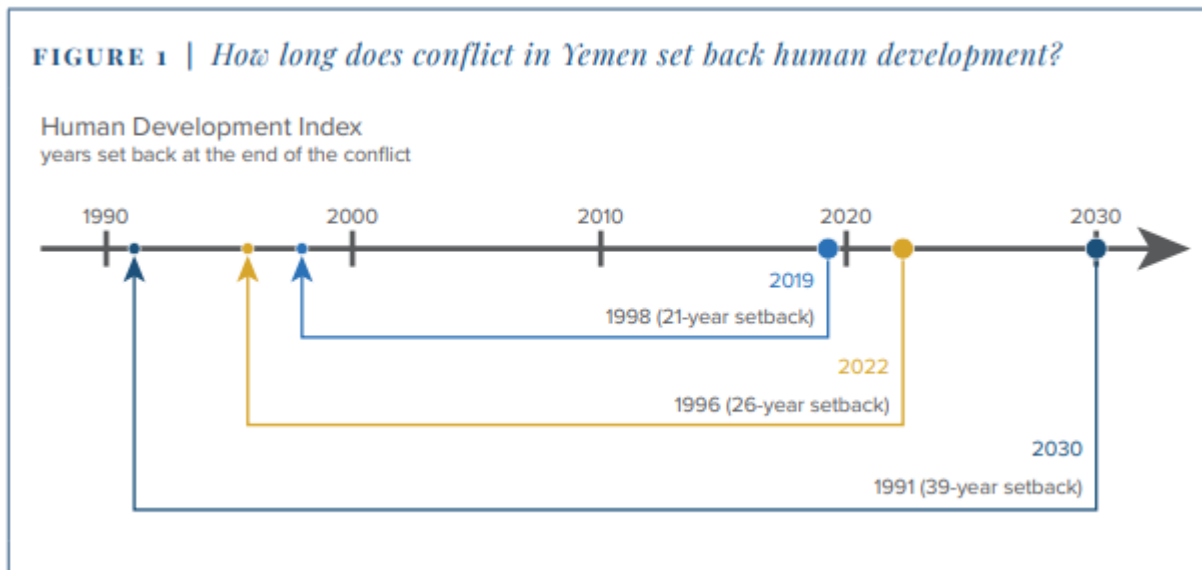
The involvement of external actors, such as Saudi Arabia, Iran, and the UAE, has prolonged the war and made it harder to reach a peaceful resolution. Arms sales and military support to warring parties have further fueled the conflict.

- **Cultural Destruction:**

Yemen's rich cultural heritage, including ancient cities, monuments, and artifacts, has been damaged or destroyed by the war. This loss is irreplaceable and has robbed future generations of their history.

[Case Study 1: Assessing the Impact of War on Development in Yemen, Frederick S. Pardee Center for International Futures®.](#)

"Prior to the escalation of conflict in 2015, development in Yemen was strained. A country of 30 million people, Yemen ranked: (a) 153rd on the Human Development Index (HDI); (b) 138th in extreme poverty; (c) 147th in life expectancy; (d) 172nd in educational attainment; and, (e) was in the World Bank low-middle income category. Projections suggest that Yemen would not have achieved any of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030 even in the absence of conflict. The ongoing conflict has further reduced the pace of development. The impacts of conflict in Yemen are devastating[...]with nearly a quarter of a million people killed directly by fighting and indirectly through lack of access to food, health services, and infrastructure. Of the dead, 60 per cent are children under the age of five. The long-term impacts of conflict are vast and place it among the most destructive conflicts since the end of the Cold War. The conflict has already set back human development by 21 years (Figure 1). If the conflict were to end in 2022, development would be set back 26 years[...]over one generation. If the conflict persists through 2030, the setback grows to nearly four decades, or more than one-and-a-half generations. In this case, one-in-five surviving Yemenis will be physically stunted because of the conflict. This report is motivated by a desire to better understand the impact of conflict in Yemen across multiple pathways of human development. We assess this by calibrating the International Futures (IFs) model and using it to create four alternative scenarios. These scenarios reflect three potential pathways of conflict development (ending in 2019, 2022 and 2030), as well as a counterfactual world in which conflict did not escalate after 2014. These scenarios are then used to estimate the impact of conflict on development across multiple issue areas (demographic, economic, education, infrastructure, health, etc.)."



Impact of Conflict on Yemen's Human Development: Projected Setbacks in Human Development Index (HDI) Over Time

[Case Study 2: ECPR®, War, Hunger and Migration in Yemen by Ja Seng Pa & Fatma Montaser](#)

The 2011 Arab Spring was the spark that stimulated and erupted other revolutions in the Arab region including Yemen. It resulted in the uprising to the country's long-term autocratic president, Ali Abdullah Saleh. After the collapse of Saleh's administration, his power was ceded to the vice-president, Abdrabbuh Mansour Hadi, in 2012. However, the political transition did not achieve the stability of the country; instead President Hadi had to struggle to tackle the realm's turmoil and was not able to maintain the order since Saleh was still authoritative and influenced certain groups who were loyal to him in a country (Juneau, 2013). The conflict began in 2014 when Houthi Shia Muslim movement took benefit of the new leader's weakness and seized the capital Sana'a and the president Hadi also fled to Saudi Arabia after the failure of Aden to Houthi. The conflict intensified dramatically in March 2015, when Saudi Arabia-led coalition initiated air strikes against the Houthis, with the stated intention of reestablishing Hadi's government (Nunlist, 2015). It is reported that three million people have been displaced and millions of Yemenis trapped in the conflict. They are at high risk of starvation and disease. Some of Yemenis have fled to Oman, Saudi Arabia, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Somalia and Sudan to escape from the cataclysmic sets of condition in the country (UNHCR, 2017). UN reported that most of the Saudi-led coalition air strikes have targeted non-military zones such as market places, schools, hospitals, and wedding ceremonies and killed thousands of civilians (Sharp, 2018). UNHRC stated that all members of the coalition are pursuing their own agendas and each side of the conflict is said to have violated humanitarian crime and international law. According to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (2018), 22.2 million people are in need of humanitarian aid in Yemen in 2017 and half of the population are suffering a serious famine since the important entry point for humanitarian support and food imports have been blocked for security reasons. UN stated Yemen crisis as

the worst humanitarian crisis and limited spectacle to end this tragic situation is seen until today. The UN's most recent figure reported that thousands of Yemenis have been killed in chaos while millions of people have been displaced since the conflict has been going on for years. UN states the Yemen crisis as 'world worst humanitarian crisis' since severe; hunger, death and disease are rampant due to these circumstances.



"The Arab Spring (2011): A Wave of Protests and Political Change Across the Middle East and North Africa"

Countries involved:

YE Yemen

The primary battleground of the conflict. The war involves the internationally recognized government (backed by Saudi Arabia) and the Houthi rebel movement (aligned with Iran). Yemeni factions, including southern separatists and tribal groups, are also key players.

SA Saudi Arabia

Leads a coalition of Sunni-majority states in support of the Yemeni government. Saudi Arabia views the Houthis as an Iranian proxy and has conducted extensive airstrikes and imposed a blockade on Yemen.

AE United Arab Emirates (UAE)

A key member of the Saudi-led coalition. The UAE has provided military support, including troops and equipment, and has backed southern separatist groups in Yemen.

IR Iran

Accused of providing financial, military, and political support to the Houthi rebels. Iran denies

direct involvement but is seen as a key backer of the Houthis, exacerbating the proxy war dynamic with Saudi Arabia.

QA Qatar

Initially part of the Saudi-led coalition but withdrew in 2017 due to a diplomatic rift with Saudi Arabia and the UAE. Qatar has since been critical of the coalition's actions in Yemen.

EG Egypt

Provided military support to the Saudi-led coalition, including naval and air assets. Egypt views the conflict as part of broader regional security concerns.

SD Sudan

Sent troops to fight alongside the Saudi-led coalition. Sudan's involvement is partly motivated by financial incentives from Saudi Arabia.

MA Morocco

Initially contributed troops to the Saudi-led coalition but withdrew in 2019 to focus on domestic issues.

JO Jordan

Provided logistical and intelligence support to the Saudi-led coalition but has avoided direct military involvement.

KW Kuwait

Supported the Saudi-led coalition diplomatically and financially but has not been directly involved in military operations.

BH Bahrain

Contributed troops and aircraft to the Saudi-led coalition, aligning with Saudi Arabia's efforts to counter the Houthis.

US United States

Provides logistical support, intelligence, and arms sales to the Saudi-led coalition. The US has also conducted counterterrorism operations against groups like Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP).

GB United Kingdom

Supports the Saudi-led coalition through arms sales and diplomatic backing. The UK has faced criticism for its role in the conflict.

FR France

Provides military equipment and intelligence support to the Saudi-led coalition, while also engaging in counterterrorism efforts in the region.

RU Russia

Criticizes the Saudi-led coalition's actions and has called for a political solution to the conflict. Russia maintains diplomatic ties with both the Houthis and the Yemeni government.

Involved Organizations:

- **UN (United Nations)**

The UN has played a central role in mediating peace talks and providing humanitarian aid. It has brokered multiple ceasefires and peace agreements, though lasting peace remains elusive.

- **Houthis (Ansar Allah)**

A Zaidi Shia rebel group that controls much of northern Yemen, including the capital, Sana'a. The Houthis are aligned with Iran and have been fighting against the internationally recognized government and the Saudi-led coalition.

- **STC (Southern Transitional Council)**

A separatist group seeking independence for southern Yemen. The STC has been supported by the UAE and has clashed with both the Houthis and the Yemeni government.

- **AQAP (Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula)**

A Sunni Islamist militant group that has exploited the chaos of the war to expand its influence in Yemen. AQAP has carried out attacks against both the Houthis and the Yemeni government.

- **ISIS (Islamic State in Yemen)**

A branch of the Islamic State that has conducted attacks in Yemen, targeting both the Houthis and the Yemeni government. ISIS operates independently of AQAP and has a smaller presence in the country.

- **Saudi-led Coalition**

A military alliance led by Saudi Arabia and including countries like the UAE, Egypt, Sudan, and others. The coalition supports the internationally recognized Yemeni government and has conducted airstrikes and imposed a blockade on Houthi-controlled areas.

- **ICRC (International Committee of the Red Cross)**

Provides humanitarian assistance, including medical care, food, and water, to civilians affected by the conflict. The ICRC operates in both government and Houthi-controlled areas.

- **WFP (World Food Program)**

A UN agency that delivers food aid to millions of Yemenis facing famine and food insecurity. The WFP has been critical in addressing the humanitarian crisis caused by the war.

- **UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund)**

Provides support for children in Yemen, including healthcare, education, and nutrition programs. UNICEF has been instrumental in addressing the impact of the war on Yemen's youth.

- **GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council)**

A regional organization that includes Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, and Oman. The GCC has supported the Saudi-led coalition's efforts in Yemen, though Qatar's involvement has been limited since 2017.

- **HRW (Human Rights Watch)**

Monitors and reports on human rights abuses committed by all sides in the conflict. HRW has called for accountability and an end to the war.

- **Amnesty International**

Documents human rights violations in Yemen and advocates for international action to protect civilians and hold perpetrators accountable.

Private Companies:

I. Arms Manufacturers

- **Lockheed Martin (US):**

Supplies weapons, including precision-guided missiles, to Saudi Arabia and the UAE, which are used in airstrikes in Yemen.

- **Raytheon (US):**

Provides missiles and bomb components to the Saudi-led coalition. Its weapons have been linked to civilian casualties in Yemen.

- **BAE Systems (UK):**

A major supplier of fighter jets, missiles, and other military equipment to Saudi Arabia.

- **Thales (France):**

Supplies weapons and military technology to Saudi Arabia and the UAE.

II. Logistics and Support Companies

- **DynCorp International (US):**

Provides logistical and maintenance support for Saudi military operations, including aircraft used in Yemen.

- **SERCO (UK):**

Offers technical and logistical support to the Saudi military, including training and maintenance services.

III. Private Military Contractors (PMCs)

- **Blackwater (now Academi) (US):**

While not directly involved in Yemen, private military contractors like Blackwater have been active in the region, providing security and training services to Gulf states.

- **G4S (UK):** Provides security services and training to Gulf countries, some of which are involved in the Yemen conflict.

IV. Oil and Gas Companies

- **TotalEnergies (France):**

Operates in Yemen's oil and gas sector, though its activities have been disrupted by the war. The company has faced criticism for continuing operations in conflict zones.

- **PetroMasila (Yemen):**

A Yemeni oil company that has continued operations in government-controlled areas, despite the conflict and overall turmoil.

V. Shipping and Logistics Firms

- **Maersk (Denmark):**

Operates in Yemen's ports, including Hodeidah, which is critical for humanitarian aid delivery. The company has faced challenges due to the Saudi-led coalition's blockade.

- **DP World (UAE):**

Manages ports in Yemen and has been involved in reconstruction efforts in southern Yemen, particularly in Aden.

VI. Technology and Surveillance Companies

- **Huawei (China):**

Provides telecommunications infrastructure in Yemen, which has been used by both the government and Houthis.

- **NSO Group (Israel):**

Known for its Pegasus spyware, NSO has been accused of providing surveillance technology to Gulf states involved in the conflict.

Latest developments:

2014_____

- **September:** Houthi rebels capture Sana'a, the capital of Yemen, forcing President Abdrabbuh Mansur Hadi to flee to Aden.
- **December:** Houthis consolidate control over northern Yemen, escalating tensions with the government.

2015_____

- **March:** Saudi Arabia leads a coalition of Sunni-majority states, launching airstrikes and imposing a blockade on Houthi-controlled areas.
- **July:** The coalition begins a ground offensive to retake territory from the Houthis.
- **December:** Peace talks in Switzerland fail to achieve a breakthrough.

2016_____

- **April:** UN-brokered peace talks in Kuwait collapse, leading to renewed fighting.
- **August:** The Saudi-led coalition establishes a military base in southern Yemen to support government forces.

2017_____

- **June:** Qatar withdraws from the Saudi-led coalition amid a diplomatic rift with Saudi Arabia and the UAE.
- **November:** A Houthi missile is fired at Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, escalating cross-border attacks.

2018_____

- **June:** The Battle of Hodeida begins, with coalition forces attempting to retake the critical port city from the Houthis.
- **December:** The Stockholm Agreement is signed, leading to a ceasefire in Hodeida and the first major peace breakthrough.

2019_____

- **August:** The UAE announces a partial withdrawal of its forces from Yemen, shifting its focus to supporting southern separatists.
- **November:** The Southern Transitional Council (STC) declares self-rule in southern Yemen, creating further fragmentation.

2020_____

- **April:** The COVID-19 pandemic hits Yemen, exacerbating the humanitarian crisis and straining the already collapsed healthcare system.

- **December:** A power-sharing government is formed between the internationally recognized government and the STC, though tensions remain.

2021 ---

- **March:** Houthis escalate attacks on Saudi Arabia, including drone and missile strikes on oil facilities and airports.
- **September:** The Houthis gain control of Marib, a key strategic and oil-rich province.

2022

- **April:** A UN-brokered truce is announced, leading to a temporary halt in fighting and the reopening of Sana'a airport.
- **October:** The truce expires, and fighting resumes, particularly around Hodeida and Marib.

2023

- **March:** Saudi Arabia and Iran agree to restore diplomatic ties, raising hopes for a broader regional de-escalation.
- **June:** Peace talks between Saudi Arabia and the Houthis gain momentum, though a comprehensive agreement remains elusive

2024

- **September:** Houthi military spokesman Yahya Sarea delivers a statement targeting three U.S. Destroyers in the Red Sea as a support action towards Palestinians in the Gaza Strip and Lebanon's Hezbollah.

2025

- **March:** The UN pushes for a Ramadan ceasefire, but talks stall over Houthi demands for control of oil-rich regions and revenue-sharing. Meanwhile, 18 million Yemenis face famine risks as aid funding falls short.
- **March:** Houthi Red Sea attacks escalate, disrupting global shipping and oil trade. The U.S. re-designates them as terrorists, but missile and drone strikes continue, drawing tighter naval blockades and retaliatory airstrikes.

[UN Involvement](#)

As Yemen enters its tenth year of conflict in 2025, the United Nations finds itself walking a diplomatic tightrope. The organization's Yemen envoy Hans Grundberg recently described the situation as "the closest we've come to peace in years, yet still frustratingly out of reach." This paradox captures the UN's complex role - simultaneously the most important peace broker yet often powerless against the conflict's entrenched dynamics.

The current Ramadan negotiations mark the seventh major UN mediation attempt since 2016. What makes these different, according to diplomatic sources, is unprecedented Saudi willingness to compromise. However, the Houthis' escalating Red Sea attacks have complicated matters, with one Western diplomat noting, "Every missile launch makes the Saudis question whether peace is possible." The UN's delicate compromise proposal involves phased Houthi disarmament in exchange for revenue-sharing from oil-rich governorates.

On the ground, UN agencies maintain a lifeline for millions. "We're literally keeping people alive day to day," says Lise Grande, former UN humanitarian coordinator for Yemen. But this operation faces mounting challenges:

- A 40% increase in aid obstruction incidents since 2023
- Critical programs like childhood nutrition facing 60% funding cuts
- An unprecedented cholera outbreak overwhelming damaged health facilities

The recent WFP decision to halve rations has pushed many families to the brink. "We're now choosing between feeding our children or seeking medical care," shares Fatima, a mother in Taiz.

While UNSCR 2216 remains the legal framework, its enforcement reveals the organization's limitations. Arms continue flowing to all sides through elaborate smuggling networks. "The embargo exists on paper, but not in Yemen's ports," admits a UN monitoring group member. This gap between policy and reality underscores the need for renewed international commitment.

Below is a key clause from **UN Security Council Resolution 2216 (2015)**, which remains a legal framework for sanctions:

"OP7. Decides that all Member States shall immediately take the necessary measures to prevent the direct or indirect supply, sale or transfer to, or for the benefit of Ali Abdullah Saleh, Abdullah Yahya al Hakim, and Abdulmalik al-Houthi... of arms and related materiel of all types, including weapons and ammunition, military vehicles and equipment, paramilitary equipment, and spare parts for the aforementioned, and technical assistance, training, financial or other assistance related to military activities or the provision, maintenance or use of any arms and related materiel."

(Source: UNSCR 2216)

Previous Attempts to Solve this Issue

1. **Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Initiative (2011)**: Following the Arab Spring uprising, the GCC brokered a transition plan that led to President Ali Abdullah Saleh stepping down in 2012. Although this initiative temporarily averted more violence, it failed to establish lasting peace, as it didn't address deep-rooted grievances or ensure inclusive governance.
2. **National Dialogue Conference (2013-2014)**: Sponsored by the UN, the NDC brought together various political factions to outline a roadmap for Yemen's future. While it had initial promise, the exclusion of certain key actors, including the Houthis and southern separatists, weakened its legitimacy and outcomes.
3. **UNSC Resolution 2216 (2015)**: This resolution called for the Houthis to withdraw from seized territories and for the restoration of the Hadi government. Although it provided a legal framework, it lacked enforceability and further polarized the parties.
4. **Kuwait Talks (2016)**: A major round of peace talks held in Kuwait under UN auspices ultimately collapsed due to distrust and intransigence from both sides.
5. **Stockholm Agreement (2018)**: Marked a rare breakthrough, especially on Hodeida port operations. However, implementation has been inconsistent, and its impact on reducing overall conflict was limited.
6. **Riyadh Agreement (2019)**: Intended to reconcile the Hadi government with the Southern Transitional Council. Though a power-sharing cabinet was later announced, tensions and armed clashes persisted.

7. **UN Truce and Talks (2022-2024):** A UN-brokered truce in April 2022 led to reduced fighting and renewed diplomatic efforts. Talks have since stalled due to Houthi demands and ongoing Red Sea attacks, but remain a potential base for future negotiations.

Possible Solutions

1. **Phased Disarmament and Revenue Sharing:** A structured plan for gradual disarmament of Houthi forces in exchange for access to oil revenue and reconstruction funds could build trust. Implementation would require international oversight and transparency mechanisms.
2. **Inclusive Transitional Government:** A new power-sharing arrangement that includes Houthis, STC, and other political actors under international guarantees could help stabilize governance.
3. **Lifting the Blockade with Conditions:** Allowing humanitarian and commercial goods through Houthi-controlled ports in exchange for UN verification and customs transparency could reduce the humanitarian toll while preventing arms smuggling.
4. **Strengthened Ceasefire Monitoring:** Deploying independent observers, possibly under a UN mission, to verify compliance and prevent violations.
5. **Targeted Sanctions Enforcement:** Enforcing existing arms embargoes and introducing targeted sanctions on actors obstructing peace efforts could pressure compliance.
6. **Regional Security Framework:** Facilitating Saudi-Iranian dialogue on Yemen and broader regional security could reduce proxy tensions. This would require continued diplomatic engagement from neutral actors.
7. **Post-War Reconstruction Plan:** A Marshall-style recovery package led by the UN and World Bank, focusing on infrastructure, healthcare, and education to stabilize the country.
8. **Youth and Civil Society Inclusion:** Empowering local NGOs, youth movements, and tribal networks in peacebuilding and dialogue initiatives to ensure sustainable reconciliation.

Annex

- **UNSCR 2216 Full Text:** [https://undocs.org/S/RES/2216\(2015\)](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2216(2015))
- **Map of Yemen (Pre-Conflict and Current Control):** Include a comparative map showing control zones and humanitarian corridors
- **Timeline Summary:** (Condensed version of the "Latest Developments" section)

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