

Fourth General Assembly

The Question of Foreign Military bases



Forum	Fourth General Assembly
Issue:	The Question of Foreign Military bases
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Introduction

Nations establishing military facilities and installations in non-domestic countries has been a reoccurring practice since the 20th Century from the US-USSR Cold war and World War II. Nations sought methods on obtaining maximal influence and land domination over other superpowers. Foreign military bases were therefore set-up to induce cooperation between nations with common interest, building confidence and increased sense of security among states across the world. The bases were primarily formed from strategic interest between the military country and host nation, creating higher resistance against future security uncertainties through exchanging weaponry, defense agreements, and economic growth. The guest nation's facilities can assist in interventions via offering local troops training, surrogate forces and suppressing political strife in the host country. Mediating and reinforcing stronger military assets in the host nation's dispute (formed alliance), while the larger superpower commonly creates the alliance in exchange for larger coverage, naval access, and strategic location, simultaneously aiding to curb potential direct attacks to the host nation. This has evidently been useful in emerging terror and security threats globally, though especially in the Gulf Region and "Horn of Africa", where foreign bases have successfully prevented maritime piracy and terrorist groups from Somali.

However, the inevitable motive for solely expansionary purposes of the larger power to gain higher area dominance and to project influence onto over a range of continents, have also arisen rivalry and land ownership competition between major global powers. For example, the rising rivalry between US and China in Djibouti competing to outpace each other, engaging in power play, creating a destabilizing impact and various political tensions. Additionally, foreign military bases (FMBs), has also posed violations against the host nation's domestic laws and regulation, negative externalities regarding toxic environmental waste from military weaponry testing, internally displaced people (IDPs), and higher human trafficking criminality rates.



Definition of Key Terms

Territorial Competition

Practice of expansion and especially of territorial expansion by a nation. Common purpose is for larger trajectory in power, area dominance or strategic logistics location.

Imperialism

Imperialism is the practice of extending dominance and power, commonly via direct acquisition of territory or gaining economic and political gain or control of the exploited area, employing soft power as well as hard power to obtain the targeted region.

Cold War

Cold war is the state of the conflict between nations. Characterized where tension is not displayed in direct military actions, rather involving economic and political sanctions, espionage, proxy wars pursued by non-state actors on behalf of the main parties who're not explicitly involved, and propaganda. Cold war commonly refers to the period of geopolitical tension from March 12th, 1947 - December 26th 1991, between the global powers of the Soviet Union (USSR), United States of America, and the Cuban missile crisis dispute. Creating polarization between the globe's Western and Eastern bloc; leading up to the causation of World War II.

Foreign Military Base (FMBs)

Referring to overseas military bases, containing the guest nation's armed forces, military facilities, and organized institutions. The bases are stationed on an area of land beyond the sovereign state's jurisdiction, usually to project power, safeguard territorial interest, enhance political power, and can positively or negatively interfere with regional affairs. FMBs are commonly distributed in different categories for their respective functions, army, air, naval bases and logistics, communications, or arsenal bases.

Political Tension

Relating to the lack of trust between nations. Where the produced situation causes a state of governmental anxiety and high possibility of sudden conflict or direct violence.



Human Trafficking

Process of entrapping individuals through violence, coercion, and deception, exploiting these target individuals for financial and personal gain of the malicious party. Referring to human trading for purpose of sexual slavery, forced labour and sexual exploitation. Adults and children are both victims of human trafficking and slavery via labour exploitation. Trafficking could also include extraction of organs or tissues without the organ host's/owner's consent, including involuntary surrogacy, ova removal and marketing individuals for forced prosecution.

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

Refers to a person who're forced to evacuate their habitual residence or home, minimizing direct casualties to individuals in their household from national disputes and armed attacks, though remains within their nation's borders. Includes families caught between warring parties internal their nation, compelled to escape their homes for safety from the bombardments. Commonly, affected individuals' own nation are responsible for displacing them, forming the Internally displaced persons (IDPs)

Nuclear Power

Nuclear weapons are devices designed to release explosive energy from result of two combined processes of nuclear fission and nuclear fusion (atomic and thermonuclear / hydrogen bombs). These military assets are comparable to having equivalent damage of conventional chemical explosive TNT, with energy release capacity of 1,000,000 (megaton) blast energy. After the "Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons" (NPTW) agreement, only five nations are authorized to acquire and access nuclear weapons, namely, USA, Russia, France, and China.

Power Balance

The balance of power. Refers to power equilibrium to discourage or prevent one nation from interfering with the interest of the opposing nation/ party. Protection of a nation against an opposing group by matching their power ability, usually by engaging in armaments races, or competitive territory acquisition enable them to add power value to their own state and conclude upon a treaty or policy of alliance/agreement.

International Security



Global security. Referring to the taken measures by states and international organizations to ensure mutual safety and minimal risks towards occurrences of threats and violence. Disruptions of international security could include regional coercion and meddling, transnational terrorism, food supply and health insecurity, displacement of populations, environmental implications, and overall increasing cases of humanitarian crisis.

General Overview

Military bases are installed facilities outside the guest nation's area, primarily for logistic and further operations trainings. These military settlements can serve as weaponry stock, weaponry test-ranges, posts of intelligence and military corps training locations. FMBs has significance in enhancing both host and guest nation's national security. These military settlements can usually host approximately 160,000 citizens, soldiers, civilians, and other active-duty personnel in the ongoing wars, such as the Afghanistan stationed US bases to assist the guest nation's training against Iraqi invasion and Taliban terrorist group. FMBs has been common since the 1947-1991 Cold war for better communications range via closer transmission, allows shorter distance aerial bombings, and easier access to weaponry arms near the active war site. Additionally, FMBs have also minimized the vulnerabilities in stationing a non-dispersed national base, for example stationing US "Echelon" bases between diverse overseas countries allow more difficult interception and infringement to the national government's data communications network and intelligence support, by primarily providing a more isolated location from the central nation's state. Furthermore, regarding economics growth, the establishment in foreign bases have provided openings and greater access of trade ports between the strategic aligned nations, for example military bases in Asia opened possibilities of the Gulf region for world oil trade.

However, there is a controversy in the major driving force of installing these military bases, having the primary motive to be power distribution and influence rather than mutual cooperation and military commitment of the larger superpowers to their weaker allies. Commonly, the world superpowers establish overseas bases to intensify their great power and overcome geographical disadvantages, strengthening their coverage. Therefore, the debate over expansion reduction in the major power's military presence around the world are questioned and proposed to be eliminated. Although, benefits do exist to FMBs as stated above and is a vital display of interest into the guest



nation, especially beneficial towards relations of NATO alliance members. Fellow delegates of MUNISH XXXII are thus encouraged to develop solutions and legislations towards minimizing the negative externalities of FMBs while maximizing their significance in strengthening political relations.

Horn of Africa

Different groups have engaged with the region pursuit on behalf of their own interest into the Horn of Africa region (Somali Peninsula, Eastern most part of the African mainland), the sovereign states included in the region are: Sudan, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Djibouti and Somalia. The major global powers (primarily France, China, British armed forces, USA, Turkey, Russia) have engaged in power play, driven by the desire to gain control of the vital shipping avenue of the Suez Canal; comparable to the imperial powers of UK, France and Italy scrambling for Africa in the imperialism era. Although the host nations have healthy diplomatic relationship with the major powers, by obtaining additional military asset support from the higher powers, the question arises whether African nations can maintain mutual relationships without the larger power abusing their geographical strategic location power and into potential territorial expansion pursuits.

Djibouti is strategically located by the Bab-el-Mandeb Strait, separating Gulf of Aden from the Red Sea, controlling incomers to the Suez Canal. From this geopolitically favorable position, this attracts many FMBs, including Chinese naval bases, Italian support bases, French airbases, and US logistics hubs (Figure. 1). The Horn of Africa links Africa, Middle East and serves as opening towards Europe via the Suez Canal to the Red Sea; an interest for global markets, as it is seen as a main passageway for oil trading from the Gulf to reach North America, and is the shortest commercial route to EU member states. Horn of Africa has experienced substantial increase in foreign military bases since 2001, especially after the gained prominence of Somali pirates threatening the shipping industry, therefore raising the urgency



Figure SEQ Figure * ARABIC 1. Young, Karen E. "UAE and the Horn of Africa: A Tale of Two Ports" Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington, 30 Aug. 2018. <https://agsi.org/uae-horn-africa-tale-two-ports/>



for installing foreign bases to protect vessels from armed piracy around the Gulf of Aden and Indian ocean region. Horn of Africa has served as a land of business for large dividend sums, economic opportunity, and attraction point of large international players to Djibouti, e.g., Russia, Turkey, UAE and India, though question remains on how to maintain the interests of the opposing parties in check and monitor peace among this rivalry of Djibouti area rationing among various interested nations.

Destabilization Effect

Placements of overseas bases are usually in agreement with the host nation for territorial security, monitoring any illicit commodities and individuals movement across borders by denying them free passage if any suspicious activity is detected. This simultaneously allows higher coverage and therefore access of ports for commodities trading, boosting the guest nation's trading activity.

However, foreign Military bases have also been utilized to exercise control to reinforce the status quo. FMBs ensures their success to the host nation's strategic resources, for example, the US maintaining military presence in Japan and EU, for purpose to preserve their power hierarchy and military expansionism in WWII. Therefore, for example, placing US bases in France's backyard in the Northern Africa region encourages a response by boosting their military spending and activity (similar dynamics to the 1962 Cuban missile crisis, revolving around the Soviet Union construction of nuclear missile facilities in Cuba, categorized as U.S. "backyard"). The creation of foreign military bases by various world superpowers have encouraged the escalation of "Base Races", threatening the origin of a new Cold War, especially foreign bases encircling Chinese, Russian, Iraqi and North Korean borders. Contrary to the claim that overseas bases boosts global security, these regional tensions increase risk of military confrontation, for example the Middle eastern recruitments of militant group Al Qaeda towards the 2001 terrorist attack on the US, fueled mainly by radicalization of Anti-American propaganda. Overall, the initial aims of foreign powers to stabilize these dangerous regions through counterterrorism, FMBs counter-productively heighten military tensions and base occupation competition for securing the most territory.

US-Russia Nuclear power Balance

The number of foreign military bases corresponds with the nation's nuclear power distribution globally, meaning military base expansions simultaneously increases missile defenses and nuclear stockpiles available for the guest nation's usage. Therefore, the possibility emerges of foreign



military bases increasing the power tension between nuclear holding member states (US, Russia, China), especially some overseas base functions dedicated towards weapons testing, with modernization programs of nuclear ICBMs and SLBMs advancements included, triggering a potential nuclear arms races of rising technological development competition between large nuclear forces, especially with the increasing installments of overseas bases for tactical positioning. The occupation of new foreign bases directly threatens the nuclear balance parity between U.S. and Russian relations, each power driven by the fear of vulnerability and constant need for nuclear developments and acquisition of foreign bases for larger missile testing capacity and area coverage, which ultimately increases the scope of damage if a nuclear outbreak does occur by proliferating nuclear weapons across larger surface area around the globe.

Overall, the evolving competition needs to be addressed, the recent developments in nuclear forces through additional installments of overseas military bases ignites a geopolitical positioning and nuclear arms development contest. Especially over the next decade, the US-Russian nuclear power balance is further threatened from the Chinese nuclear forces emergence; there is a rising challenge of limiting nuclear warfare outbreak between three competing nuclear superpowers.

Internally Displaced Persons and Human Trafficking

The installment of foreign military operations in Djibouti and other regions, has induced expulsion or displacement of local communities. 18 indigenous civil groups cases recorded of forced mass population displacement in the process of area clearings for foreign base constructions and overseas expansion since WWII. Examples of IDP cases were founded in Greenland, Puerto Rico, Chagos and Okinawa, where number of citizens lost housing, recreational sites and religious sites; falling victim of the imperial desires of US, EU member states and Russian federation. Communities nearby the foreign bases also reports various social and health implications, including the increased illegal sexual crime rates, exploitation of woman, and forced prosecution, where the consequences of these crimes are difficult to be held accountable to the soldiers from the guest nation's imperial supremacy and thus granted immunity against the host nation's jurisdiction systems.

Area clearings for the bases have contributed to the increase in refugee and migrant flows, coupled with the host nation's commonly poor structural gender inequalities and illegal trafficking legislations and standardization, the 9 million displaced persons traveling without official documentation or visas are especially vulnerable subjects towards gender-based violence, as there;s



higher possibility of exploiting these individuals without suspicion and punishment towards the malicious party, usually soldiers from the guest nation's FMBs, from the lack of possessed legal documents by the victims.

Toxic Environmental externalities

Foreign military bases have highly contributed to hazardous wastes, especially if improperly controlled disposal of base maintenance wastes continue, it can have catastrophic endangerments for humans and the environment. Bases generates contaminated fuel, oil and heavy metal scraps from motor pools, ship, tank, and aircraft maintenance parts. The larger implication could include climate change effects and political costs concerning the oil spillage and toxic leaks into the e.g., Red Sea for bases situated in Djibouti, straining the international relationship between the EU and middle east. Additionally, abandoned foreign military bases poses large consequence to the environment especially with limited base clean-up frameworks, for example the US army maintained secret bases in Greenland as precursors for nuclear ballistic missile complex, where the base eventually was abandoned, leaving considerable amount waste remaining, mobilizing these pollutants into the water, posing health risks to surrounding human settlements and aquatic biodiversity.

Additionally, the installations of foreign bases correspond to environmental degradation, soil erosion, and dangers to civil strife. The specific effects towards civilizations surrounding the bases are noise, and land pollution, especially from weaponry testing residues; causing air and water contamination, E.g., Uranium shrapnel from atomic bombs. Although the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act established a system controlling hazardous waste through sustainable disposal, the act has unsuccessfully remained in the same standards as private/domestic military facilities of the guest nation, needing further strengthening in its regulations.

Modernization of Military technology

Military bases in foreign land prove to be beneficial for geographical advantage and positioning leverage for faster e.g., drone deployments and overall rapid military response. Although as military weaponry and communications advancements have progressed, dispersed structure is no longer needed; little difference in response time concerning logistic and deployments between remote bases and in-active site bases, for example, innovation of long-range bombers can fly missions



to 14,500 kilometers and its capability to be refueled in the air, reduces the reliance of having bases abroad.

Additionally, opportunity cost exists which contributes to the guest nation’s risk of accumulating a budget deficit, namely the installation of FMBs cost could instead be allocated for the nation’s domestic infrastructure, electric grids, transport system etc.

Furthermore, bases outside the domestic land increases the number of overseas deployment and stationing, separating the military personnel from their families; implications on mental-well-being or standards of living may arise, for example, depression rates which may affect surrounding children/ family members, disrupting e.g., the child’s academic potential given the at-home hardships.

Major Parties Involved

United States of America

Despite the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Afghanistan, US military presence abroad continues to encompass over 750 military bases across 80 foreign territories globally, from Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to joint training base with the Australian armed forces. The US forces has secured concept of the necessity of foreign bases for maximal national security and global peace, acquiring overseas locations for their bases since the Cold war and World War II. US foreign facilities include ports and airfield, repair complexes, nuclear weapon installations, missile testing sites, training areas, arsenal warehouses and military schools. Additionally, with increasing acquisition of bases, US bases have consisted of communications posts, drone bases, rehab facilities and intelligence bases for the CIA parliamentary, including the CIA “black site” prisons. US are one of the large players regarding their presence in the Gulf region, namely, Camp Lemonnier (Naval Expeditionary base) (Figure. 2) is situated nearby Djibouti-Ambouli, a joint task force of US-Africa command agreement (USAFRICOM), providing US a strategical position at the mouth of the Red Sea, while providing Djibouti with regional stability against maritime piracy.

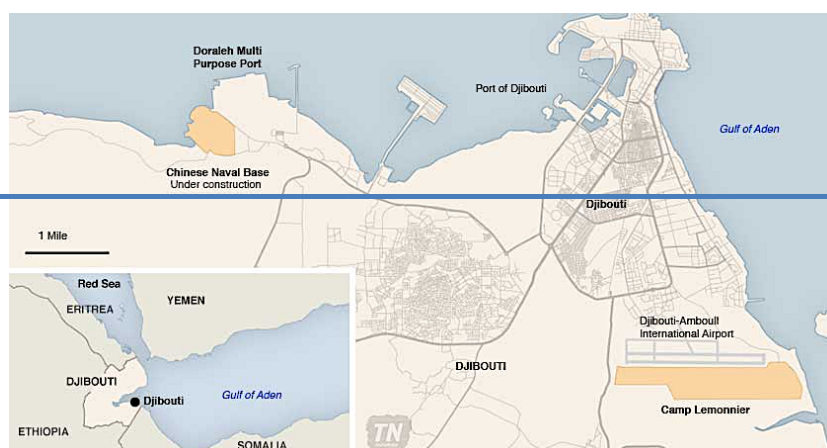


Figure SEQ Figure * ARABIC 2. Lintner, Bertil. "Risks Bubbling beneath Djibouti's Foreign Bases." *TesfaNews*, 29 Nov. 2018, <https://www.tesfanews.net/risks-bubbling-beneath-djibouti-foreign-bases/>.

U.S. FMBs in foreign lands often have raised geopolitical tensions, support undemocratic regimes, for example, despite the motive of advising "Iraqi Security Forces" (ISF) against ISIS terrorist group, the US training aid for the ISF has aided the possibility for their annexation of Kuwait and triggering the 1991 Gulf War. Additional authoritarian led regimes include the U.S. supported Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Niger and Turkey. Thus, there is a growing recognition that overseas bases should be closed, though bureaucratic inertia have maintained their existence.

France

From mid 19th century to the end of Cold war, Africa has been associated as France's "backyard" and "sphere of influence", connecting France's homeland with the African colonies, both territories were considered as inseparable parts of the French Empire, thus their empire were standing in two interconnected continents with the Mediterranean Sea as France's "inner lake" and not a border. French policy makers have always maintained a zone of influence external mainland France's area, gaining additional power from supply sources of strategic raw material from Northern Africa. Since February 3, 2000, "François Bujon de l'Estang" - French Ambassador, recalled the Mediterranean-Africa-Middle East region as the French empire's major backbone.

Today, Foreign military bases are important means of French power projection for overseas national security interest. French military bases in Africa are a great significance in representing their influential external power. French bases have been occupying Middle East and North Africa since 2011, targeting to return and further restore their military presence with their domestic Toulon naval base in the Gabon, Ivory Coast, Djibouti, and Abu Dhabi locations, generating France's dominance in the "Arc of Instability" in territorial competition between major powers, extending throughout the West Africa and Persian Gulf region.



Russian Federation

Major power's urge to hold significant military presence in Europe, including the U.S armed forces and other NATO members were driven to deter Soviet communist aggression since the Cold War. Russian overseas bases can be categorized into 3 types: new facilities in former Soviet states, legacy Soviet facilities, and Russian-Middle east military operations. December 2020, Russia signed agreement with Sudan to build a naval bases around the Red Sea for foreign access ports and airfields, including Syria. Though, majority of Russian foreign bases has maintained expansion into neighboring former Soviet states, primarily regions bordering Ukraine in Voronezh, Belgorod, and Rostov, additionally also annexed Crimea region to south Ukraine. Location of these military forces ensures that Russia maintains dominance over their neighboring Ukraine nation. Additionally, Russia has been expanding its military footprints in the Middle East and North Africa, most notably the naval facility in Tartus and Khmeimim Air Base, hosting Russian aircraft storage and support personnel. Furthermore, Russia has been stationing aircrafts in Al Jufra Libya base, providing air support to Libyan National Army.

Turkey

Turkey has established several overseas bases in Middle East-Africa region; enabling Ankara to gain air, naval and ground assets for strategic position in challenging its regional rivals (primarily, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates), recognizing its importance in prevention of Kurdish Nationalism, which simultaneously increases the perception of Turkish threat by establishing bases in Somalia and Qatar. Turkish military presence in Syria trajects political turmoil as it opposes the Syrian regime, the Turkish Army proxies Northwest Syria to limit the Islamic state and Kurdish forces to be carried out in early 2018. Issue with Turkish armed forces in overseas bases heightens the Turkey-Qatar bloc rivalry with Egypt-Saudi Arabia-UAE bloc, spanning across Africa and middle east; these relocations of foreign military bases into Syrian regions and Somali partnership, boosts the interdependence between allied member states, increasing the previously isolated conflict into a more interconnected dispute, where one member state's tension could affect another, increasing the scope of damage. Overall, Turkish overseas naval bases have directly challenged the power of Egypt-Saudi Arabia-United Arab Emirates alliance, were Turkish military entrenchment in the Horn of Africa acts as an Eastern Mediterranean-Red Sea maritime corridor, creating a provocative fault line in efforts to expand Turkish soft power influence and hard power projection, increasing political turmoil between Middle east nations.



China

China has joined the new scramble for Africa. The Chinese government has publicly announced over getting involved in locating their bases in the middle east region merely for assisting these nations, namely, the Somalian unrest concerning Islamist insurgency, South Sudan's ongoing civil war, military coup and Sudanese-Ethiopian army clash over disputed border region. Although, some observers see this movement from Beijing as seeking to rival the U.S as an international conflict mediator and was attracted by the abundant natural resources for economic potential, especially after China's joining with the "World Trade Organization" (WTO). The question arises concerning the implications of China's increased soft power, including increase in competition with other foreign powers investing in the Horn of Africa, forming an economic imperialism, and surging importance of economic-political dominance. Therefore, forming rivalry from each power wanting to maximize their own capitalization of the extracted natural resources; potentially causing further amplification of the US-China trade war, each superpower seeking to maintain their influence and leverage.

North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization, is an intergovernmental military alliance between 30 member states, consisting of 28 EU nations and 2 North American nations. NATO was founded in April 4, 1949 in Washington D.C. United States, with headquarters in Brussels, Belgium. The establishment of NATO is to guarantee freedom and security of its members via military and political means. NATO enables members to cooperate on defense and security related issues to enhance global security, trust, democratic values and prevent conflict. The signed member states forms a system of collective security, where each independent member state agree to defend each other against attacks by third parties, combined military of all NATO members include approximately 3.5 million soldiers/personnel, and members have agreed on targeting to reserve 2% of their GDP for military spending by 2024.

United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO)

United Nations Truce Supervision Organization. Established in May 1948, with main headquarters in the middle East in the Jerusalem Government house. UNTSO was the first peacekeeping operation formed by the United Nations. UNTSO military observers remains in the Middle East, monitoring cease fires, supervises armistice agreements, prevention of any tension escalation and assists in other UN peacekeeping practices in the region to fulfill their respective mandates. UNTSO personnel have also frequently been available and utilized as an urgent response



mechanism for any worldwide peacekeeping organizations. UNTSO military observers can deploy almost immediately after the authorization of the UN Security Council.

United Nations Office of Disarmament Affairs (UNODA)

The UN office for Disarmament affairs of the UN secretariat, was founded on January 1st, 1998, with main headquarters in New York, United States of America. UNODA was formed in accordance to General Kofi Annan’s (Former UN secretary general, 1997-2006) plan to reform the UN General assembly in July 1997 to support development and implementation of practical disarmament measures after conflict. UNODA is involved with disarming and demobilizing former combatants, aiding them to reintegrate into civil society.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

The UN office on Drugs and Crime, established in 1997, with main headquarters in Vienna, Austria, UNODC is a Drugs control and Crime prevention organization. UNODC assists in criminal justice reforms and legislation regulations for legal rights protection of individuals and groups under domestic and international law. UNODC cooperates with member states, civil society, and education partners to promote justice. UNODC’s mission is to contribute to global peace and security, promoting human rights development, and progression of a safer world from drugs, crime, corruption, and terrorism. The UNODC delivers to elevate and support member states to build inclusive and resilient societies. Additionally, UNODC uses data analysis program to predict potential threats to certain groups or regions, enable to prepare a rapid response team and system.

Timeline of Key Events

Date	Description of event
1827 - 1977	Scramble for the Horn of Africa (Gulf Region)
Mar 12, 1947 – Dec 26, 1991	Cold War (U.S v. Soviet Union / USSR)
1945 - 1952	US Military Base installment in Okinawan, Japan
Oct 16, 1962 – Oct 28, 1962	Cuban Missile Crisis



1977 – Present	French armed forces FMBs installment in Djibouti (“Horn of Africa”)
Aug 2, 1990 – Feb 28, 1991	Gulf War (US led coalition in response to Iraqi invasion and annexation of Kuwait)
May 4, 1995	Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) from 1970, extended indefinitely
September, 1995	Okinawa Women Act Against Military Violence (OWAAMV), a <u>key</u> feminist non-governmental organisation within the anti-base movement
1991 - present	Somali Civil War (Maritime Piracy)
September 11, 2001 - present	War on Terror (Afghanistan-Iraq-Syria)
2017- present	Doha Crisis

UN involvement, Relevant Resolutions, Treaties and Events

- Elimination of Foreign military bases in the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America, 5 December 1966, Disarmament Committee (A/RES/2165/XXI)
- Prohibition of Nuclear weapons, 31st March 2017, UN Security Council (A/RES/71/258)
- Administration of powers to eliminate territorial military activities, UN First Committee, September 26, 1966, (A/RES/C.1/L.369)



- Protection and assistance to Internally Displaced Persons, 20 December 1993, UN General Assembly, Third Committee (A/RES/72/182)
- Trafficking in Women and Girls, 19 December 2016, UNODC, (A/RES/71/167)
- Sexual Violence and Tactic of Terrorism, 12 November 2016, UNODC (S/RES/2331)
- “Treaty on Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons”, 22 January 2021, UNODA (TPNW)

Previous Attempts to solve the Issue

Previous attempts included implementing a Toxic waste disposal system, although results from the DOD General inspections have displayed that the guest nation’s occupancy of the foreign bases are still not sufficiently compliant with the host nation’s domestic environmental laws, with the inspections stating the “Hazardous material system” was ineffective and inadequate education trainings of the material handlers, supervisors and commanders. Additionally, one of the barriers in limiting the effectiveness of environmental legislation regulations, is the insufficient co-operation between jurisdiction systems of the host and guest nation. For example, “Environmental Protections Agency” (EPA), despite its aim for multilateral policy framework, EPA has limited authority in regulating environmental conditions in foreign countries, therefore a bilateral agreement to its host nation should be made while upholding the rights of the guest nation to keep operating their personnel in these overseas bases and security in the political power distribution of these collaborating nations.

Maintaining the power balance between guest and host nation also continues to be an issue. VFA and SOFA are laws governing the presence of military in a foreign nation. VFA concerns military in a country temporarily, while SOFA concerns the military bases in the host nation, both agreements the authority of civil law onto international jurisdiction (extraterritorial jurisdiction on civil law) regarding the issue of exercising power legally external a nation’s borders. Specifically, “Status of Force Agreement” (SOFA) offers the basis of regulating the extend of exemptions for foreign military bases to local jurisdictions, and the agreement saves the guest nation against tax liabilities while simplifying the administrative procedure during the installment process of FMBs. SOFA represents the signed



agreements from the government of each nation party when one had military presence in another. “Visiting Forces Agreement (VFA) refers to the agreement of the guest and host nation’s legal framework and their military personnel’s treatment while overseas. Serves as critical guidelines defining interaction standards of visiting and host nations. Therefore, the importance of operating under agreed terms of VFA and SOFA agreements and its aim for authorizing member states to undertake operations within the jurisdictions of the guest nation are critical to ensure the power stability and international security.

Though the SOFA legislation still is ineffective, as host nations have a mixed perspective upon FMBs on their foreign soil and having exemptions to the local jurisdiction. While the guest nation’s side, may feel they are granted weaker protection if trials occur in the local jurisdiction location, concluding on their side with a guilty verdict. Additionally, the guest nation is unlikely to compromise their jurisdiction laws if their military personnel are exposed to trials under poor or unfair legal systems, reducing the guest nation’s willingness to abide with the host nation’s domestic civil laws and environmental laws.

Furthermore, despite the UN General assembly’s resolution “eliminating foreign military bases in Asia, Africa, and Latin America”, the complete shutdown of foreign military bases posed political and economic downsides, such as the reduced employment from decreased job supply formerly provided by the foreign military bases to domestic workers (e.g., for plumbing, base maintenance etc.) and the host nation’s weakened assistance and protection from their disputes experienced in their regions. Therefore, the reduction of these effects and re-evaluation of operations are essential to preserve the sovereign integrity of a nation, while protecting the host nation’s viability, by limiting number of foreign bases without complete elimination of it, meaning more developed operations management should be implemented to maintain the base’s objective while fulfilling the interests of the host nation. Delegates of MUNISH XXXII should carefully take into the account the considerations enable to enhance co-operation and control of practice in fulfilling each nation’s interest to maintain political power security.

Treaty of Moscow (Signed in 16th March 1921) and “Non-Proliferation Nuclear weapons” (NPT Treaty) were established to reduce the scope of damage if nuclear outbreak occurred and the limitations of nuclear armament race, particularly through limiting manufacturing new nuclear developments and stockpiling of nuclear. Nevertheless, the tendency of major powers towards



nuclear arms race if major powers install their foreign military bases in similar territories (E.g., Horn of Africa or Djibouti) are still high despite the NPT treaty and nuclear testing bans. This is primarily driven by the major power's tension in maintaining leverage of nuclear power balance.

Possible Solutions

Given the large competitions growth for strategic trade points and weaponry stocks, the foreign military bases should thrive to maintain the relationship between host and guest nation. Concerning the fear of nations that the reduction of their foreign military base presence will reduce their ability for fast deployment, nations should invest in the development in more effective methods for a rapid reaction forces, e.g., through automated detection of violent activity in the host nation from the guest nation's communications bases and sending default signal to the appropriate emergency teams, monitoring the guest nation's dispute activity without need of presence of the guest nation's direct military power, reducing threats to power balances.

Regarding possible solutions to sex crime related activities, human trafficking and exploitation of minors, border control policies of the guest nation should be strengthened. Ensure training for the foreign troops based in the host nation, education of the strict consequences when any suspicious activities are detected. Ensure effective and independent (a third party, a body who are not associated to the host or guest nation's government e.g., NGOs or UN bodies), allowing survivors of trafficking have the maximum accessibility to present their case objectively and gender-sensitive access to justice. Additionally, methods for victims to have less barrier in accessing rights and obtaining legal documentation/ legal resource advice, could increase protection for the potential victims from trafficking and forced labour surrounding foreign military bases grounds (e.g., migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers), reducing human trafficking crime rates.

Concerning limiting of the arms race's escalation and mistrust among nations from the rising competition of FMBs installments, particularly in the Horn of Africa region. Policy makers could develop an impartial governing body acting as a non-biased authority to limit the abuse of the two or more nation's power balance, with allocations of any regulation or verdict decision making process to the impartial body, in case any direct threat deployments are considered, escalating the arms and base race. The impartial body would allow preservation of values and self-interests for both parties, improving the collective security, satisfaction and relations of the nations. Overall, development of an



impartial body could potentially create the most optimal representation of all stakeholders and third parties affected by any decisions of the guest or host nation's military forces, also including entertaining the guest and host nation's interest. Therefore, can potentially provide a balance as prevention mechanism of any power abusing practices at an expense of the other nation. Essentially, it is the utmost priority for delegates of MUNISH XXXII annual session to determine and evaluate the most effective solution to the issues associated with foreign military bases.

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Appendix or Appendices

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