



Forum: Sustainable Development Goals 2

Issue: The Situation in Yemen

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Introduction

Due to the failure of political transition from president Saleh to president Hadi after the unification of the two Yemen (which used to be anticipated to be an end of civil war), the Yemeni authorities has not solved the troubles such as the separatist movement in the south, corruption, the unemployment rates, and a number rebellions from unbiased terrorist groups, leading into a range of catastrophes of the Arab Spring.

The ongoing battle in Yemen between the Houthis (force settled in northern Yemen) with the assistance of Iran, and the Saudi-led coalition who is in favor of the president Hadi and continuously gaining help from the United States of America (USA). The split of the coalition between former president Hadi's loyalists as well as the Southern Transitional Council backed by the UAE does not granted a hope of a ceasefire between the separation of powers, leading into unlawful conflicts and disputes as well as continuous of guerilla wars across many cities and regions where the normal citizens are residing. Despite the fact that various actions have been taken, the total casualty of 40,000 deaths signs the urgent necessity of various interventions.

Today, the current situation in Yemen has been affecting various aspects of the nation's stability, as the humanitarian services and situation in many regions of Yemeni are increasingly overwhelmed, while the citizen and the nation's security is falling into an unprecedented recession. As the United Nations Children's Funds states, Yemen is facing the largest humanitarian crisis in the world, with more than 24 million people in need of humanitarian assistance and an approximate number of 10.2 million children are in need of urgent healthcare services on the current situation of covid-19. Furthermore, continuous civil wars from the political unrest of Yemen and restless terrorisms resulted 6,872 casualties as of November 2018, where the majority of the violations were made by the continuous airstrikes and terrorism Saudi-led coalition, according to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).



Definition of Key Terms

Arab Spring

Citizens' act of anti-government demonstrations and protests due to the oppressive regimes and low standard of living in the nation

Houthis

Anti-government force that has been the main belligerent groups in the Yemeni civil war. They are the Islamic religious political-armed movement that emerged in northern Yemen, which was militarily and financially endorsed by Iran.

Famine

An extreme shortage of food. Yemen has been in extreme famine since 2016 and 85,000 children have died as a result of the famine .

Political Transition

Many political systems enter into a transition because their historic regime, that is, their rules, procedures, and institutions, has turned out to be untenable, and they remain in the transition because no new regime succeeds in turning into consolidated.

Civil war

A civil war, additionally diagnosed as an intrastate battle in polemology, is a hostilities between prepared forces inside the identical nation or country. The intention of one aspect can additionally be to take control of the government or a region, to reap independence for an area or to exchange authorities.

Background Information

Over the years, the Yemen humanitarian crisis has dramatically worsened, while the political transition and its regimes are falling into an unprecedented recession in the history of mankind. Outbreaks of cholera combined with increasing starvation rates made providing aid to people in Yemen increasingly difficult. The unsolved internal conflicts and restless wars have been making the ongoing crisis of Yemen to be an extremely difficult crisis to resolve.

Political unrest

The conflict has its roots in the failure of a political transition supposed to bring stability to Yemen following an Arab Spring uprising that forced its longtime authoritarian president, Ali Abdullah Saleh, to



hand over power to his deputy, Abdrabbuh Mansour Hadi, in 2011. However, in the political transition between from President Saleh to President Hadi has not solved various national crises, including attacks by jihadists, a separatist movement in the south, the continuing loyalty of security personnel to Saleh, as well as corruption, unemployment and food insecurity, which has led into an Arab Spring, along with various civil wars.

Furthermore, the rise of the southern separatist movement from 2007 onwards: initially with a peaceful approach, the regime's aggressive response contributed to the growth and increased influence of that movement, and the emergence of the Houthi movement entered into armed opposition to the Saleh regime in 2004 with a series of six short wars until 2010. These abrupt emergence and intervention has further increased the political tension in Yemen

Furthermore, the escalation of political instability in 2015 has been the result of the backdrop of the Yemeni uprising in 2011 and the failure of its subsequent negotiated settlement. The activities essential up to 2011 were a product of problematic nearby dynamics that had been many years in the making, and the resultant civil war had been anticipated lengthy before these uprisings had been delivered on through the Arab Spring. A peaceful political transition, one that keeps the unity, protection and stability of Yemen and fulfills the aspirations of the Yemeni humans has yet to happen. The initial transitional deal was supposed to be negotiated between Saleh, Ali Mohsen, the Ahmars, the GPC and JMP, however excluded Ansarullah, the Hirak and the protesters. As the transition method did now not halt the power struggle, President Hadi failed to tackle the collapse in services and protection that affected the population, the scenario was as soon as exploitable via the marginalized groups, in unique Ansarullah, as it vied for public help even as furthering its agenda of territorial enlargement

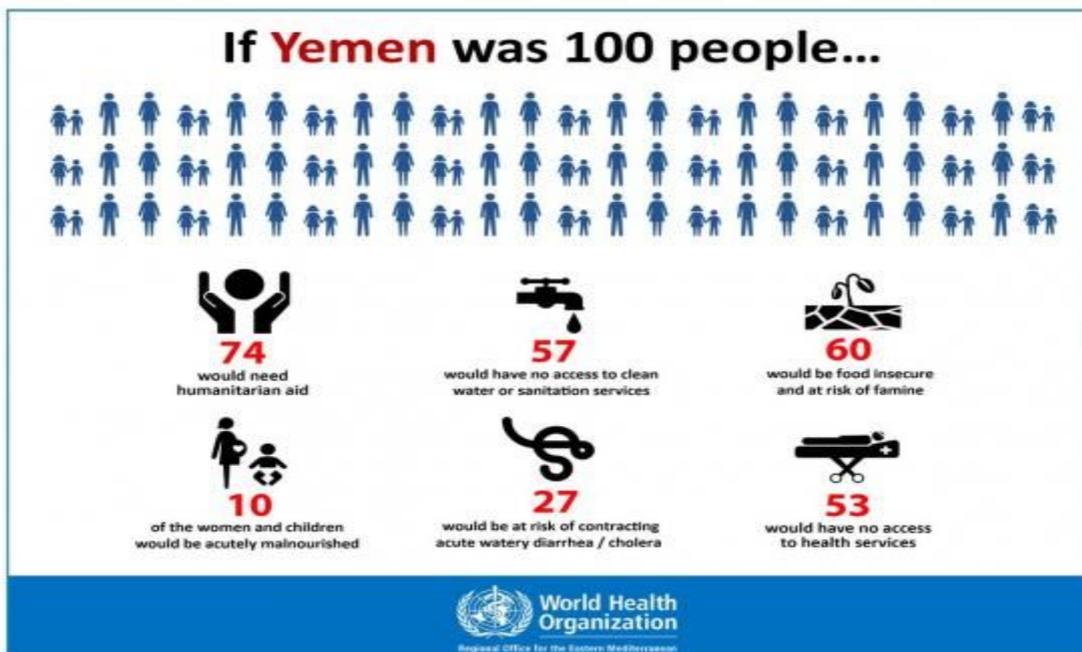
Humanitarian crisis

It is no doubt that the restless internal wars, conflicts with political crises, and economic instability have been impacting not only the country's security and stability but also to the citizens. United Nations Children's Funds have stated "the chances of survival are becoming slimmer by the day for the nearly 400,000 severe acutely malnourished children fighting for their lives in Yemen." Despite such conditions where most Yemenis are facing the world's worst humanitarian crisis and famine, restless conflicts and wars within Yemen have been robbing and physically harassing the Yemen citizens, resulting in 18,000 violations of human rights just within a 6 months of time by the Houthis.

Yemen is the poorest nation in the Arab world as well as experiencing one of the worst humanitarian situations on earth. Prior to the civil war, the poverty rate nationwide was at 50%, with the later conflict produced by the Arab Spring worsening the poverty rate even further. According to the United Nations, approximately 17 million inhabitants in Yemen are food-insecure, with 7 million close to

starvation and 19 million in urgent need of nourishment, equating to two-thirds of the population. Approximately 2.2 million of the malnourished population are children, and since foreign-funded development projects are barely present due to the violent conflict, it has become extremely difficult to import anything, with many of the ports being badly affected. Since Yemen imports 90% of its staples, the GCC blockade, while an effective weapon to enforce the arms embargo on the Houthis-Saleh alliance, prevents basic supplies from entering the country, is also helping to engineer the famine itself. People can't afford to buy the little food that does arrive. Furthermore, since the continuous military smuggling has been providing another source of continuous internal conflicts, Yemen has blockaded main port Hodeidah and other Red Sea ports, as well as the imposed closure of Sana'a airport. This has resulted in several thousands of Yemenis have died by hunger, disease, and other side effects of the blockade, a driving force behind the humanitarian crisis. With 75% of the population surviving on humanitarian aid and protection and over 62% of Yemen citizens experiencing food insecurity, Yemen is in dire need of economic, social and political reform.

The UN estimates that the civilian casualty toll has exceeded 15,000 killed or injured. 22,000,000 Yemenis remain in need of assistance, 8,000,000 are at risk of famine, and a cholera outbreak has affected over one million people. Furthermore, According to the Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED), over 100,000 people have been killed in Yemen, including more than 12,000 civilians, as well as estimates of more than 85,000 dead as a result of an ongoing famine due to the war. The war has displaced more than 3.5 million Yemeni citizens from their home, resulting in the "World's worst humanitarian crisis".





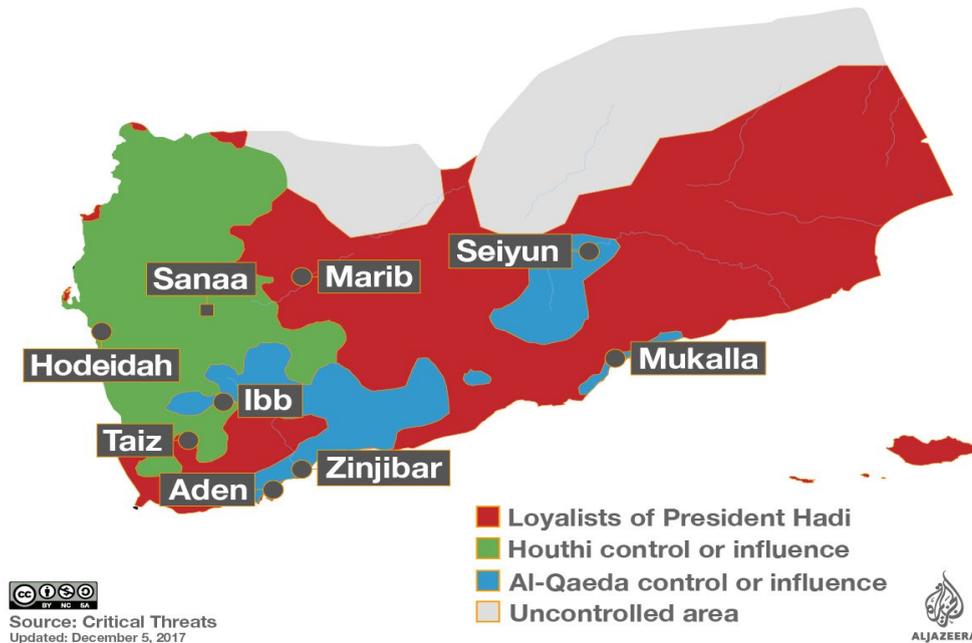
The proportion of people facing extreme poverty, famine, and humanitarian crisis in case the population of Yemen was 100 people.

Terrorism and internal conflicts

The two most the main belligerent groups in the Yemeni civil war are the Houthis, backed by Iran, and the Saleh and Hadi government, backed by Saudi Arabia (with the association of the United States) and its coalitions. The civil war has officially begun in September 2014 when Houthis has seized the control over the capital city of Yemen, Sanaa, which has speed up the rapid Houthis' movement of taking over the government. According to the Yemen Panel of Experts, the Houthis continue to receive weapons that have similar characteristics to arms manufactured in the Islamic Republic of Iran. Furthermore, Human Rights Watch has also reported the Saudi-led coalition's commit of numerous war crimes, which includes 90 unlawful Saudi-led coalition airstrikes that have attacked the innocent Yemenis who were not involved in the war, according to research by the UN Group of Eminent Experts. With numerous armed factions at odds over any potential settlement, UN-led efforts to broker a halt to the fighting have faltered.

The Houthi force has been insisting and fighting "for things that all Yemenis crave: government accountability, the end to corruption, regular utilities, fair fuel prices, job opportunities for ordinary Yemenis and the end of Western influence." Since 2004, Houthis have had 6 wars against the Saleh's forces, Saudi Arabia and Saudi-led coalitions. On 2014, Houthi force has seized the control over the capital of Yemen (Sanaa) and in 21 March 2015, the Houthi-led Supreme Revolutionary Committee declared a general mobilization to overthrow Hadi and expand their control by driving into southern provinces. Despite the fact that Saleh's force has been continuously gaining military assistance and support from Saudi Arabia, Houthi has been also provided with high-tech advanced weapons and extra military troops from Iran to face against Saudi Arabia and its coalitions.

The coalition has bombed hospitals, school buses, markets, mosques, farms, bridges, factories, and detention centers, further leading into the humanitarian crisis over the entire Yemen. Despite such casualties and damages, the split of the coalition between former president Hadi's loyalists as well as the Southern Transitional Council backed by the UAE does not granted a hope of a ceasefire between the separation of powers, leading into unlawful conflicts and disputes as well as continuous of guerilla wars across many cities and regions where the normal citizens are residing. This has worsened the situation of the political and humanitarian crisis in Yemen.



The disputed areas and who controls these regions

Major Countries and Organizations Involved

Yemen

After the failed political transition in Yemen, Yemen has been coping with various national crises, including attacks by jihadists, a separatist movement in the south, the continuing loyalty of security personnel to Saleh, as well as corruption, unemployment and food insecurity, which has led into an Arab Spring, along with various civil wars. With the continuous internal war and conflicts, not only the country but the citizens have been suffering with various humanitarian crises. Today's Yemen is known as the country with the "world's worst famine". Yemen's regions and cities are now distributed with armed forces such as Houthis who are seizing the control over the capital of Yemen (Sanaa), who can continuously violate the Yemeni citizens fundamental human rights. Despite the fact that the continuous support and foreign aids has been provided by the United Nations and many NGOs, there are still 80% of the whole population relying on humanitarian aids and assistance.

Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia is the leading coalition of Saudi-led coalition in the current situation of Yemen. Since 2015, after forming a coalition with the Yemeni government which has been a signal of Saudi Arabia and its coalition's intervention in Yemen, they have launched airstrikes against the Houthis and forces. Furthermore, Saudi Arabia has been supporting the Sunnis and the previous Yemeni government, with



their main objective to reinstate Hadi into presidency. Moreover, with the military supplies and advanced weapons from the arms sales by UK, USA and France they have committed restless airstrikes and missile launches to the territory of Houthis since 2015 to present, which includes 6 unlawful airstrikes that has been resulting into 60 casualties of civilians and destruction of infrastructures and houses, further worsening the humanitarian crisis of Yemen. There are currently 100 warplanes and 150,000 troops deployed by South Arabia in Yemen. Additionally, they have also provided the military supplies and are another main belligerent group in the Yemeni civil war.

Iran

Iran has been financially and militarily provided support to Houthi. In the recent annual report of the Yemen Panel of Experts, Houthis continued to receive weapons that have “characteristics similar to arms manufactured in the Islamic Republic of Iran.” Iran has also been backing the Lebanese terrorist organization, Hezbollah, for the past years, an organization that has also provided weapons and intelligence to the Houthi rebels. They have supplied war technology such as missiles, sniper rifles, and ammunition to the Houthi forces. The impact of the undisrupted supplies of the advanced Iranian weapons can be seen on the various attacks that have been conducted by the Houthi forces.

United States of America (USA)

The United States of America’s (USA) continuous military support and assistance to the Saudi Arabia and their allies has been reported in the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) commissioned team. Saudi Arabia has been the United States’ one of the greatest allies since World War II and is one of its greatest buyers of US military weapons. The United States has provided Saudi Arabia and its coalition weapons and have further taught them how to use US manufactured planes and tanks, amongst other weapons.

Houthi

The Houthi force is the main belligerent group in the Yemeni civil war since 2014. With the assistance of Iran and restless rebels and wars between the Sunni government, the Houthi force has seized Yemen's largest city and capital, Sanaa. The Houthis started in the late 1980s as a cultural and religious movement among believers of Zaydi Shi'ism in Northern Yemen. The Zaydis are a minority in Yemen, but prevalent in the northern highlands, where Zaydi imams ruled much of the region until 1962. After more than five years after seizing control of Sanaa, the Houthis have complete control of the capital and the governorates of Amran, Dhamar, Rima, Ibb and al-Mahweet. The expansion and the growing power of the Houthis have threatened Saudi Arabia and launched hundreds of missiles and drones across the border to Saudi Arabia. Organ the Houthis are still receiving support from Shiiteled Iran, who has reportedly sent military shipments to them.



United Nations (UN)

In accordance with the provision of a solution to political transition, Yemen has been providing help since 2011. The United Nations have held various conferences for the negotiation for the political transition and its impasse in Yemen. Each month, the UN's World Food Programme has also supported various support to solve the issue of famine in Yemen. Furthermore, the United Nations Children's Funds have provided medical equipment, such as surgical gown, and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as masks, and held a virtual conference to discuss how the increased need for humanitarian assistance can be met in Yemen.

Timeline of Events

Date	Description of Event
22th May 1990	The two Yemens unite as Republic of Yemen under President Ali Addullah Saleh, after the territorial dispute of South Yemen and North Yemen
18th June 2004	Military rebellion occurred: pitting Zaidi Shia Houthis against the Yemeni military that began in Northern Yemen and has since escalated into a full-scale civil war.
25th Nov 2011	Arab Spring outbreak that undermines President Saleh's rules, resulted separation of the Yemeni army and allowance of Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) and other Houthi groups to seize territories of east Yemen
22th Jan 2012	President Saleh resigns his role of president and steps down in a political transition of Yemen, leading President Hadi to become a interim president of Yemen
16th September 2014	The Battle of Sana'a in 2014 marked the advance of the Houthis into Sanaa the capital of Yemen, and heralded the beginning of the armed takeover of the government that unfolded over the following months.
21st September 2014	Houthi rebels sign a peace agreement brokered by UN envoy Jamal Benobar designed to give the rebels participation in the new government and result in withdrawal of rebel military forces from Sana'a.



26th March 2015	Saudi Arabia sets up coalition with President Hadi and starts airstrikes
6th February 2017	The Houthi rebels launch a missile to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Relevant UN Treaties and Events

- Question of implementation of political transition, 26 February 2014 **(S/RES/2140)**
- Demand of the Houthis to withdraw from all seized areas and to relinquish all seized arms, and established an arms embargo on the Houthis and forces loyal to former president Ali Abdullah Saleh, 14 April 2015 **(A/RES/2216)**
- Deploation of the Houthis' actions to dissolve parliament on 6 February and urge of the acceleration of negotiations to reach a consensus solution regarding the political impasse, 15 February 2015 **(S/RES/2201)**
- Question of Human Rights Situation in Yemen, 26 September 2019 **(A/HRC/RES/42/2)**
- Renewal of sanctions against Yemen imposed by Security Council resolution, 25 February 2020 **(S/RES/2511)**

Previous Attempts to solve the Issue

Foreign aids

Concerning the humanitarian crisis, a variety of UN agencies, such as the WHO, and non-governmental organizations have put effort into supplying the population with healthcare and food to prevent malnutrition and starvation. Furthermore, Each month, the UN's World Food Programme (WFP) distributes 100,000 metric tons of food commodities at more than 5,000 points, reaching more than 8 million Yemenis. In terms of the recent COVID-19 pandemic, the United Nations and humanitarian partners in Yemen are responding to the virus with a focus on case management, risk communications, community engagement and protecting the wider public health system. Furthermore, UNICEF has also shipped 18,000 COVID-19 tests and more than 33,000 N95 respirators, 33,000 face shields, and 18,000 gowns – crucial personal protective equipment needed by frontline workers. UNICEF is also training around 30,000 health workers in infection prevention and control, and distributing thousands of hygiene kits.



Political transition

To make sure the full and efficient implementation of Security Council resolutions 2014 (2011) and 2051 (2012), promoting of peace and stability via talk and negotiations in accordance with Security Council resolutions, jointly with the political transition agreed in November 2011 under the GCC Initiative and its Implementation Mechanism, the Secretary-General published the Office of the Special Envoy to the Secretary-General of Yemen. Since the establishment of the Office of the Special Envoy in 2012, the United Nations has provided information for the Yemeni-led political transition method and has promoted inclusive participation, inclusive of in the past marginalized groups, such as women, youth, the Houthis and Southern Hirak.

Possible Solutions

Political negotiation

As it is no suspect that the world has to fix the root of these ongoing conflicts, a new negotiation on political transition should be made. This may require presenting a peaceful, Yemeni-led, cohesive political transition, as this will focus on restoring Yemen's peace regarding its government and politics. What it hopes to achieve is a mutual understanding between external groups and the current government, up to the discretion of Yemen. This can be done by creation of a new government and having an impartial plebiscite on the president of Yemen, in order to continue the understanding between the citizens and the government. This can effectively control the violence and protests against the government and ceases acts of terrorism motivated by political reasons

Foreign aids

When discovering a possible solution, ensure programmers already working to attain the identical goals are built upon. The UN's organization and over a hundred humanitarian institutions are working inside Yemen. Finding methods to strengthen the current programs will also play a crucial function in the stabilization process. Such a program ought to noticeably ameliorate the humanitarian situation. Another aspect that will play an important role in stabilizing the use of a will be economic aid. The UN has advised its member states for USD 2.1 billion to fund humanitarian work in Yemen. This sum has unlikely been realized as closing year's attraction accumulated solely 60% of the USD 1.6 billion asked for, however nevertheless was once an enough quantity to lead some of the population in Yemen to precede a regular life. It has to make it clear to its member states that foreign aid is imperative in making sure global stability for international locations such as Yemen.

Sanction

In order to prevent the civil war and ongoing conflicts in Yemen, preventing the supplies from Iran to the Houthi force is also an essential point to be regarded. It is necessary to make a blockade or



sanctions regime of some sort to be placed on Yemen which would prevent countries from supplying the Houthis and other violent groups with war technology and advanced weapons. This can effectively eradicate the violence and terrorism that is damaging infrastructure in Yemen in addition to injuring and killing Yemen's citizens. Furthermore, just by blockading to some nations Yemen can regulate the possible danger shipments towards Yemen and make war technology less accessible in Yemen.

Humanitarian Support

Even during the continuous solutions and global summits, the citizens of Yemen are suffering from extreme poverty and famine. Humanitarian supports are the most essential key to keep the population of Yemen alive. The government should be responsible to encourage a steady flow of supplies needed for survival such as food, water, clothing, and medical aid. With the collaboration of UN organisations and NGOs can provide humanitarian supplies such as water, clothes and foods to tackle the issue and to provide aid to millions of Yemeni children that rely on humanitarian aid provided by the UN and other member states willing to donate. This can create a solid foundation for Yemen to rebuild its economy and paves the way for more opportunities to the Yemeni citizens.

Guiding Questions

1. How is your delegation affected by this?
2. Does your country's and other country's policy agree with the solution?
3. Are there any possible consequences from implementing this solution?
4. How will this solution affect your country and the allies?
5. How can your delegation and international organization can approach to provide aid and security in Yemen?
6. How should your delegation go about interfering on the ongoing situation in Yemen?
7. What kind of aid has your country provided previously and what kind of aid is it trying to accomplish?

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Appendix or Appendices

- I. <https://www.timelines.ws/countries/YEMEN.HTML>

Contains the history and the timeline of Yemen

- II. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Foreign_involvement_in_the_Yemeni_Civil_War

Informs foreign involvement on the Yemen crisis