

# AL BACKGROUND GUIDE

AMSIMUN'26

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Dear Delegates,

We are thrilled to welcome you to the annual AMSI Model United Nations 2026 conference as the Arab League Chairs. It is an honor to serve as moderators for this esteemed committee, and we look forward to witnessing the dedicated and innovative solutions you will bring to the discussions.

Across the Arab region, millions continue to face political instability, economic disparities, and humanitarian crises. In this context, the role of the League of Arab States (Arab League) has never been more critical. Established in 1945, the Arab League was founded to promote unity, cooperation, and development among its member states. Over the decades, it has played an important role in addressing regional issues related to peace and security, economic integration, cultural preservation, and social development. In alignment with the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals- particularly Goal 16, which focuses on peace, justice, and strong institutions - the Arab League has increasingly emphasized institutional coordination and sustainable development initiatives across the Arab world.

This conference provides you with the opportunity to step into the role of diplomats and address complex political and humanitarian challenges through critical thinking and negotiation. While this background guide serves as a foundation for your research, independent investigation is strongly encouraged. A deeper understanding of your assigned country's foreign policy, alliances, and strategic interests will strengthen debate and resolution-building.

As your chairs, we are committed to fostering an inclusive and respectful committee environment in which every delegate's voice is heard. We encourage active participation, collaboration, and open-minded diplomacy. **Please ensure that your position papers are submitted on time via Mawakeb Mail**, as this is an essential part of conference preparation.

We look forward to seeing you in May and witnessing your diplomacy in action. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Your Chairs,

Lamar Abbas & Taya Thkaha

## **Topic: Coordinating an Arab League Response to the Humanitarian and Political Crisis in Gaza**

The ongoing crisis in Gaza represents one of the most pressing humanitarian and political challenges in the Arab world. Years of conflict have led to severe displacement, civilian starvation, and infrastructure collapse. This is not merely a localized conflict but a regional concern that demands cooperative action from the Arab League - the primary platform for Arab solidarity and coordination. Recognizing the devastation in Gaza, the League has prioritized three pillars: securing a lasting ceasefire, facilitating unimpeded humanitarian aid, and establishing a sustainable framework for reconstruction. The situation underscores the urgent need for collective Arab and international engagement to safeguard Palestinian rights and ensure long-term stability.

### **History**

From the early days of the Arab League after 1945, Palestine was treated as a core Arab cause, and Gaza often appeared in League resolutions whenever major Arab-Israeli wars or uprisings took place (WAFA, 2023). After the 1948 war and in 1967, the League's focus was opposing Israel's creation and condemning the occupation of Gaza, rather than laying out detailed humanitarian or reconstruction frameworks (WAFA, 2023). Over time, each round of violence in Gaza pushed Arab foreign ministers and leaders to call emergency meetings, denounce attacks on civilians, and demand an end to military operations (UN, 2019; Meer, 2024).

Ceasefire efforts usually followed this pattern. Arab foreign ministers would meet in Cairo, agree on a joint political line, and then send delegations or messages to major powers and the United Nations (WAFA, 2023). The aim was to press for an immediate ceasefire, prisoner and hostage exchanges, and respect for international law, while relying on regional mediators such as Egypt, Qatar, and Jordan (UN News, 2025).

As the humanitarian situation in Gaza worsened, humanitarian access became a main focus: to allow safe passage for food, fuel, and medicine, and to protect hospitals, schools, and UN facilities (UN News, 2025). By 2008-2009 and again in 2014, the League explicitly called for unimpeded humanitarian access. After 2021 and especially during the 2023–2024 war, these

demands were further urged, including warnings against forced displacement and besieged-area tactics that blocked aid (UN, 2019; UN News, 2025). In many cases, Arab states coordinated with UN agencies to deliver humanitarian aid while also condemning Israeli border restrictions that limited aid entering the Strip (UN News, 2025).

After recurring major conflicts, the Arab League supported donor conferences and called on wealthy Arab states to fund rebuilding in Gaza (UN, 2019; Qazinform, 2009). An example is the first time the League linked politics with large-scale post-war rebuilding in the 2008-2009 donor conference in Sharm El Sheikh, which pledged over 4 billion dollars for reconstruction (UN, 2019). The 2014 and 2021 wars followed this pattern; the League backed Egypt-led mechanisms that connected donor funding to long-term recovery, even though many projects were damaged in new rounds of fighting (UN, 2019). From 2023 to 2024, the League's statements began to speak more explicitly about linking reconstruction to political and security conditions in Gaza (UN News, 2025).

Regional diplomatic coordination has always been both the strength and the weakness of the Arab response. On the one hand, Arab summits and ministerial meetings created a shared language: support for a Palestinian state, rejection of occupation, calls for ceasefires, and backing for international resolutions (The National, 2024; Meer, 2024). On the other hand, internal divisions, different alliances, peace treaties with Israel, and rivalries between Arab capitals often limited how unified and forceful the collective response could be (Meer, 2024). As a result, some of the most concrete negotiations over ceasefires, prisoner exchanges, or border arrangements happened through a few key states, while the League provided political cover and broader legitimacy (UN News, 2025).

Over time, Arab League documents began to connect short-term crisis management in Gaza with the longer-term question of a political solution. They repeatedly referred to the two-state framework and the need for an independent Palestinian state with East Jerusalem as its capital, a line first articulated more broadly in the 2000s but increasingly tied to Gaza after 2023–2024 (The National, 2024; UN, 2019). In this view, a ceasefire and more aid were necessary but not sufficient; without a political horizon, new crises in Gaza were likely to appear (The National, 2024). The League also emphasized the role of the recognized Palestinian

leadership and raised questions about how Gaza should be governed after the fighting ended (UN News, 2025).

## Analysis

The Arab League has played a major role in Gaza's reconstruction. The most recent conflict began on 7 October 2023 and has since placed Gaza in a humanitarian and infrastructural crisis never seen before. The destruction of residential areas, health facilities, schools, roads, and water and electricity infrastructure has left a large portion of the population without access to basic services (International Reactions to the Hamas Attack on Israel, n.d.). The health sector is on the verge of complete collapse, with further deterioration of humanitarian conditions regarding displacement, food, fuel, means of subsistence, and health products (*LIVE: Middle East Updates; Gaza War 'Morally, Politically, and Legally Intolerable,' Says Guterres, 2025*). In response to the conflict, the Arab League convened an emergency meeting to formulate a united Arab position. It condemned the forced displacement of innocent civilians and called for an immediate and comprehensive ceasefire.

Currently, a ceasefire agreement mediated by international and regional third-party actors has provided a temporary shutdown of hostilities, which has allowed some humanitarian aid to enter Gaza. The ceasefire has been in place since 10 October 2025; however, it has so far been fragile and frequently violated. While it may offer temporary relief to innocent civilians and humanitarian workers, this ceasefire is unmistakably the most contentious issue and is not a solution to the political and security-related impediments that previously obstructed any prospect of reconstruction (Dpr, 2026).

On the diplomatic front, there have been suggestions regarding Gaza's future after the conflict. These include a "Board of Peace" initiative by the U.S., which allocates 5 billion dollars to Gaza's humanitarian and reconstruction needs along with a policy agenda for peace and stability in the region by U.S. President Donald Trump, which focuses on reconstruction linked with security plans. However, the plan involves the redevelopment of the Gaza Strip in a way that may lead to the relocation of some of Gaza's population along with attracting foreign investment. This has led to criticism, especially among Arab states, seeing as the displacement of

Palestinians has been largely opposed by the Arab League (The Trump Plan for Gaza: What Role and Position for the Arab States of the Middle East? - IRIS, 2025).

In contrast, the Arab League endorsed an Egypt-led reconstruction plan for Gaza, which was discussed in March 2025 during an emergency Arab League summit in Cairo. The plan involves the rebuilding of the Gaza Strip without displacing an estimated 2 million Palestinians, something the Arab League has been in favor of. The plan aims to restore normal life, infrastructure, and economic activity in a step-by-step process. The League has stressed the importance of a reconstruction plan that protects Palestinian sovereignty, paves the way to preserve Gaza as part of a future Palestinian state, and supports the political pathway that follows: Palestinian Authority leadership or a transitional administration before full Palestinian governance is restored (*Explainer: Everything You Need to Know About Egypt's Gaza Reconstruction Plan - Foreign Affairs - Egypt, n.d.*).

From a diplomatic perspective, these competing plans highlight key tensions between external actors' strategic interests and regional priorities centered on non-displacement, sovereignty, and a viable political horizon. Delegates should critically assess how the Arab League can engage with both regional and international stakeholders while maintaining a unified Arab position and ensuring that reconstruction efforts align with Palestinian rights and long-term stability.

### **Questions to be answered in your resolution:**

- How can Arab League member states work collectively to ensure safe, continuous, and unimpeded humanitarian access to Gaza, including food, medical supplies, fuel, and shelter?
- How can the Arab League mobilize regional financial resources and technical expertise to support Gaza's reconstruction without displacement of its civilian population?
- What political and security-related obstacles continue to prevent effective reconstruction in Gaza, and how can the Arab League address them collectively?

- What challenges limit the Arab League’s effectiveness in responding to the Gaza crisis, and what reforms or cooperative mechanisms could strengthen its role?
- How can the Arab League address the root political causes that perpetuate repeated cycles of violence in Gaza?
- How can inter-Arab coordination be improved during humanitarian emergencies?
- What role can regional development funds and banks play in financing Gaza’s recovery?
- What safeguards can be implemented to ensure that reconstruction funding is transparent, accountable, and corruption-free?

### **Starter Resources:**

- 1) [LIVE: Middle East updates: Gaza war ‘morally, politically, and legally intolerable,’ says Guterres | UN News](#)
- 2) [The Trump Plan for Gaza: What Role and Position for the Arab States of the Middle East? - IRIS](#)
- 3) [Hamas’s October 7 Attack: Visualizing the Data](#)
- 4) [The Arab League | Council on Foreign Relations](#)
- 5) [Explainer: Everything you need to know about Egypt's Gaza reconstruction plan - Foreign Affairs - Egypt - Ahram Online](#)

### **Country Matrix:**

Algeria – Bahrain – Comoros – Djibouti – Egypt – Iraq – Jordan – Kuwait – Lebanon - Libya-  
Mauritania – Morocco – Oman – Palestine – Qatar - Saudi Arabia – Somalia – Sudan – Syria –  
Tunisia - United Arab Emirates (UAE) – Yemen

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