

#studyguide

UNSC

Black Sea Grain Initiative

#finalmun25

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1. Opening Letters

1.1. Secretary General's Letter

Most distinguished participants,

It is with great enthusiasm and immense pride that I welcome you to the Final Model United Nations Conference 2025. I am deeply honored to serve as your Secretary General for this year's conference; an event that not only celebrates the spirit of diplomacy and international cooperation but also challenges us to think critically, lead confidently, and engage meaningfully with the complexities of our world.

Over the course of the next three days, you will step into the shoes of global leaders, tackle urgent international crises, and navigate the nuanced dynamics of negotiation and compromise. These experiences are not just exercises in diplomacy they are powerful lessons in empathy, problem-solving, and collaboration.

Whether this is your first MUN or your tenth, our goal is to provide a welcoming and inclusive space where you can thrive, grow, and form unforgettable memories.

The FINALMUN'25 team is here to support you every step of the way. We are committed to ensuring that every delegate feels heard, respected, and empowered throughout the conference.

FINALMUN'25 is a space where friendships are forged, where perspectives are broadened, and where future changemakers take their first steps. On behalf of the entire Secretariat, I once again extend my warmest welcome to each and every one of you.

We are excited to witness the passion, creativity, and leadership you will bring to the committees. Let us make FINALMUN'25 a conference to remember.

Yours sincerely,
Eylül İdil Orhan
Secretary General

1.2. Director General's Letter

Dear everyone,

Welcome to FINALMUN 2025!

This conference means a lot to me, not just because it's our school's first-ever MUN, but because I get to be a part of it as the Director General. It feels a bit surreal, to be honest. When we started planning FINALMUN25 , we had one main goal in mind: creating a space where people could come together, challenge each other's ideas, and still enjoy every second of it. We wanted it to be something more than just formal sessions.

Every person who will join us every delegate, chair, press member, and guest is part of something we've dreamed about for a long time. And if you're reading this, it means you're part of that dream now, too. As long as you respect the boundaries we've set and follow the spirit of our rules, I'm sure you'll have a great time , maybe even better than you expect.

I genuinely can't wait to see you all in action. You've already been welcomed with lots of excitement (and yes, maybe a bit of nerves, too), and I really hope this conference becomes a memory you'll smile at later on.

See you at FINALMUN25!

Yours sincerely,
Melek Güner
Director General

1.3. Under Secretary General's Letter

Esteemed delegates,

My name is Nazlı Atalay and I will be serving as the Under-Secretary General of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) committee. I kindly welcome you all to the very first FINALMUN conference with great satisfaction and respect. It is my sincere pleasure to welcome you all. It is without a doubt my great privilege and honour to witness your great debates, ideas and passion within the conference. In the following three days of our conference, your task is to discuss and regulate issues about the Black Sea Grain Initiative.

Our team challenges you to think beyond borders and conflicts on the global stage. The Black Sea Initiative is one example of concrete action to navigate some of the worst cost-of-living crises the world has faced in a generation. The Initiative has managed to steer trade in the right direction to provide more accessible and affordable food for all.

The agenda item of our committee will take your diplomatic skills to the next level without a doubt. I once again thank each and every one of you for your interest regarding the committee. Delegates; you must remember at any cost that diplomacy is the key to a better, more peaceful future. It is the heart of our world as it seeks to prevent conflict, encourages the adoption of international resolutions, promotes discussion and dialogue, and finds agreement through negotiation and common ground. The spirit of Model United Nations conferences encourages you to engage in beneficial diplomatic activities and help reshape our future.

I once again thank each delegate for their interest and participation in our UNSC committee. If you encounter any struggles or questions while reading the study guide, please do not hesitate to contact me via my e-mail address.

Sincerely,
Nazlı Atalay
rainbowcucumber3@gmail.com

2. Introduction to the United Nations Security Council (UNSC)

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) was established in 1945 after the establishment of the UN Charter at the end of the Second World War. It is one of the United Nations's six principal organs.

The UN Security Council has 15 member states. Five are permanent members: China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States. The other 10 members are elected by the General Assembly for two-year terms.

UNSC is charged with maintaining international peace and security. It has a unique, preventive, and reactionary role in the UN. It is meant to respond to international crises and maintain international peace. In response to such crises, the Council can mandate decisive actions such as peace talks, mediations, negotiations, and meetings. In addition to these functions, the UNSC has the authority to impose sanctions, authorize peacekeeping operations, and even approve the use of force when deemed necessary to restore peace and stability. Its decisions are legally binding on all member states, giving the Council a level of power unmatched by other UN bodies. Over the decades, the UNSC has played a decisive role in shaping the outcome of major international conflicts, from the Korean War and peacekeeping operations in Africa to addressing threats such as terrorism and nuclear proliferation. The Council has also evolved to address non-traditional security issues, including humanitarian crises, the protection of civilians, and threats to global food and energy security. This demonstrates how its mandate extends beyond armed conflict, reflecting the modern understanding that peace and security are closely linked to economic stability, human rights, and sustainable development.

While the UNSC remains the most powerful UN body, it is not free from criticism. The veto power of the five permanent members often leads to political deadlock, preventing the Council from acting effectively in certain situations. Calls for reform, including expanding membership and limiting the veto, continue to be debated in the international community. Nevertheless, the Security Council continues to be the centerpiece of international diplomacy, convening whenever peace is under threat. Its work directly influences the lives of millions and has a significant impact on the course of global politics. In the case of the Black Sea Grain Initiative, for example, the UNSC's role demonstrates how maintaining peace and security is not only about preventing wars but also about ensuring global stability in areas such as food security, trade, and humanitarian access.

3. Agenda Item: The Black Sea Grain Initiative

The agenda item for the UNSC committee has been selected as “The Initiative on the Safe Transportation of Grain and Foodstuffs from Ukrainian Ports”, shortly referred to as the “Black Sea Grain Initiative”. The initiative was signed in Istanbul on July 22, 2022 by the Republic of Türkiye, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and the UN. The purpose of the initiative was to ensure that Ukraine, one of the breadbaskets of the world, could ensure its grain could leave its southern ports via the Bosphorus.

The initiative, one of the few diplomatic achievements since the war started, allows for commercial food and fertiliser (including ammonia) exports from three key Ukrainian ports in the Black Sea: Odesa, Chornomorsk, and Pivdennyi. On the 17th of May Russia had vowed that there would be no extension to the Black Sea Grain Initiative, a key export deal that was set to expire on May 18, unless world leaders approved a list of demands that would soften the restrictions and sanctions hindering Russia’s agricultural export activities. The United Nations and other relevant stakeholders met repeatedly to work toward the renewal, but the discussions were complex.

Then, while the clock was ticking, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, a key facilitator of the export initiative, announced to the media in a televised broadcast that Russia had agreed to a two-month extension of the deal.

In summer 2023, Russia repeatedly claimed it would withdraw from the deal in July 2023 unless its demands were met. By July 17, 2023, no new agreement to renew the deal had been reached, causing the deal to expire. The collapse of the Black Sea Grain Initiative had immediate and widespread consequences. Global wheat and maize prices spiked sharply in international markets, reflecting growing uncertainty about food supplies. Countries in the Middle East and North Africa, many of which rely heavily on affordable Ukrainian grain, faced increased risks of food shortages and rising bread prices. In several low-income countries, especially in sub-Saharan Africa, the suspension of the deal threatened to exacerbate already fragile humanitarian situations, intensifying hunger and malnutrition. Diplomatically, the expiration of the initiative highlighted the fragility of negotiations between Russia, Ukraine, and the broader international community. While the deal had demonstrated that dialogue was still possible even amid ongoing conflict, its collapse showed the limitations of international diplomacy when geopolitical interests clash. The Russian Federation continued to insist that its own agricultural exports and access to international markets

were being unfairly restricted, framing its withdrawal as a response to unfulfilled promises.

Türkiye and the United Nations maintained their efforts to revive the agreement, positioning themselves as neutral mediators capable of bridging divides. Turkish President Erdogan emphasized that the initiative was not merely a regional matter but a lifeline for global food security, particularly for the world's most vulnerable populations. The UN echoed this sentiment, underscoring that the stability of food supply chains is directly tied to international peace and security.

3.1 Historical Background

In order to fully understand the Black Sea Grain Initiative with its genesis to its suspension and background, it is important to first explain the dynamics of the Black Sea Region and mention the conflict that led to this unique deal that would further be hailed as a "tool to help end world hunger". The Black Sea and its region are considered to be one of the most important strategic points from ancient to modern times. The Black Sea uniquely combines the east and the west, which apart from serving as a beneficial socio-economic and strategic factor, also resulted in up to ten armed conflicts in the region (NATO, 2023). One of such armed conflicts included Russia's invasion of Ukraine starting from Crimean annexation in 2014 and culminating in a full-scale war in February 2022 (NATO, 2023). (Kakabadze, 2023.)

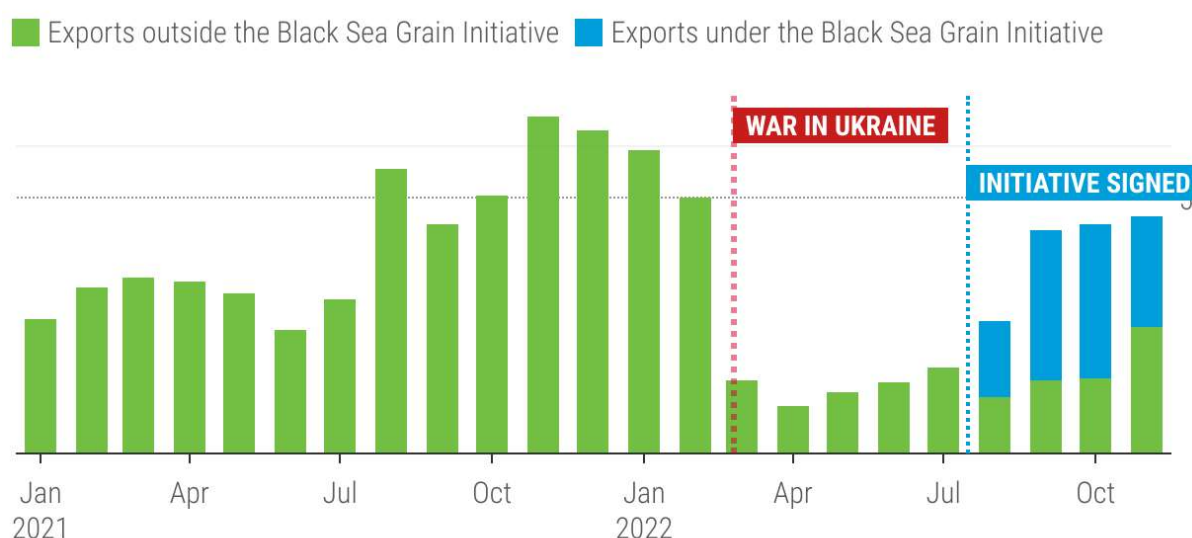
In 2022, an estimated 47 million people were suffering from severe hunger as a result of the world's soaring food costs partly due to the impact of the 2022 Russian Invasion of Ukraine. Developing and emerging countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America were impacted the most by the conflict due to their reliance on imported grain and fuel.

The initiative came up as a way of ensuring that Ukraine's grains could leave its southern ports via the Bosphorus. The grain could not be exported in the quantities required using the alternative methods of road or rail through Poland or by canal and river through Romania.

The grain deal, in place for almost a year, had clear benefits for global markets and food security. In the midst of war, it allowed Ukraine to export 33 million metric tons (MT) of grains and other agricultural products from its Black Sea ports—with most going to developing countries. The BSGI also contributed to a decline in international prices of staple foods and helped to sustain global food supplies. Developing countries

have benefitted the most from the Initiative, supporting food security among the most vulnerable.

More than half of Ukraine's grain exports were supported by the initiative since its signing. Over 725 000 tonnes of wheat left Ukrainian ports to Ethiopia, Yemen, Afghanistan, Sudan, Somalia, Kenya and Djibouti during the implementation of the initiative. The following chart shows the monthly grain exports of Ukrainian corn, wheat and barley, with and without BSGI, in million tonnes.



Source: UNCTAD secretariat based on data from UN Comtrade and the Joint Coordination Centre until November 2022.

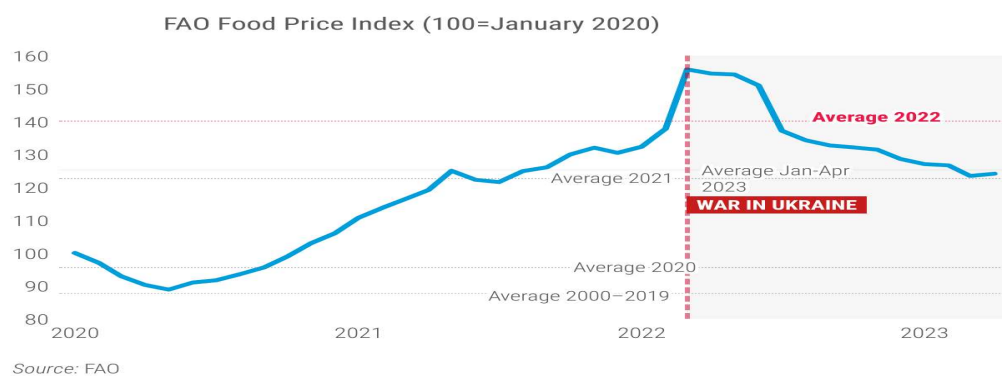
The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) reports that food prices are almost 20 per cent lower than their all-time high in March 2022, following the start of the war in Ukraine. This downward trend in prices was supported by the efforts of the Black Sea Grain Initiative. However, price levels are still high when compared to pre-war and pre-pandemic levels. Food prices in April 2023 were 41 per cent above the average over the past two decades. Furthermore, concerns persist for the stability of future food prices, which may be undermined by climatic factors, risk of market disruptions, export restrictions, high energy costs, and weakening global demand for food.

The initiative has managed to reverse rising food prices but affordability still remains a challenge. The broader implications of the Black Sea Grain Initiative extend far beyond Ukraine and its immediate neighbors.

By stabilizing international grain markets, the initiative provided a crucial lifeline to developing and conflict-affected states where populations are heavily dependent on food imports. The United Nations repeatedly stressed that without such mechanisms, millions would face a heightened risk of hunger and malnutrition. Aid agencies also

highlighted that the initiative played a vital role in ensuring the continuity of humanitarian food supply chains, particularly through the World Food Programme, which relies on Ukrainian grain to feed vulnerable populations worldwide.

At the same time, the initiative revealed the fragility of global food systems, where disruptions in a single region can have ripple effects across continents. Economists and policymakers emphasized that food security is not solely a humanitarian concern but also a matter of political stability. Rising food prices have historically contributed to social unrest, protests, and even violent conflict, especially in regions already struggling with governance and economic challenges.



The UN, Türkiye, Ukraine, and Russia signed the BSGI in Istanbul. It enabled safe maritime export of Ukrainian grain, food, and fertilizer (including ammonia) via a designated humanitarian corridor. A Joint Coordination Centre (JCC) in Istanbul, staffed equally by the UN, Russia, Ukraine, and Türkiye, coordinated inspections and safe passage protocols. Russia declined to renew the BSGI after 17 July 2023, suspending its participation and security guarantees in the corridor.

The European Union activated alternative export routes which are land and river corridors via Poland, Romania, and EU ports to continue Ukrainian grain exports. By mid-2023, these lanes had moved tens of millions of tonnes and generated €33 billion in trade revenue. EU officials reaffirmed support for reviving BSGI and committed to continuing solidarity lanes. In January 2024, Türkiye, Bulgaria, and Romania formed a Mine Countermeasures Task Group to clear drifting mines in the Black Sea, making navigation safer for grain vessels. Ukraine proposed re-establishing a grain corridor without Russia using territorial waters of Türkiye, Bulgaria, and Romania—where safe navigation remains feasible. Discussions are ongoing with Türkiye and the UN.

In March 2025, the US announced a new diplomatic framework which was negotiated in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia involving Russia, Ukraine, and USA. The deal includes security guarantees to halt force in the Black Sea and support safe navigation, along with assistance to Russia to ease export restrictions. This includes a potential maritime

ceasefire and proposals to enable Russia to export grain and fertilizer, although Ukrainian leaders criticized the arrangement as favoring Russia.

The UN continues to work with Russia through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to facilitate Russian food and fertilizer exports, and is maintaining diplomatic outreach to all parties. UN officials have repeatedly emphasized that freedom of navigation in the Black Sea remains essential for global supply chains and food security. African leaders have called for restoration of grain corridors in peace diplomacy. The African peace delegation visited both Kyiv and Moscow and called for urgent measures, reflecting the global stakes for food security.

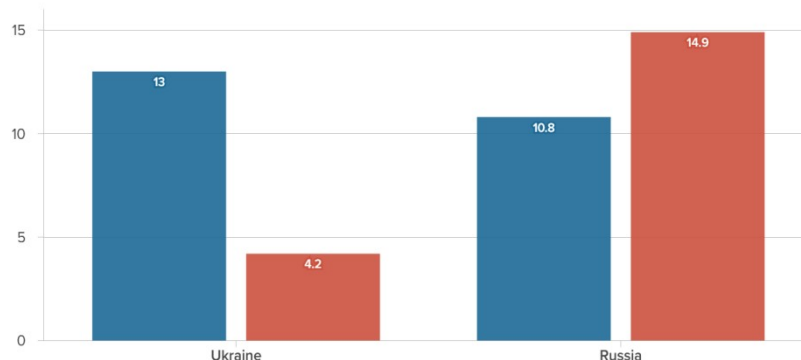
3.2. Current Situation

Ukrainian grain exports, especially wheat, make up a large portion of African grain imports. Before Russia's full-scale invasion, in 2020, over 50 percent of fifteen African countries' imports of wheat came from Ukraine and Russia. Moreover, for six of these countries (Eritrea, Egypt, Benin, Sudan, Djibouti, and Tanzania) more than 70 percent of their wheat imports came from Ukraine or Russia. Russia's full-scale invasion disrupted the exporting process due to the blockade of the Black Sea, occupation of territories, and active fighting. Along with the sharp increase in the cost, the Russian invasion of Ukraine triggered a shortage of about 30 million tons of grains

Grain Exports to Africa

Millions of tons

■ 2021-2022 ■ 2022-2023



Source: USDA, United Nations, Atlantic Council calculations

Atlantic Council
GEOECONOMICS CENTER

on the African continent in the first year of the war alone. Russia aimed to increase Africa's dependence on its imports further by blocking the exports of Ukrainian grain. Russia pulled out of the Black Sea Grain Initiative that allowed Ukraine to export its

grain despite Russia's war. The Kremlin then offered Africa free grain transport to increase its sales and Africa's reliance on Russian grain. Additionally, Russian propaganda has gained huge traction in Africa claiming that Western sanctions are to blame for the increases in grain prices and not Russia's war against

Ukraine. By helping Ukraine sell its grain, the West can offer the African continent an alternative to Russia's grain and decrease Russia's profits.

Ukrainian grain is key to global food security, which is why the West should protect and invest in Ukraine's agriculture sector. Before the conflict, about 90 percent of Ukraine's agricultural products were exported by sea. By blocking the Black Sea ports at the beginning of the war, Russia brought exports to a standstill, raising global food prices. Moreover, Ukraine's grain production dropped by 29 percent in 2022-2023. The US and EU should help Ukraine modernize its infrastructure and create alternative shipping routes both through land and sea.

Since exiting the initiative in July 2023, Russia has damaged about 200 facilities in Ukrainian ports. While the current grain arrangement allows Ukraine to export about 22 million tons of grain, Russia constantly attacks the ports and shipments, damaging infrastructure, destroying and stealing shipments, and taking human lives. Despite the risks, Ukrainians are trying to quickly rebuild and modernize the ports. And, even with the current arrangement, Ukraine can further increase sea exports of grain. The West should invest in the rebuilding and modernization of existing Ukrainian ports and connecting infrastructure, such as roads and railways, which could allow an increase of exports by a quarter, at least. This positive economic statecraft measure will also attract private investors to the Ukrainian agricultural and infrastructure sectors, helping Ukraine to make up for lost production and build new capacity.

To make up for sea export losses, Ukraine, with the European Union's help, also developed land routes that allowed the shipping of grain. This solution, however, was temporary, since Polish farmers blocked the border and destroyed around 160 tons of Ukrainian grain. These protests are undermining Polish support for Ukraine and further damaging global food security. The EU needs to intervene and negotiate a deal for Ukraine to continue shipping grain through Poland. While this is in the works, the EU should help increase the capacity of other EU routes for Ukrainian grain to Africa, such as through Romania and Slovakia.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has exerted significant shocks on global food supply chains, and the impacts of this are quite severe for countries in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). Particularly in Libya, Kenya, Mauritania, Eritrea among others that are highly dependent on Ukrainian wheat. By the end of 2022, over a hundred million people in SSA were facing acute food insecurity. If not addressed, the shocks could deepen poverty and lead to social and political unrest in the region.

Additionally, while Ukraine is a major global grain exporter, Russia is the world's leading producer of natural gas which is used in the manufacturing of synthetic

fertilizers. The ensuing war disrupted the supply of these commodities and pushed global market prices for food and fuel up.

While the black sea grain initiative positively impacted global food markets, it is unsustainable to continue relying on it because the war has disrupted both Ukraine's exports and its production, which is down by 27%. The black sea deal should have been a window of opportunity for dependent African countries to seek alternate grain sources. This, however, did not happen and has further strained food systems since the deal came to an end.

Russia's decision to withdraw from the Black Sea Grain Initiative, which took place on July 17th, represented an expected step on the part of observers, especially since Russia had previously withdrawn from the initiative in November 2022, for objective reasons from Moscow's point of view, including the West and rich countries benefiting from the largest share of this initiative. While developing and poor countries did not benefit from it, especially in Africa, in addition to the continuation and expansion of the sanctions approach against Russia and the encouragement of other countries to join, directly and indirectly, the sanctions policy, including African countries. Russian circles believe that these same reasons have not changed, despite Turkey and the United Nations' pledge last November to respond to Russian demands regarding the initiative in accordance with the necessary guarantee.

3.3. Subheadings

In order to fully understand the agenda item, some other events must be investigated and researched. The Black Sea Grain Initiative is more than just a deal since it was the key to nutrition and safety for many. The topic requires deep research and understanding.

Russo-Ukrainian War and Its Humanitarian Impact

On 24 February 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine, starting the largest and deadliest war in Europe since World War II, in a major escalation of the conflict between the two countries which began in 2014. The fighting has caused hundreds of thousands of military casualties and tens of thousands of Ukrainian civilian casualties. As of 2025, Russian troops occupy about 20% of Ukraine. From a population of 41 million, about 8 million Ukrainians had been internally displaced and more than 8.2 million had fled the country by April 2023, creating Europe's largest refugee crisis since World War II.

The invasion was met with widespread international condemnation. The United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution condemning the invasion and demanding a full Russian withdrawal. The International Court of Justice ordered Russia to halt military operations, and the Council of Europe expelled Russia. Many countries imposed sanctions on Russia and its ally Belarus and provided large-scale humanitarian and military aid to Ukraine. The Baltic states and Poland declared Russia a terrorist state. Protests occurred around the world, with anti-war protesters in Russia being met by mass arrests and greater media censorship. The Russian attacks on civilians have led to allegations of genocide and violations of international humanitarian law, including the targeting of schools, hospitals, and critical infrastructure. This war has not only created a humanitarian catastrophe in Ukraine, but has also strained international refugee systems. European countries have had to mobilize massive resources to accommodate refugees, provide healthcare, and integrate displaced populations, highlighting the interconnectedness of regional security and humanitarian obligations. Delegates must understand that the war's direct human toll is compounded by displacement, trauma, and long-term societal disruption.

Global Food Security and Agricultural Disruptions

War-related disruption to Ukrainian agriculture and shipping contributed to a global food crisis. Ukraine, as one of the world's largest exporters of wheat, maize, and sunflower oil, saw its production and export capacities severely restricted by the conflict. Local environmental damage caused by bombings and military activities has been described as ecocide, and the war has heavily disrupted global climate policy due to destroyed farmlands and blocked ports.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has exerted significant shocks on global food supply chains. The impacts are particularly severe for countries in sub-Saharan Africa, including Libya, Kenya, Mauritania, Eritrea, and Somalia, which rely heavily on Ukrainian grain. By the end of 2022, over 100 million people in sub-Saharan Africa were facing acute food insecurity. Rising wheat and maize prices fueled inflation and reduced purchasing power, while delays in shipping and port blockages limited humanitarian food deliveries. Experts have warned that prolonged disruption could deepen poverty, increase malnutrition, and provoke social unrest, including protests, riots, and political instability in affected regions.

Delegates should also note that food insecurity caused by the war interacts with other structural vulnerabilities, such as droughts, economic inequality, and weak governance. The Black Sea Grain Initiative was therefore not just a trade deal but a critical intervention to prevent humanitarian catastrophe.

Geopolitical Importance of the Black Sea and Bosphorus Strait

Another critical aspect for delegates to understand is the geopolitical significance of the Black Sea and the Bosphorus Strait. The Black Sea supports a rich and dynamic marine ecosystem, dominated by species suited to its brackish, nutrient-rich conditions. It also serves as a critical maritime corridor for global trade and energy transport. The Bosphorus Strait is the only direct waterway connecting Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, southwestern Russia, and Ukraine to the Mediterranean Sea.

Sovereignty over these straits is a key issue for regional powers. Control over the Bosphorus influences naval access, export capacities, and strategic security calculations. Turkey, through which the Bosphorus flows, holds a central role in regulating shipping traffic under international treaties such as the Montreux Convention. Any disruption in these routes has both economic and security ramifications. Delegates must understand that control over the Black Sea and Bosphorus is intertwined with regional stability, global trade, and energy security.

Humanitarian Consequences of the Initiative's Disruption

Potential consequences include increased global hunger and malnutrition rates, worsening food insecurity in vulnerable regions reliant on Black Sea grain, price shocks affecting low-income, import-dependent countries, and heightened regional hostility. In addition, the suspension of the initiative could lead to potential military escalation in the Black Sea region, as countries dependent on maritime security may adopt aggressive postures to protect their trade interests.

The reduction in the ability of humanitarian agencies to deliver aid effectively poses another serious concern. Organizations such as the World Food Programme rely on uninterrupted grain exports to feed millions of people in Africa, the Middle East, and South Asia. Any disruption threatens their logistical planning and could lead to emergency food shortages, malnutrition, and elevated mortality in the most vulnerable populations. Delegates must understand that the Black Sea Grain Initiative is not only a matter of trade and economics but also an essential mechanism for global humanitarian security.

Economic and Political Implications for Stakeholders

Beyond humanitarian impacts, the initiative has significant economic and political implications for global stakeholders. Export restrictions affect commodity markets worldwide, driving up prices for wheat, corn, and other cereals. High food prices can

trigger inflation, weaken economies, and strain domestic political stability, especially in countries heavily reliant on imports from Ukraine. The initiative also affects diplomatic relations: countries supporting or opposing the deal signal alignment with specific geopolitical interests, influencing broader alliances and negotiations in the United Nations and other international forums.

Understanding these complex interconnections is essential for UNSC delegates. They must consider the initiative not merely as a logistical agreement but as a tool that stabilizes global food markets, supports vulnerable populations, and mitigates risks of conflict escalation in one of the most strategically significant regions of the world.

4. Key Country Roles

Russia

Russia is one of the primary actors in the Russo-Ukrainian conflict and thus has a central role in the Black Sea Grain Initiative. Its military operations and control over certain regions of Ukraine directly affect the security of key ports such as Odesa, Chornomorsk, and Pivdennyi. Russia's approval or withdrawal from the initiative determines whether Ukrainian grain can reach international markets safely.

Beyond the logistical aspect, Russia uses the initiative as a diplomatic tool to advance its broader strategic objectives. By threatening to withdraw or demanding concessions, Russia can influence global food markets, leverage sanctions negotiations, and exert pressure on countries dependent on Ukrainian grain. Its actions have immediate implications for global wheat, maize, and fertiliser prices, which in turn affect food security in vulnerable regions such as sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East. Additionally, Russia's role in the initiative affects its international reputation, with continued participation signaling willingness for multilateral cooperation despite ongoing conflict.

Ukraine

Ukraine is the main beneficiary and implementer of the initiative, as it is the exporter of the grain and foodstuffs that underpin global food security. The country's agricultural output, port functionality, and transport capacity are critical for the initiative's success. For Ukraine, the deal provides economic relief through export revenue, strengthens diplomatic ties with Turkey, the UN, and other global powers, and showcases its resilience in sustaining agricultural production amid ongoing war.

Furthermore, Ukraine's engagement in the initiative demonstrates its commitment to international norms and humanitarian objectives. By ensuring the continuity of grain exports, Ukraine helps prevent global food crises that could exacerbate poverty, malnutrition, and social unrest. Delegates must understand that the initiative is as much a matter of economic stability as it is of diplomacy and strategic communication for Ukraine.

Türkiye

Türkiye's role in the initiative is unique and multifaceted. Acting as a mediator and facilitator, Türkiye ensures the safe passage of Ukrainian grain through the Bosphorus Strait, which it controls under the Montreux Convention. This maritime route is critical, as it connects the Black Sea to the Mediterranean, enabling the export of essential commodities to Africa, the Middle East, and Asia.

Politically, Türkiye leverages the initiative to strengthen its regional influence and diplomatic standing. By mediating between Russia, Ukraine, and the United Nations, Türkiye positions itself as a neutral and capable actor in conflict resolution. Economically, ensuring the continuity of grain exports supports global trade stability, which benefits Turkish ports, shipping companies, and related industries. The initiative also reinforces Türkiye's image as a responsible actor committed to international humanitarian concerns.

United States

The United States plays a significant role in providing diplomatic, financial, and strategic support for the initiative. As a major UNSC member and global power, the U.S. ensures that sanctions, humanitarian aid, and diplomatic efforts are coordinated to maintain the initiative's effectiveness. Washington actively monitors the implementation of the deal, pressures stakeholders to adhere to commitments, and works with international organizations to stabilize global food markets.

Moreover, the U.S. sees the initiative as a tool to prevent political instability and potential conflict escalation in regions heavily dependent on Ukrainian grain. By supporting the initiative, the United States also strengthens its influence in European and African food security policies and demonstrates leadership in multilateral crisis management.

United Kingdom and France

Both the United Kingdom and France are permanent UNSC members whose diplomatic involvement is essential. They contribute to negotiations, advocate for humanitarian objectives, and monitor the initiative's adherence to international law. Their participation ensures that the initiative aligns with broader security, economic, and diplomatic interests. The UK and France also emphasize the need for transparency and equitable access to grain exports, particularly for low-income and import-dependent countries. By doing so, they aim to prevent global food crises, stabilize markets, and maintain influence in key regions affected by grain supply disruptions.

China

China's role is primarily economic and diplomatic. While it is not directly involved in the conflict, it is a major importer of grain and thus has a vested interest in the stability of global food supplies. China participates in multilateral discussions, promotes compromise among parties, and seeks assurances that trade routes remain open. Additionally, China monitors global market impacts to protect domestic food security and maintain social stability. Its influence in international forums allows it to facilitate dialogue indirectly, shaping negotiations without being a direct participant.

5. Tips for Delegates

The Black Sea Grain Initiative has served as a vital lifeline, enabling the safe passage of millions of tons of grain from one of the world's most important agricultural regions to countries in dire need. This initiative has not only stabilized markets but also alleviated hunger and supported millions of vulnerable populations across continents. The recent withdrawal of key participants has disrupted these critical supply chains, threatening to escalate food insecurity and economic instability worldwide. Delegates, to be successful within the committee; there are a few steps you shall follow. You must first understand the background of the initiative thoroughly. Be aware of the broader Russo-Ukrainian conflict and how it affects regional cooperation. Know the main stakeholders, their interests, and recent developments such as the withdrawal impact. You should stay informed on the geopolitical state and understand the role of external actors such as NATO, Turkey, the UN, and the EU.

For the income to be successful, you may suggest feasible alternative export routes or mechanisms to mitigate disruptions. Approach negotiations with a problem-solving

mindset. Aim for compromises that balance security concerns with humanitarian needs. Remember to familiarize yourself with your associated country's policies.

5. Questions to be Concerned

- What are the feasible overland, air or alternative sea routes for grain exports if Black Sea ports remain inaccessible?
- How can the international community support food-insecure populations in the short and long term?
- What steps can be taken to create more resilient and diversified grain export systems?
- What diplomatic efforts can third parties (UN, Turkey, NATO) undertake to facilitate dialogue?
- What measures can stabilize global grain prices amid supply chain shocks?
- What funding opportunities exist for rebuilding or enhancing export infrastructure?
- How can all parties improve real-time information sharing about shipment schedules and security conditions?

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