

# HISAR SCHOOL JUNIOR MODEL UNITED NATIONS

## Honduras

Begüm Burçak

### I. Background Information on Honduras

Honduras is a country located in Central America region. It is on the Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean Sea. Honduras is bordered by Guatemala, El Salvador, and Nicaragua. It has a population of approximately 10 million people and is considered to be a developing country. The country is divided into 18 departments for local administrations and is considered a democratic constitutional republic. Honduras' official language is Spanish, and Roman Catholicism is the prevalent religion. Honduras is Central America's second poorest country, with a very unequal income distribution. Exports account for the majority of the economy. Bananas, coffee, citrus, corn, African palm, beef, wood shrimp, tilapia, and lobster are Honduras' top agricultural exports. Sugar, coffee, textiles, apparel, wood products, and cigars are examples of industrial products. Because of its location in Central America, the country's lowlands and coastal portions have a subtropical climate. Natural calamities such as hurricanes, tropical storms, and flooding are very common in Honduras. Hurricane Mitch, for example, devastated most of the country in 1998, destroying 70% of the country's crops, 70-80% of its transportation infrastructure, 33,000 homes, and killing 5,000 people. Honduras was hit by severe flooding in 2008, and about half of the country's roadways were ruined.



### II. Previous Attempts of Honduras at Resolving the Issues

#### A. The question of illicit drug trafficking among Latin American Cartels:

- Honduras is a central landing point for drug runs, acting as the first stop for approximately 79 percent of all cocaine transfers from South Africa. The United States Military and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) have expanded their support for Honduras in the fight against drug trafficking. Alternative policy solutions are being sought, but authorities frequently fail to deliver a strong political statement. The Honduran National Congress just enacted a bill requiring the province of Colon to be fully disarmed, which is a solid first step toward more governmental control and security. Improved social security for Hondurans, in addition to physical protection, is an important aspect of the country's fight against drug trafficking. Following the restoration of diplomatic ties and military aid, the United States is actively bolstering Honduras due to its vital

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role in the illicit drug trade. The US military has built three new advanced outposts in the country as a new focal point in the drug war, allowing easy access to isolated locations where the drug trade is active. Honduran officials are already destroying landing strips themselves in order to enable US activities in the country. However, independent Honduran efforts to combat drug trafficking are hampered by the country's absence of its own radar system, which forces it to rely significantly on US intelligence to locate these landing strips.

**B. The question of legislations for protecting the Amazon Forests in all borders/countries:**

Honduras does not have a direct connection to the issue.

**C. The question of the territorial conflict between Guatemala and Belize:**

Honduras does not have a direct connection to the issue.

### **III. Objectives, Aims and Possible Solutions Proposed by Honduras On the Issues**

**A. The question of illicit drug trafficking among Latin American Cartels:**

- One way to tackle this issue can be by reducing the demand. All member states should work in collaboration to expand drug prevention and substance abuse treatment.
- The most effective way to combat drug trafficking is to create jobs that will give people an adequate alternative to the cartels. Thus the main focus should be creating new job opportunities for people and making sure that their basic necessities are met.
- To work toward establishing a framework for international collaboration between customs authorities, such as by signing new bilateral customs mutual-assistance agreements with drug-producing or transiting countries, while also bolstering existing cooperative connections.
- To improve the effectiveness of drug-smuggling surveillance and control at airports, ports, and harbors by improving and analyzing capabilities by upgrading and developing tools and facilities, such as database systems and surveillance equipment.

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- Improve guidance approaches by developing and disseminating new teaching materials for teachers to utilize as a reference while giving effective drug addiction prevention guidance.

## **B. The question of legislations for protecting the Amazon Forests in all borders/countries:**

- Brazil should adopt a “zero deforestation policy”. By improving its NDC(nationally determined contribution), Brazil may demonstrate to the international community that it is serious about the Amazon deforestation crisis.
- Brazil faces two challenges: the first is to maintain present legislation in order to avoid legalizing current levels of deforestation, and the second is to stop illicit deforestation. This is one of the most important and strategic climate initiatives Brazil can take in order to satisfy the Paris Climate Agreement while also avoiding disastrous Amazon rainforest tipping points.

## **C. The question of the territorial conflict between Guatemala and Belize:**

- Since both parties of this issue seem like they do not want to settle the best way would be to organize a meeting with the help of the UN and create a peaceful environment to discuss the current situation and maybe try to reduce the tension in the region.

## **IV. Bibliography**

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