A. Letter From the Secretaries-General

As the Co-Secretary Generals of the BJK Kabataş Foundation Schools Model United Nations Conference, it is our distinct honor to welcome you to our traditional conference, now in its second annual iteration this year.

We are delighted to collaborate with the diligent academic and organizational teams, whose dedication is truly commendable. We have worked extensively with our academic team to prepare engaging crisis and procedural committees where significant global issues will be discussed worldwide. Simultaneously, our organization team has tirelessly prepared to ensure the best conference experience for you, which will enchant these 3 days.

Delegates will have access to a wide variety of committee types and topics. Among these diverse options, delegates will have the opportunity to find a committee that aligns with their interests and select one that fits their preferred style of debate. With such broad spectrum, delegates can explore committees that resonate with their passions and engage in debates that suit their preferred style of discourse.

We aspire for this conference to act as a driving force, broadening your horizons, sparking fresh concepts, and propelling you toward greater strides in your pursuit of global leadership.

Sincerely,

Berra Gümüşler & Dila Bengisu

B. Welcome Letter from the Under-Secretary General

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) at BKVMUN'25.

As the Under-Secretary-General of the OIC, I am honoured to extend my warmest greetings to all participating delegates. It is with great enthusiasm that I anticipate your engagement in our committee's discussions

This issue is of great importance in today's global landscape, as the proliferation of sectarian divisions poses significant challenges to the maintenance of international peace and security. I urge each delegate to approach this issue with rigour, creativity and a commitment to finding comprehensive and sustainable solutions.

Throughout the conference, I encourage you to actively participate in discussions, engage in productive dialogue with other delegates and collaborate to draft resolutions that address the multifaceted issues of sectarianism in the Muslim world. Remember that diplomacy, cooperation and consensus-building are essential tools in our search for effective solutions.

I look forward to meeting each of you and witnessing the valuable contributions you will undoubtedly make to our committee's deliberations.

Do not forget to have fun and ask anything you are concerned about anytime you want. Hereby, I do have my E-Mail:
bestenurfiliz@gmail.com

Warm regards,

Beste Nur Filiz

C. Introduction to the Committee

The Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) is the second largest organisation in the world after the United Nations, with a membership of 57 states spread over four continents. The Organization represents the Muslim world. In the spirit of fostering global peace and harmony among all peoples, it works to defend and uphold the interests of the Muslim world.

The organisation was established by the decision of the historic summit held in Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco, on 12 Rajab 1389 Hijri (25 September 1969) following the burning of the Al-Aqsa Mosque in occupied Jerusalem.

The organisation has the unique privilege of uniting the Ummah and actively representing Muslims by supporting causes that are important to the world's 1.5 billion Muslims. To protect the essential interests of Muslims and to try to resolve problems and issues involving Member States, the Organization maintains consultative and constructive relationships with the UN and other intergovernmental organisations. It has fervently pushed for the abolition of all types of discrimination against Muslims to protect the true principles of Islam and Muslims.

The new OIC-2025 program has 107 targets and focuses on 18 key sectors, all grounded in the OIC Charter. Peace and security, Palestine and Al-Quds, poverty alleviation, counterterrorism, investment and finance, food security, science and technology, climate change and sustainability, moderation, interfaith harmony and culture, women's empowerment, joint Islamic humanitarian action, human rights, and good governance are among the priority areas.

Among the OIC's key bodies are the Islamic Summit, the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM), and the General Secretariat, in addition to the Al-Quds Committee and three permanent committees concerned with science and technology - Standing Committee for Scientific and Technological Cooperation (CONSTECH), economy and trade - Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC), and information and culture - Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC). There are also specialised organs under the banner of the OIC, including the Islamic Development Bank and the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as well as subsidiary and affiliate organs that play a vital role in boosting cooperation in various fields among the OIC member states.

D. Introduction to the Agenda Item

Sectarianism has played an essential role in the mounting rivalries and confrontations between key parties in the Middle East, coupled with the formation of different alliances in response to the surrounding developments. In the meantime, concerns about the doctrinal principles linked to jihadism that these groups purport to adhere to were aroused by the emergence of several Islamist groups throughout the region's crisis-affected areas. Above all, the potentially disastrous effects of such changes on the local populace heighten curiosity about the causes of the complex crisis sweeping the Middle East.

The cultural diversity that once enriched the Middle East on various levels and the historic coexistence among the region's different communities have been threatened and jeopardised by sectarian extremist groups whose atrocities reached every single social component with distinct religious, doctrinal or ideological tenets.

Despite major defeats by government leadership, radical groups have turned their attention to ethnic and religious minorities, and the region's sectarian organizations' extreme rhetoric has stoked and strengthened sedition. One of the main issues facing the Middle East is sectarianism, which often comes up in discussions of the geopolitical divisions and tensions that exist there. Delving into the concept of sectarianism, its historical evolution, and the associated interpretations and developments is essential for understanding the background of the contemporary Middle Eastern landscape. This is especially true given that the sectarian narrative has become one of the main features of the ongoing crises in the region.

E. Key Terms

Term	Definition
Sectarianism	A situation of discrimination, hatred or conflict based on religious or sectarian identity.
Sunni Islam	The sect that forms the majority in the Islamic world and the notion that Hz. Muhammad's position as caliph should be determined by election.
Shia Islam	The sect argues that Hz. Ali and the imams from his descendants are the legitimate leaders of the Islamic world.

Salafism	A movement that advocates returning to the early periods of Islam, generally containing radical tendencies within Sunni Islam.
Wahhabism	A strict and conservative interpretation of Islam is based in Saudi Arabia.
Takfir	The practice of declaring a Muslim "apostate" is a method frequently used by radical groups.
Proxy War	Conflict between major powers through groups they support rather than fighting directly (e.g. Yemen civil war).
Hezbollah	Hezbollah is a Shiite Muslim political party and militant group based in Lebanon, where it has fostered a reputation as "a state within a state."
Houthi Rebels	A Shiite movement supported by Iran in Yemen
Islamic Jurisprudence	The branch of science that studies Islamic law and religious rules
Fatwa	The religious judgment given by Islamic scholars
Caliphate	The political-religious system in which the Islamic world is governed by a leader (The caliphate, which the Ottomans abolished in 1924, was the basis of tensions between sects).
Interfaith Dialogue	Formal or informal attempts to improve inter-denominational and inter-religious relations.
Geopolitical Rivalry	The struggle for political, economic and military supremacy between states (for example, the Saudi Arabia-Iran rivalry).
Blasphemy Laws	Laws that make insulting religious values a crime in some countries in the Islamic world.
Sharia Law	Legal system based on Islam (there are differences in implementation between countries)

Militia Groups	Groups that play a critical role in non-state armed sectarian conflicts (e.g. Hashd al-Shaabi, ISIS).

F. General Overview

The Sunni-Shia sectarian conflict is a modern revisionist phenomenon that largely constitutes a reaction to specific modern-day events and socioeconomic problems. Its roots can be traced back to the 1979 Iranian revolution. The conflict has been exacerbated by a set of subsequent external and domestic events; chief among them are the 2003 US occupation of Iraq, the 2011 Syrian revolution, the war in Yemen, and other ongoing conflicts in the region. Sectarianism signifies the failure of state-building in the Middle East, which points, in turn, to foreign intervention.
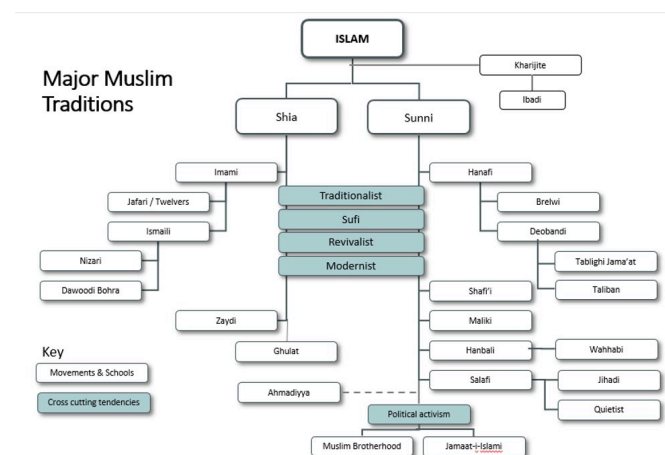
Major Muslim Traditions and Their Differences (n.d., 2023)

Roots of modern sectarianism

The 1979 Iranian revolution marked a turning point in the modern Middle East by establishing a governance model in which political authority was explicitly linked to religious leadership. The revolution was fueled by widespread dissatisfaction with the rule of Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi, whose authoritarian policies, economic struggles, and Westernization efforts alienated large segments of Iranian society. While many opposed the Shah's political repression, economic inequality, and close ties to Western powers, religious leaders, particularly Ayatollah Khomeini, mobilised popular discontent with the monarchy. Mass protests escalated throughout 1978, leading to the Shah's departure in early 1979 and the establishment of the Islamic Republic under Khomeini's leadership.

Before the revolution in Iran, secular regimes had largely dominated the region, including Iran itself. Although present in public life, religion had not been a major factor in Middle Eastern politics before 1979. The new Iranian leadership, however, sought to promote its ideological model beyond its borders, encouraging Shia communities in neighbouring states to advocate for greater political representation. This shift contributed to increased sectarian tensions and altered the political landscape of the Middle East.

One of the most immediate consequences was the Iran-Iraq war (1980-1988). Iraq, under Saddam Hussein, viewed Iran's revolutionary message as a threat and launched a military campaign. Sunni-majority Gulf states, particularly Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, supported Iraq, aiming to maintain regional stability. In response, Iran sought to expand its influence, backing Shia movements in several Gulf states. These developments led to the establishment of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC9 in 1981, which Iran perceived as a move to contain its influence.

By the late 1980s, Iran's revolutionary ambitions had been largely contained, but a major shift occurred with the 2003 US occupation of Iraq. The removal of Saddam Hussein led to a new Shia-led government with close ties to Iran, altering the regional balance of power. Some segments of Iraq's Sunni population felt marginalised, fueling sectarian tensions that extended to Syria during its civil war. Various regional actors became involved, with Iran supporting the Syrian government and other states backing opposition groups.

The rise of the Islamic State (IS) further deepened sectarian divisions. IS capitalised on Sunni grievances, presenting itself as a defender of Sunni interests. In response, Iran-supported militias played a key role in countering IS, while Gulf states and other actors backed different factions. This proxy conflict exacerbated instability across the region.

At its core, the proliferation of sectarian militias reflected governance challenges rather than purely religious divisions. The weakening of state institutions created power vacuums that identity-based groups filled. As external actors intervened, these conflicts became more entrenched, shaping the political landscape of the Middle East today.

Sectarianism and Conflicts Today

Modern conflicts are shaped by political struggles, where sectarian identities are often exploited to justify power struggles and sustain ongoing rivalries. As a result, established

political structures have disintegrated and conflict and chaos have dominated the region. Thus, an environment suitable for the establishment of a new order has emerged in the area.
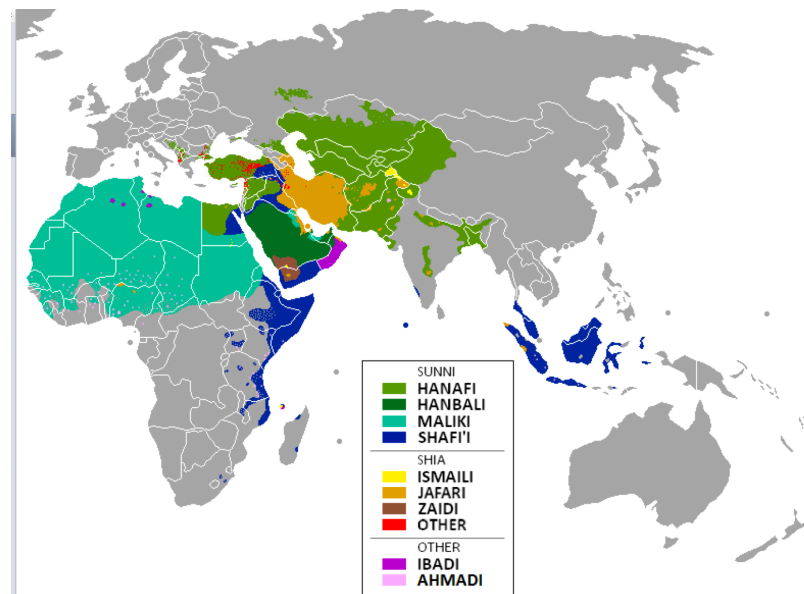
Distribution of Sects by Region (Lewis, n.d.)

The policies of the great powers of the international system, combined with the region's unique dynamics, are exacerbating conflict and instability. When we look at the state structures in the Middle East, many states appear strong on paper but weak in practice. Approaches that assess a state's effectiveness based on its relations with society, social groups, economic classes, cultural identities, and the outside world—as well as its ability to manage these processes effectively— support this view. Instead of eliminating these weaknesses by expanding their social legitimacy, as seen in the case of Syria, Middle Eastern states prefer to sustain themselves by mobilizing material and ideological resources while reinforcing oppressive regimes. Moreover, due to their internal affairs, these states have sought to establish legitimacy through regional and global alliances. This approach has transformed the Middle East into a major battleground for geopolitical struggles driven by conflicting interests.

The region's unique dynamics are the sectarian wars that have become a reality in the region today. Indeed, in the environment of instability and conflict prevailing in the region, killing people with sectarian motivation is legitimized and even encouraged. This situation entered a new phase, especially with the US occupation of Iraq in 2003. During the occupation process, Iraq's entire administrative mechanism collapsed, and attempts were

made to reshape the country and the region through both ethnic and sectarian divisions. As a result, Iraq has become the centre of sectarian radicalization.

On the other hand, the most recent and, at the same time, the most serious example of the exploitation of sectarian identities in regional and global politics is being experienced in Yemen today. The tensions between different groups, which have social, political and economic reasons, have been redefined based on sectarianism. The groups have been radicalized in this process, and the parties in Yemen have been dragged into a civil war. In this process of instability, powers with different regional and global goals are aiming to expand their spheres of influence.

From this point of view, proxy wars are one of the most frequently used tools in conflicts of interest in the region. Indeed, within the increasing spiral of violence in the region, both regional and global powers are trying to implement their projections for the region through proxy wars. At this point, non-state actors are used to wear down and destroy the other side by being motivated by ethnic and religious reasons. The chaotic environment that dominated the region, especially during and after the Arab Uprising, has gradually transformed into proxy wars. Libya, Lebanon, Yemen, Syria, Iraq, and the Persian Gulf are currently areas of proxy wars in line with the ambitions of both regional and major powers to shape the geopolitics of the region. The most extensive and complex proxy relations among these are seen in Syria. Indeed, there is more than one proxy and more than one client in Syria. These proxy-client relations can be based on religious/sectarian bases, such as between Shiite militia groups and Hezbollah and Iran, or they can be established based on strategic interests.

Local, Regional and Global Actors of Sectarian Conflicts

Ethnic groups, sectarian militias, armed resistance movements or groups with specific ideological goals are typical examples of local actors. Such actors are usually supported by international powers or regional players and contribute to the continuity of the conflict.

The role of local actors in the dynamics of war is not limited to armed struggle. These actors also have an impact on local economic and social structures in conflict zones. For example, in regions controlled by armed groups, war economies are built, and local people's resources are used to finance the conflict. This causes the conflict to be based not only on the military but also on economic grounds. Local actors often function as initiators, sustainers or transformers of war within the balance of power that is further complicated by external interventions.

Regional powers intervene directly or indirectly in conflicts in regions that are geographically close to them. These interventions are often aimed at protecting their strategic interests or competing with rival regional powers. The rivalry between Iran and Saudi Arabia in the Middle East is a concrete example of how regional powers shape conflicts. Both countries seek to gain influence through proxy actors in countries such as Yemen, Syria and Lebanon. In this process, sectarian and identity politics play a critical role in ensuring the continuity of wars.

Regional powers do not only pursue their interests; they also tend to develop policies that coincide with the interests of global powers in the region. In the case of Iran and Saudi Arabia, the politicisation of sectarian identities has fueled not only local conflicts but also regional polarization. For example, Iran provides support to the Houthis in Yemen to expand its Shiite influence, while Saudi Arabia leads a coalition fighting the group to maintain Sunni dominance. The position of Hezbollah in Lebanon as an Iranian-backed Shiite militia is another example of these dynamics.

Global powers are the most effective actors in the internationalization of conflicts. Geopolitical competition, in particular, is an important factor in the continuity of wars between great powers and regional actors. Countries such as the US, Russia and China often intervene in local and regional conflicts in line with their strategic interests. These interventions are carried out through diplomatic, economic and military means.

The presence of global powers in regional conflicts is based not only on security or geopolitical concerns but also on economic interests. The arms trade is one of the most important elements of these economic interests. For example, according to data from the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), the global arms trade constitutes a multi-billion dollar industry worldwide, and a large portion of this trade is directed to conflict zones. Countries such as the US and Russia play an indirect role in continuing conflicts through arms exports. For example, in Syria, both Assad's forces and opposition groups have continued to fight with weapons provided by global powers.

Such economic interests are among the most important elements that ensure the continuity of war. The impact of the arms trade on war is not limited to the physical dimension of the conflict. At the same time, this trade allows global powers to increase their regional influence and achieve their long-term strategic goals in conflict zones. This situation clearly shows that wars have gained an economic dimension and that conflicts are not based solely on ideological or geopolitical reasons. For global powers, war is also an economic gain and a geopolitical tool.

Social Impacts of Sectarianism

Sectarianism creates many social problems, especially among the people of the region. The most obvious of these can be said to be the creation of an environment of insecurity within society, the increase in violent incidents and the necessity of forced migration.

Intolerance increases between individuals from different sects living in the same country, and sectarian affiliations come to the fore instead of a common identity. This situation has been one of the main reasons for political instability, especially in countries such as Lebanon, Iraq and Yemen.

Sectarian divisions encourage religious extremism and the emergence of radical groups. For example, in Iraq and Syria, Shia militias and Sunni radical groups (such as ISIS and Al-Qaeda) have waged bloody attacks against each other for many years. Such radical groups use sectarian hatred to spread propaganda and rally support.

Sectarian conflicts have caused the forced displacement of millions of people. For example, in Iraq, the conflict between Shia and Sunni groups has caused thousands of people to migrate within the country or to neighbouring countries. Similarly, the civil war in Yemen has left tens of thousands of people homeless and deepened the humanitarian crisis.

Economic Impacts of Sectarianism

Countries where sectarian conflicts are intense are losing their appeal to foreign investors. Persistent civil war and instability hinder economic growth and increase unemployment rates in these countries. Countries such as Iraq, Syria and Yemen have suffered great economic losses due to long-standing sectarian wars.

The reflection of economic problems on the people of the region can be seen in the injustice in income distribution. In some countries, sectarianism leads to the distribution of economic resources in favour of a certain group. For example, in Bahrain, although the Shia population is the majority, the Sunni elite holds the economic and political power. This situation increases social injustices and shakes the people's trust in the state.

In addition to the forced migrations mentioned in the social effects, the brain drain caused by conflicts in the region also causes economic and demographic problems in Islamic countries. These conflicts negatively affect the development of the region by causing the emigration of the educated segment from their countries. Lebanon and Iraq are among the countries most affected by this brain drain.

Global Effects of Sectarianism

Apart from the social and economic problems caused by sectarianism, one of the biggest challenges facing the Muslim world today is the rise of Islamophobia around the world. The 2003 occupation of Iraq and the conflicts that followed the 2011 Arab Spring in particular fueled Western media narratives that Muslim societies were inherently incapable of peace. The resulting refugee crisis intensified fears in Europe and North America and reinforced the association of Islam with violence. Far-right politicians exploited these fears by advocating Islamophobic policies, with the idea that sectarian conflicts would spread to the West.

From a security perspective, sectarian wars have led Western governments to perceive Muslim communities as potential threats. The recruitment of foreign fighters for the conflicts in Syria and Iraq has led to increased surveillance, tighter security measures and discriminatory policies. The increased security measures in Muslim neighbourhoods in major cities such as Paris, London and Berlin; the perception of mosques as centres of radicalisation and the increased discrimination against individuals with Muslim names in finding jobs can be seen as concrete examples of the pressure that sectarian conflicts have placed on Muslim communities in the West.

G. Timeline of Key Events

1979	The Iranian Islamic Revolution took place. Iran began to increase Shiite influence while Saudi Arabia tried to consolidate the Sunni world.
1980-1988	Saddam Hussein tried to prevent the spread of Shiites by attacking Iran, and the Iran-Iraq War took place.
1991	After the Gulf War, the Shiite rebellion in Iraq was suppressed, and sectarian divisions deepened
2003	Saddam was overthrown by the US occupation of Iraq, leading to the rise of Shiite leaders and the eruption of sectarian conflicts
2011	The Syrian Civil War began. Iran and Hezbollah support the Assad (Alawite) regime, while Saudi Arabia and Turkey back the Sunni opposition.

2014	ISIS begins to rise. The Sunni extremist group has targeted Shia populations in Iraq and Syria.
2015	The Yemeni Civil War begins. The Iranian-backed Shia Houthis fight the Saudi-backed government.
2019	Anti-sectarian protests have begun in Iraq and Lebanon, where people have demonstrated against sectarian-based systems of government.
2023	The peace treaty signed between Iran and Saudi Arabia
2024	The Bashar al-Assad regime in Syria was overthrown, and Ahmed al-Sharaa was appointed as interim president.

H. Major Parties Involved

- **Saudi Arabia:** Saudi Arabia has been an important figure in the Middle East due to their majority Sunni population and close ties to Western figures and states, often cooperating on military and economic deals. Saudi Arabia has also been heavily involved in a proxy war with Iran, raising tensions in the Middle East.
- **Iran:** Iran has been a key figure in the spread of conservative ideals in the Middle East, often collaborating with influential states from the global East and being involved in the proxy war between themselves and Saudi Arabia. Their mostly Shia population and volatile actions in the past have made them a very influential figure in the Middle East and with select surrounding countries.
- **Iraq:** Iraq has a rather complex stance on the topic of sectarianism, as the population of their country is a Shia majority with a notable Sunni minority. They have had growing sectarian rhetoric in their political landscape after the fall of Saddam Hussein due to ideological clashing between the Shia-led government and the aforementioned notable Sunni minority. This, coupled with the occupation of Iraq and the Iran - Iraq conflict, has made them an outlier in their sphere of influence.
- **Turkey:** Turkey has been a very important player in the Middle East due to their Sunni lead, conservative government and their ambition of being a regional military and technological superpower in the area. Their support of Sunni majority groups in the context of the Syrian civil war and their foreign policy have been critiqued by Shia groups.

- **Syria:** Syria has been a key nation in the fight against sectarianism as its internal conflict has been a key fighting ground for both outside influence and combat between different sects. The conflict in Syria has seen alleged involvement from key regional and international figures with intentions to gain increased influence over the region. Their new government and its push for more inclusive actions towards different religions and nationalities, such as tolerance being shown to the Christian minority and tensions being lowered with the organised Kurdish minority in Syria, have all been creating the image of a new Syria, one with a focus on patriotism towards Syria. This image may fade or fracture as the new government is in its infancy.

- **Yemen:** Yemen is one of the nations most damaged by sectarianism and religious extremism. Their Sunni majority population has conflicted with the Shia Ansar Allah rebel group, informally known as the Houthi. They have been significantly withered by civil war and have lost some territory in the north to the Ansar Allah. Their conflict is still active and has been detrimental towards the local populace and has caused military and humanitarian emergencies.

- **ISIS:** The Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, informally referred to as ISIS, is a Sunni extremist group that emerged from Al Qaeda after the occupation of Iraq. It is recognised as a terrorist group by multiple supranational organisations and has been behind a multitude of terror attacks that have taken place throughout the globe. And has been a large influencer in sectarianism, often fueling hatred and extremist thought with their attacks. While they have lost significant territory in the past few years, they are still a global threat.

- **Al Qaeda:** Al-Qaeda is a Sunni terrorist organisation that aims to create a pan-Islamic state. Founded in the late 1980s by Osama Bin Laden and other Afghan veterans, they work to achieve a caliphate where Sharia law is under practice, with a strict disdain for the global West and Western customs and ideals. Al-Qaeda is the direct orchestrator for many deadly terrorist attacks done to spread the gospel of Sunni Islam and Sharia law. Even after the death of Osama bin Laden and the decline of al-Qaeda's influence, the organisation still maintains a presence in the Middle East and is considered a terrorist organisation by many supranational organisations.

I.   Previous Attempts to Resolve the Issue

● **UN Resolution 2254:** While the UN tried to provide a solution to solve the Syrian Conflict, one affecting the sectarianism happening in the Middle East, it was largely unsuccessful as lack of enforcement mechanisms and failure to address important issues made the resolution defunct. The ineffective nature of Resolution 2254 let outside influencers like Turkey, Russia and the United States of America have more opportunities to influence the region of Syria and the forces and militias residing inside the region of Syria.

● **Geneva Conferences (2012 - 2014):** The 2012 and 2014 Geneva Conferences tried to resolve the conflict happening in Syria with proposed peace talks, transitional governments and other cease-fires. These peace talks were largely ineffective as the government of Syria denied surrendering power to a transitional government, and further peace talks failed due to similar issues in the sharing of power and the division of opposition figures to the government of Syria.

● **Stockholm Agreement (2018):** The Agreement aimed to relieve tensions around Yemen and the Yemeni conflict, one backed by the government of Iran, a notable Shia leader. The agreement called for the trade of prisoners and humanitarian aid that were ultimately ineffective in solving the regional conflict, one heavily intertwined with the ideological power struggle between Iran and Saudi Arabia.

● **Allied Occupation of Iraq (2003):** The US Coalition Forces and their military presence was highly effective in neutralizing ISIS targets after they had been formed due to the civil and political unrest caused by the Iraqi conflicts, they have proved to be ineffective as they have heavily raised tensions between neighbouring countries and other extremist groups that opposed the US Coalition forces and their ideals.

J.   Relevant UN Treaties, Resolutions and Events

● UN Resolution 2254 aimed to provide a set of guidelines for a political solution to the Syrian Conflict, calling for peace ceasefires and a transitional government.

● UN Resolution 2379 authorized the creation of an investigative group tasked with collecting and analysing ISIS and ISIS-related evidence linked to their crimes.

● UN Resolution 1624 emphasises the importance of promoting tolerance and communication between religious bodies and groups to counter terrorism, aiming to reduce hatred, violence, racism and discriminatory measures taken to combat extremism and sectarianism.

- UN Resolution 2170 concerned increasing sectarianism from Middle Eastern extremist groups and militias, condemning the exploitation of sectarian division by the previously stated groups and militias. This resolution also urged countries to work together to counter religious extremism and sectarianism and encouraged acceptance, tolerance and respect towards human rights.
- UNHRC has consistently made an effort and called for humanitarian aid for the people of Iraq and Syria, providing shelter to refugees of war and people in need.

K. Questions to be Answered

- How can the OIC play a mediating role in reducing tensions between the Sunni and Shia communities?
- In what ways can the OIC establish a peaceful resolution mechanism in the regions where sectarian conflicts are ongoing, such as Yemen, Syria and Iraq?
- How can the OIC encourage regional and global actors to negotiate to end the proxy wars?
- How can the negative effects of sectarianism on investment, trade and labour in the Islamic world be minimised?
- Can a common education policy be created in the Islamic world against sectarian discrimination?
- How do media and religious discourses promote sectarianism? How can the OIC take action against misinformation and hate speech?
- How are Islamophobia and sectarianism connected? What policies can the OIC develop to reduce sectarianism in the fight against Islamophobia?

L. Further Reading

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