



**SPECPOL**



**Topic:** Discussing the deployment of the trade and regulatory tools including military support in directing geopolitical interests and controlling behaviors

**Committee:** GA4 - Special Political and Decolonization Committee (SPECPOL)

**Name:** Can Luka Işıl

**Position:** Deputy Chair

### **A. Welcome Letter From the Student Officer**

Esteemed Delegates of the SPECPOL Committee,

My name is Luka Isil, I am a 9th grader at MEF High School. It is my utmost pleasure to serve as the Vice President Chair of the SPECPOL committee. I extend a warm welcome to KMUN'24.

Over this year, I have been lucky enough to be a part of the MEFHIGHMUN family. It has been a great privilege for me to learn and get to attend many MUNs, and it has given me the experience and knowledge to become the next year's MEFHIGHMUN President of the General Assembly.

My journey in MUN began two years ago, and it has become my greatest passion. I fully intend to stay in this headspace and continue with all MUNs. I have attended 14 conferences, and have experiences as a delegate, executive team member, and now after this conference, a chair. I am fully committed and prepared to make this SPECPOL run smoothly and aid my president chair as best as I can.

In order to understand the subject completely and be prepared for our conference debates, the material in the study guide is sufficient. Your active participation in the discussion is essential for coming up with a workable solution for this issue. I highly encourage you to read through the study guide and research on the agenda items. I hope you have a remarkable time at the conference and I am looking forward to meeting all of you in person. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me via the email address linked below.

Can Luka Işıl

Deputy Chair

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## **B. Introduction to the Committee**

The Special Political and Decolonization Committee (SPECPOL), also known as the Fourth Committee of the General Assembly, was created in 1993 with the goal of addressing political matters such as self-determination, decolonization and other international security concerns that the First Committee (DISEC) was not equipped to handle. The committee considers issues including decolonization-related agenda items, the impacts of atomic radiation, a thorough examination of the subject of peacekeeping operations, and a review of special political missions.

## **C. Introduction to the Agenda Item**

In order to fully comprehend the deployment of regulatory and trade tools including military support in directing geopolitical interests and controlling behaviors, one must understand the whole idea and concept of it along with the minor details and underlying structures, along with the entirety of the topic as a whole with its finer points.

At the founding of the United Nations in 1945, post-Second World War, the trade market, especially the international trade market, started growing rapidly. The rapid growth turned the international market to an unsustainable force, excluding certain countries due to economic factors. Today, the international trade market flourishes in a sustainable manner with equal contribution from all countries, due to the implementations of many factors, such as regulatory and trade tools, along with directing geopolitical interests and controlling behaviors.

A special attention should be given on the trade market, as whilst it is flourishing, some countries still do not have the capacity and resources to completely participate in the market. Many countries are unable to participate fully due to their developing states. Several agreements and treaties have been implemented, such as the General Agreements on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), which was established shortly after the founding of the United Nations. The subscription and ratification of agreements such as these into the current world we live in is a necessity to include all countries of power and those who have none the same.

The SPECPOL committee seeks to ensure the deployment of regulatory and trade tools along with needed military support to help aid direct countries geopolitical interests, along with controlling behaviors of those who are not in order, in accordance to help all countries in achieving their trade and directing geopolitical interests, along with helping countries with international trade market access and economic development.

## **D. Key Terms**

### **a. Trade Tools**

Tariffs, quotas, sanctions, embargoes, and trade agreements are all primary components of trade tools. All of these components indicate the importance of keeping good relations with trade regulations, otherwise severe consequences could be handed out.

### **b. Regulatory Tools**

Regulatory tools consist of three main structures: export controls, investment restrictions, and regulatory standards. These components differ in conditions: regulating imports and investments. They capsize the details and importance of regulating said structures and how they affect the economy of the countries they are implemented in.

### **c. Integrating Tools Into Geopolitical Strategy**

Integrating regulatory and trade tools into geopolitical strategy can help with coercive diplomacy and economic statecraft, which stands to correct countries' governments with economic sanctions or military threats to get a country to cooperate.

### **d. Trade Policy**

Trade policy points out governments' strategies and approaches towards international trade. It includes trade agreements, quotas, export policies, and tariffs. These all encompass the rules, regulations, agreements, and actions that a country should adopt to manage its economic relationships with other countries.

### **e. Economic Leverage**

Economic leverage refers to the use of economic tools and policies to influence the behavior or decisions of another country or governmental entity. It consists of trade, financial and resource leverage, market access, and currency and exchange rates. All these are put to use in order to achieve strategic objectives.

## **E. General Overview**

The agenda item primarily aims to address the challenging topic of discussing the need of deploying trade and regulatory tools, along with substantial military support in order to help aid countries direct their geopolitical interests and to control behaviors of countries not willing to participate, which is of particular significance to the global trade market and has been a major issue in the past, especially post World War II. Many initiatives have been taken in order to address and

promote the issue, however the global market still continues to suffer certain challenges when it comes to the topic of integrating new initiatives such as regulatory and trade tools.

Specifically, the implementation of regulatory and trade tools along with military support would help the market grow at a steady pace and increase contributions from certain countries which cannot contribute enough. Trade tools could and should be implemented to ensure countries' positions on the global trade market. Economic sanctions would be implemented on countries which use the global market for foul purposes, an example being the sanctions implemented on Iran to curb their nuclear program. Regulatory tools would be implemented to ensure safe and secure trade, such as the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) which set privacy standards that influence global tech companies. Military support would increase safety and security whilst trading goods, especially arms, which are sadly becoming more of a black market sale. It is critical to stress the role of SPECPOL and the international community in such endeavors, in order to bring stability in such areas.

#### **F. Timeline of Key Events**

<p><b>18th-19th Centuries: Colonial Era</b></p>	<p>Within trade policies, mercantilism dominated the markets, with European powers using trade to control colonies. Colonization also heavily relied on military conquest and control.</p>
<p><b>1914-1918: World War 1</b></p>	<p>Economic blockades were implemented where allied powers would use naval blockades to restrict supplies to Central Powers. Military alliances were also formed, like the Triple Entente and the Central Powers.</p>
<p><b>1919: Treaty of Versailles</b></p>	<p>Economic sanctions were implemented to limit the ability of Germany to wage war. Regulatory measures were also taken and the League of Nations was created, aimed at promoting peace and cooperation.</p>
<p><b>1939-1945: World War 2</b></p>	<p>Trade embargoes were implemented by the United States on oil exports to Japan preceding Pearl Harbor. Military alliances were also created such as the establishment of the Allies and Axis powers.</p>

<p><b>1947: Marshall Plan</b></p>	<p>Economic aid was provided by the United States to rebuild Western European economies, countering Soviet influence.</p>
<p><b>1949: Formation of NATO</b></p>	<p>Military alliances were formed to have a collective defense pact to counter Soviet expansions.</p>
<p><b>1962: Cuban Missile Crisis</b></p>	<p>Economic sanctions were implemented on the United States embargo on Cuba. Military threats were performed, and naval blockades and the threat of military action were accentuated to remove Soviet missiles.</p>
<p><b>1979: Iranian Revolution</b></p>	<p>Sanctions were implemented by the U.S. on economic factors in Iran following the hostage crisis. The United States also increased military presence in the Persian Gulf.</p>
<p><b>1991: Gulf War</b></p>	<p>The UN implemented economic sanctions on Iraq following its invasion of Kuwait. The United States led military intervention in the coalition to liberate Kuwait.</p>
<p><b>2001: 9/11 Attacks</b></p>	<p>Regulatory changes were introduced in the USA PATRIOT Act to strengthen national security. The United States sent military intervention on the invasion of Afghanistan to dismantle Al-Qaeda.</p>
<p><b>2003: Iraq War</b></p>	<p>The United States sent military intervention on the invasion to topple Saddam Hussein. Economic sanctions were also continued on Iraq leading up to the invasion.</p>
<p><b>2014: Annexation of Crimea</b></p>	<p>Western sanctions were placed on Russia in response to their annexation of Crimea. NATO increased their military presence in Eastern</p>

	Europe.
<b>2018: The United States- China Trade War</b>	Tariffs were imposed by both countries, aiming to address trade imbalances and intellectual property issues. Regulatory measures were taken such as limiting the Chinese tech-companies such as Huawei.
<b>2020: COVID-19 Pandemic</b>	Nations imposed export controls on medicinal and pharmaceutical products. Massive economic stimulus packages were implemented to counteract economic downturns.
<b>2022: Russia-Ukraine Conflict</b>	Western nations imposed extreme economic sanctions on Russia. Military aid was sent to Ukraine by NATO countries.
<b>2023-Present: Geopolitical Maneuvering</b>	Sanctions are placed in Iran to distribute the nuclear program. Military alliances are expanding and strengthening due to the increased influence of China in the Indo-Pacific region.

## **G. Major Parties Involved**

### **1. International Organizations**

Organizations such as the United Nations (UN), the World Trade Organization (WTO), and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) work in cooperation with SPECPOL regarding this issue. They have participated actively in numerous actions taken, such as the imposition of sanctions on Iran with the aim to curb their nuclear program and imposition of several trade quotas and tariffs. These organizations also take part in the funding of certain projects for the global trade market.

### **2. Military Alliances**

Alliances such as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and Collective Security Treaties Organization (CSTO) have contributed to the increase of military presence in many sites, especially in Ukraine following the Russian invasion. Many military alliances have formed ever since China's influence on the Indo-Pacific region.

### **3. Other Influential Entities**

Entities such as multinational corporations and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) have performed many operations to combat the issue, such as nurturing global supply chains for the trade market and advocating for the just implementation of regulatory and trade tools. These entities have also influenced trade policies vastly through lobbying.

## **H. Previous Attempts to Resolve the Issue**

### **1. Pre-20th Century**

#### **a. British Empire:**

The British Empire started the Navigation Acts (1651-1849) which were then regulated into colonial trade, ensuring that British ships and merchants benefited from it. The British Navy continued to protect trade routes and enforced colonial policies. Although Britain's role as a global superpower has limitlessly augmented over time, the heavy-handed trade policies eventually led to resistance and protests.

### **2. Early 20th Century**

#### **a. The League of Nations (1920-1946):**

Regulatory tools were implemented and aimed to prevent conflicts through diplomacy and collective security. Due to lacking its own military force, they relied on member states for enforcement. The overcome was limited success in preventing aggression, however, it failed to stop WW2 due to lack of commitment.





### 3. Mid 20th Century

#### a. the Marshall Plan (1948-1952):

Economic aid was sent to rebuild Western Europe. NATO was established to protect against Soviet aggression. Sending military support to countries in need. The outcome was successful in rebuilding economies and containing Soviet influence, whilst still strengthening Western alliances.

#### b. Containment Strategy During the Cold War (1947-1991):

Embargoes and economic sanctions were implemented against communist states. Military alliances were formed such as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), which was created in 1949, to provide collective security against the Soviet Union. There were also the Proxy Wars (Korea, Vietnam), and nuclear deterrence. These events ultimately contributed to the collapse of the Soviet Union but involved costly and controversial conflicts.

### 4. Late 20th Century

#### a. Apartheid South Africa (1948-1994):

Global economic sanctions and trade embargoes were implemented. Military support was sent as well as arms embargoes to weaken the apartheid regime. These sanctions pressured the South African government to dismantle apartheid, leading to democratic reforms.



**b. Iraq (1990-2003):**

The UN created sanctions following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. Military support was sent to the areas affected by the Gulf War (1991) and the Iraq War (2003). The Sanctions weakened Iraq, however these incidents caused severe and complex humanitarian issues. Military interventions were contentious and led to long-term instability. This led to the outcome coming in mixed results.

**5. Early 21st Century**

**a. Iran Nuclear Program (2006-Present):**

Economic sanctions were created to target Iran's nuclear activities. Diplomatic efforts were formed such as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) in 2015. The United States and allied countries sent military presence to the region. The JCPOA initially curbed nuclear activities, but the United States withdrawal in 2018 and renewed sanctions led to increased tensions.

**b. North Korea (2006-Present):**

The UN implemented unilateral sanctions to deter nuclear development. The United States increased military presence in South Korea and joint exercises, however, there was limited success. North Korea continues nuclear activities, though sanctions have impacted its economy.

**6. Recent years**

**a. Russia and Ukraine (2014-Present):**

Sanctions were placed on Russia for annexing Crimea and its actions in Eastern Ukraine. Military Support was sent by NATO to increase military presence in Eastern Europe and military aid to Ukraine. The ongoing conflict has no clear outcome. Sanctions have had negative effects on the Russian economy but have not deterred aggression.

**b. China's Trade Practices and Tech Influence (2018-Present):**

Tariffs and export controls were implemented, especially on tech-companies such as Huawei. Increased the United States military posturing and allied naval presence in the South China Sea is exhibited. The trade tensions remain high, with mixed economic impacts and ongoing strategic rivalry.

## **I. Relevant UN Treaties, Resolutions and Events**

### **1. Relevant UN Resolutions**

#### **a. UN Security Council Resolutions (UNSCRs):**

##### **i. UNSCR 1373 (2001):**

This resolution was written up and taken in after 9/11 and calls for international cooperation to combat acts that include terrorism, including measures to prevent and mitigate the entities that fund terrorism.

##### **ii. UNSCR 1540 (2004):**

This resolution urges all states to prevent non-state actors from acquiring heavy weapons of mass destruction such as nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons and their means of delivery. It includes measures for national control lists and regulatory frameworks to make sure of the safety of citizens.

#### **b. UN General Assembly Resolutions:**

##### **i. UNGA Resolution 2625 (XXV) (1970):**

The Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States emphasizes that no country may use powers of threat or use of force and the importance of international cooperation for everyone.

##### **ii. UNGA Resolution 68/262 (2014):**

This resolution affirms the territorial integrity of Ukraine and condemns the annexation of Crimea by the Russian Federation, pointing out the mass use of economic and political tools to influence geopolitical outcomes and annex Crimea.

### **2. Relevant Treaties**

#### **a. The United Nations Charter (1945):**

##### **i. Articles 2(4) and 51:**

The articles 2(4) and 51 of the United Nations Charter prohibit using means of threats or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state and recognize the right to self-defense against invading countries.

## **ii. Chapter VII:**

The Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter of the Security Council aims to take action against threats upon countries, including military support and alliances, to maintain or restore international peace and security worldwide.

### **b. The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) (1968):**

This treaty aims to prevent the spread and distribution of nuclear weapons to countries so that they cannot be used for foul and war purposes, and to promote peaceful uses of nuclear energy, such as using nuclear energy as a sustainable energy source, and involving regulatory measures to control nuclear materials.

### **c. The Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) (2014):**

The Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) of 2014 is a multilateral treaty that regulates the international trade in conventional arms with the aim of promoting peace and security, reducing human suffering, and fostering transparency and responsibility in the arms trade. The main objective of the treaty was to establish common standards for the international arms trade.

### **d. General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)**

The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) was created to aid all countries with the agreement of reducing the barriers of international trade. It was signed in 1947 and came into force on January 1, 1948. The agreement has proved useful and has helped multiple countries in expanding their trades internationally.

## **3. Relevant Events**

### **a. The Gulf War (1990-1991):**

UNSCR 678 authorized all member states to use all necessary means, such as arms and trade, to uphold and implement the UNSCR 660 and subsequent resolutions to restore international peace and security in the area following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, to provide the country of Kuwait with a peacekeeping plan.

### **b. Sanctions on Iran (2006-Present):**

A series of UNSC resolutions (UNSCR 1696, 1737, 1929) were created to impose economic and trade sanctions on Iran to curb its nuclear program. These included measures to regulate financial transactions and restrict arms transfers in order to limit the amount of access they can have to nuclear power.

### **c. Sanctions on North Korea:**

Multiple UNSC resolutions (UNSCR 1718, 1874, 2375) were created to impose sanctions on North Korea in response to its nuclear tests and missile launches, including restrictions on trade, financial transactions, and military equipment, in the hopes of them discontinuing and dismantling their nuclear tests.

## **J. Possible Solutions**

Solving the problem at hand is a challenge, due to the agenda items unique and complex issues. To actually solve it, one must understand the intricate details and underlying structures of the topic. To have the best outcome, a simple 2 factor solution should be implemented.

Firstly, it is of most importance to set boundaries with countries of higher powers, such as but not limited to the United States, China, UK, Germany, Japan and ect. These countries are the ones dominating the trade market, therefore controlling it. It needs to be addressed that countries with higher power will have no advantage over the trade market, and this could be implemented with simple regulatory tools. Trade tools however should be implemented on countries who are using the trade market for unethical uses, such as putting economic sanctions on the countries until they right their wrongs. A new treaty should also be implemented, called the Convention of The Trade Market (CTTM), where it states that countries who fail to comply will face punishments, and those who comply fully will receive rewards.

The second step would be sending a ton of military intervention and agreeing upon military alliances to both stop a possible war from occurring and to strengthen countries' relationships. NATO should be the first responder for military intervention since they hold the most power, and were created to stop the outcome of possible wars. It should also be noted that technological innovation and trade should be watched carefully, because countries can easily send technology to others with trackers and other information implemented in them. A UNSCR should be created to ensure that no such things can occur and countries that do commit the crime will be punished accordingly.

Whilst these solutions might not solve the problem at hand, they can be the stepping stones to the solutions which solve the problem efficiently and effectively.

## **K. Further Readings**

Further documents to learn about the topic are linked below. The treaties mentioned earlier, along with more descriptive information about the trade tools and regulatory tools, along with everything else mentioned in the paper.

### **Regulatory tools and trade tools:**

[The history and usage of trade and regulatory tools](#)

### **The Arms Trade Treaty (2014):**

[The ATT, history and facts \(UN\)](#)

### **The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) (1968):**

[UNODA, The history of NTP](#)

### **Countries with the most power in the global trade market:**

[Global trade market, the general overview](#)

### **Economic sanctions on Iran:**

[Explainer, the US sanctions on Iran](#)

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