



## ANKU COLLEGE MODEL UNITED NATIONS 2020

**COMMITTEE:** Special Committee

**ISSUE:** The Space Race

**STUDENT OFFICER/POSITION:** Güler (President Chair), Yağmur Oksay (Deputy Chair), Atakan Şerifoğlu (Deputy Chair)

**Dilanaz Güler:**

Salutations! I'm Dilanaz, and I'll be serving as your president chair throughout ACMUN'20. I'm greatly interested in film and theatre; as I plan to have a career in it as well. I love reading, and have an obsession with art, music, cult movies, and anything eccentric. I hope to see each and every delegate as an active participant, and have the utmost faith in them to initialise creative and effective solutions upon the issue of Space Race through the assistance of meticulous research, along with the assistance of me and my co-chairs, whom I have my complete trust in. I hope you have a great conference!

**Atakan Şerifoğlu:**

Hello, my name is Atakan. I am a senior year student in Arı Science High School. I've been attending to MUNs for over a year now and it will be my second time in ACMUN Special Committee. I basically enjoy scuba diving, reading books and Star Wars. Your collaboration is all we expect from you, so you must read this study guide thoroughly and have a good command on the topic and your countries' policy back in 1969. Do not hesitate to contact me for any questions in your mind by sending me an email from:

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**Yağmur Oksay:**

Hello fellow attendees, I am Yagmur Oksay and will be serving as the co-chair of this committee. I study at TED Ankara College High School and am currently an 11th grader IB student. I have been through numerous crisis and historical committees. There is a vast variety of subject areas that I enjoy or excel at. Some include: Reading, drawing (both digitally and traditionally) scale modelling and playing video games... All things aside; I want to see and expect what a crisis chair would normally expect, be ready and do a scrupulous and thorough research in order to minimize unfamiliarity to the agenda and most importantly know who is friend and who is foe, (golden rule of every crisis and historical committee)... Remember what Sun Tzu once said "If you know the enemy and

know yourself, you need not fear the result of a hundred battles. If you know yourself but not the enemy, for every victory gained you will also suffer a defeat. If you know neither the enemy nor yourself, you will succumb in every battle.”

## INTRODUCTION

In the 1930s, German aerospace engineers began experimenting with the usage of liquid fueled rockets, with the hopes of one day being capable of reaching high altitudes and long distances in the shortest amount of time. With their efforts causing great improvements, Vergeltungswaffe 2; also known as V2, a ballistic missile with the capacity of reaching 4,000 kilometers per hour, was launched to bomb South England as a final bid for victory in World War II; becoming the basis of early American and Soviet rocket designs. The V2 had a great role to play in having rockets and their uses to be brought up to member states' attention as a pathway of advancement; establishing the Space Race in the process.

After the War's end; former allies the USSR and the USA, as well their satellite states; Eastern Bloc for the Soviet Union, and Western capitalist states with the United States became primary states to induce political tension and economic competition, leading to the Cold War, beginning between 1946-1947. The tension does not lead to direct clashes; but expression through proxy wars; propaganda, and technological competitions; such as the space race.

The Space Race had undoubtedly a crucial part in the rapid advancements upon outer space industry; and can be pointed as the reason why aerospace engineering is as developed. But that does not necessarily mean the process is a completely smooth and a constructive one- in order to pass one another; it was a need to take risks; no matter how destructive the results could become.

## DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

**Cold War:** A state of international tension between the Soviet bloc and the Western countries. The major reason the naming is that threats, propaganda, and other measures short of open warfare were preferred to hot conflicts between parties.

**Superpower:** A country that has a great military and political influence. In this occasion, the USSR and the USA are the two superpowers.

**Brinkmanship:** A political method used by countries to gain political advantage or to maintain the status quo by pretending to be eager to go to war or to take action.

**Communism:** Communism is an economic, political and social ideology which the government controls all the production and the properties in the country.

**Capitalism:** Capitalism is a system in which the economy is ruled by individuals, not the government. Business mostly belongs to private owners.

**Arms Race:** The competition between different countries to have a larger number of powerful weapons

**Iron Curtain:** A term used by Winston Churchill in a speech to describe the growing divide between western democracies and Soviet-influenced states.

**Mutually assured destruction (MAD):** MAD is a doctrine of military strategy and national security by stating in a full-scale use of nuclear weapons would cause the complete annihilation of both sides.

## OVERVIEW

The initialization of the Cold War cannot be pinpointed to a specific date in history; but it undoubtedly is after the Second World War, when the alliance between the United States, Great Britain, and the Soviet Union started to unravel. Yet the actions taken by member states with the motivation to surpass each other is quite clear; as the Cold War led the igniting spark for the formation of NATO; developments in atomic warfare industry; Korean War; various propaganda and the expenses done in the name of protecting one's own member state; causing great public stress and mass hysteria along the process.

### Causes and Effects:

One of the most crucial reasons for the Cold War coming into the picture is the communist-enforcing actions made by the USSR to other Eastern European states causing a fear of Soviet domination upon the Western nations; which would later on tried to be combated by the "Marshall Plan" of the American Government during 1947, where it was aimed to have Western European countries under the American influence whereas the Soviet Union had enforced open communist regimes in the Eastern Europe.

The rising numbers of communist ideology had also had a polarising impact on western alliance countries; especially in the United States. After the events of the Great Depression and the socio-economic toll of World War II, many people, especially those who come from lower-class households and were shaken by the wartime; causing the initialisation of mistrust for the capitalists; started to grow a fondness for the relief communist ideologies support: that everyone would have equal opportunities in life. Such support was not deemed tolerable by the capitalist supporters, especially those who habited in Western countries; as the governance body changing its execution to provide equal opportunities for all would strip away their benefits, causing them to lose most of what they have. From such hysteria; member states in alliance with the West ideologies had the aim of eradicating such an ideology from all, with a special focus on those of their own country.

The race against having one ideology deemed superior than the other; even though did not induce direct use of weaponry against two states and their allies; there were still a number of risks to be taken, most of them having a great possibility of loss and destruction; in order to pass the other blockade. Especially in the area of Aerospace Engineering in the Space Race; though it was still a fairly new area to all countries, did not stop fatalities in the name of dominating outer space. The death of three astronauts; Virgil Grissom; Edward White; and Roger Chaffee, by asphyxiation during a simulated launch of Apollo Space Program was the first fatal catastrophe the US had to face during the Space Race. USSR's first encounter with fatality during the Space Race was through Vladimir Komarov; the Russian cosmonaut notoriously named as "the man who fell from space" due to Soyuz 1's failure of deploying the space vehicle aimed at reaching the moon's solar panels. Even though the mission was aborted almost immediately; Komarov's parachute failed to deploy correctly; causing him to crash violently from space into the ground in Southeastern Russia.

Yet the fatalities and the destruction of the Space Race were not the sole results of the competing, as the rapid developments made in the aerospace industry is quite remarkable.

Such as the first satellite being placed in space; which led the way of humanity to understand and work with outer space in a much more effective way.

### **Evaluation of Other Issues:**

Not only the Cold War had a sizeable impact upon advancements in space technology; it also affected and assisted various other historical events to take place; such as proxy wars taking place in between communist and capitalist states; such as the Korean War being supported by the USSR and the USA on different sides.

A way Western states combated with communist ideologies were with the assistance of propaganda; as a way of glorifying capitalism- which led to the creation of the classic "American Dream", claiming that a house, a property of one's own, were vital in establishing a life of free-will, which was what the Russians lacked. The American propaganda directed at Russian citizenry relied on the portrayal of an evil communist government as well as the wealth and possibilities available in their own state; a sole craving for the soviet; but everyday life for their American counterparts.

When the enforcement of the American Dream did not give the needed scare against communist ideologies; McCarthyism in the United States came to rise along with the Second Red Scare; where Senator Joseph McCarthy came up with a blacklist of people that were deemed "communist sympathizers", in which these people were subjected to a trial that was later declared unconstitutional, made through extra-legal procedures; in the House of Un-American Activities. Such a subjection caused various cases of blackmailing, along with unemployment and discrimination from society.

On an economic viewpoint, the Space War had countries re-evaluate their budgetary limits and rates for different industries as the aim to pass their ideological counterparts surpassed the need for conventional need for budgeting; such as the United States increasing the monetary aid for the spendings of NASA by 500% when needed.

### **RELEVANT ACTORS AND BODIES:**

**The Soviet Union:** One of the primary actors upon the Cold War; the Soviet Union had the most impact on affecting communist viewpoints; as well as spreading it to Eastern Europe. They are renowned with assisting and causing the great improvements in space technology; such as having the first man, the first woman, the first dog; as well as the first man-made object in space. The launch of Sputnik 1; in October 1957 set the beginning of

an official space race as an indicator for space technology being used as a way to promote economic, technological and social improvements upon countries. In 1959, the USSR also became the one to photograph the dark side of the moon.

**The United States of America:** Set its aims to surpass its communist counterpart; the United State is the second primary actor in the Cold War; with a special focus on the Space Race. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration was established on October 1, 1958 as the primary agency responsible for the space industry and advancements upon it.

**Eastern Bloc:** Also known as the Soviet Bloc, Socialist Bloc, or the Communist Bloc, was the group of communist states within Asia and Europe. Includes USSR; East Germany; Yugoslavia; Bulgaria; Romania; Hungary, Poland, Albania and their allies.

**NATO:** The North Atlantic Treaty Organization was formed in 1949 as a way to counter Sovietization and extreme nationalism. The founding members include Belgium; Canada; Denmark; France; Iceland; Italy; UK; Norway; USA; Portugal; Luxembourg; and the Netherlands.

## **TREATIES AND INITIATIVES:**

**UN Security Council- Assembly for the Iran Crisis (1947) Resolutions 1, 2, 3,4 and 5 titled: establishing the military staff Committee, The Iran Crisis, Soviet Troops in Iran respectively**

**Establishment and Ratification of NATO (4 April 1949):** Acronymed NATO, North Atlantic Treaty Organisation was formed in virtue of overwhelming the Soviet armies dwelled on the Eastern Baltic regions. NATO's main objectives include: protecting the freedom of people, battling terrorism and tracing weapons of mass destruction.

**The Warsaw Pact:** It stood out as the treaty of mutual camaraderie between the Soviet Union and seven other Eastern Socialist Republics. It was created in reaction to the inclusion of Eastern Germany to NATO. Also it was implemented as to "counterweight".[1] Since there have been some threatenings directed towards the Soviet Union in order to balance the power scale between the "well-heeled" West and the East.

**Construction of the Berlin Wall:** Due to West being more prosperous, East Berliners decided to move to West Berlin and with the decreasing population the factories around East Berlin had become short-handed and this took a heavy toll on East's economy. So the Berlin Wall was built overnight around East Berlin completely demerging the East from the West.

**Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (July 1963):** Aimed to encourage diplomacy between both sides by banning all nuclear weapon tests in the atmosphere, in outer space and in underwater but permitted underground testing. It should be kept in mind that, it did not reduce or halt the stockpiling but hindered the risk of a radioactive fallout greatly. Incidence of such a treaty ensured a detenté amongst nations especially between the US and the Soviet Union.

## **An In-Depth Analysis on Relevant Former Conflicts and Milestones:**

Cold War per se was nothing but ordinary and was rife with massive advancements in rocketry and missile technology as well as driving the rest of the world to the verge of first potential nuclear warfare. In order to fully grasp this trivial dispute we should go back in time and tabulate the events.

### **Introduction of Atomic Bombs (1945):**

Following World War 2 and the development of first A-Bombs (stands for: Atomic Bombs) that have consequently ended the war a period of "non-hostile belligerency" built up between the USA and the USSR referred to as the Cold War[2] Despite being recognized as allies in World War 2, the Soviet Union launched an all-out espionage on the Western nations to gather intelligence on their armament efforts around 1940s. For many years their missions were looked upon as covert and remained unknown. Presence of "Cold War spies" was later on eventually discovered, but their reports have been of great use to the Soviet Union to outdo the West and to not lag behind them nonetheless.

### **The Iranian Crisis (1946):**

Germany broke the pact they had betwixt the Soviet Union and her and invaded the USSR, Britain and the USSR, to protect the oil-rich country from a possible German attack, occupied Iranian territory and garrisoned their battalions across the country. As a result: for many years Iran laid torn between the British and the Soviet influence. During the war Iran was used as an in-between for supply transfer. The occupation was scheduled to end following Germany's surrender however Stalin objected Churchill's demands for the withdrawal. This aroused huge concerns amongst Western countries so the USA pressured the Soviets to back off from the already-governed district. But their exertions did not come to fruition. Regarding the failed attempt, the United Nations Security Council promulgated Resolution 2. Soviets responded affirmatively but with a conditional extension in demand. Additionally, the Soviets had reached an agreement on an oil concession on condition that all their troops were withdrawn from the occupied lands. So the USSR played her part and removed their troops from Iran. However after Soviets relinquished the lands, Iran renounced the deal and with aid from the US managed to suppress an ongoing uprising in northern Iran which broke out as a result of Soviets' coming to the assistance of an Iranian rebel group.

### **The Truman Doctrine and Soviet Expansion towards the Mediterranean (1947):**

Right after the World War 2 has ended as one of the victors, the Soviet Union was granted the European territories in the east. Her managerial approaches, however, mostly leaned towards subversion whilst trying to impose Communism in the regions. As this coercion continued Soviets wanted to expand their territories, therefore, were demanding more control over the Turkish territories and threatening Greece with Communist insurrection. Western countries were worried about Soviet posturing and intervened by supplying the Mediterranean countries with the necessary equipment and giving financial aid to surmount the expansion. Truman Doctrine, with all Truman's speeches about Soviet wrongdoings, therefore, were de facto an invitation to the Cold War.

### **The Korean War (June 25 1950- ):**

Korea was divided into two regions, both reigned by dictatorship, the North Bloc was under the influence of Communism set up by the USSR and led by Kim Il-Sung, and the Southern Bloc was anti-communist, led by Rhee Syng-Man. They worked to serve one purpose: to see Korea reunited. But their power struggle went on alongside their ideals. Their endless discourse on who will be in charge finally paved the way for war. With A-Bombs and supreme armament at his disposal, Stalin gave Kim Il-Sung the order to strike. Verging on anti-war propaganda and negotiations West-influenced Southern Korea failed to elude the war and was frivolously dragged into it. Communists had the upper hand they marched forward and via a surprise invasion they managed to take Seoul and then went forth unhesitatingly. Meanwhile, the West propped up the South by sending divisions from NATO and was able to return Recheon by making landings. Whilst they still were holding a considerable amount of land in Southeast they prepared a counter strike and managed to triumph. Reclaiming all their territories the South pushed harder with an intent to kick the North out of their lands. The Chinese intervened with their troops on the Northern border. Douglas MacArthur - commander of the NATO squadrons offered what should have supposedly been their last resort: Nuking. Although the USA did consider that option, this proposal became the reason for MacArthur's expulsion (April 11, 1951) .

### **First Hydrogen Bomb Test (1952):**

Truman announced the first legitimate test and development of H-Bombs in 1950. Britain developed the A-Bomb in the same year, and France, 8 years later.

### **Launch of "Sputnik" (1957):**

Literally translates as traveller, Sputnik was the name given to the series of artificial Earth satellites. In 1957 Sputnik 1 was first in line to be launched to space.

### **"The Sputnik Crisis":**

The Sputnik Crisis is the name given to the period when Western Nations were uneasy about the latest, unexpected launching and worried about the broadening technological gap between them and the Soviets. This major event has prompted the creation of NASA.

### **Launch of "Explorer 1" (January 31, 1958):**

Labelled as the first satellite launched by the USA following the launch of Russian-made "Sputnik 1". Explorer orbited the Earth in a looping pattern, similar launch attempts were utilized for Explorer 2 and then its successors Explorer 3, 4 and 5 respectively. Although Americans have erred on the side of caution ,alas, every satellite has faced operational engineering errors.

### **Cuba taken over by Fidel Castro and the Cuban Missile Crisis(1959-1962):**

Fidel Castro, first Cuban leader to establish a communist regime in the Western Hemisphere, after leading the overthrow of the military dictatorship of Fulgencio Batista in 1959.[3] Subsequently, he assumed the power, he aligned the country with the Soviet Union afterwards. Irritated by the latest hodge-podge of events, the US killed off all the diplomatic relationship. Soviets then formed a compromise with the new Cuban Government and agreed to transfer missiles to the Cuban lands. Now, as all of the Russian missiles are

stationed near American territory and leaving America completely open and vulnerable to a potential attack, president John F. Kennedy was compelled to take action. In the midst of hardship, USA recruited some of former the Cuban exiles to invade Cuba in hopes of both dethroning the current regime and seizing the munition. But its defeat gave a huge blow to the US. Therefore President Kennedy tried to force a compromise, in his letter he directly put Soviets in an "either-or" situation where, either Soviets would remove their missiles from Cuba or this "serious threat to peace and security of peoples." as Khrushchev once addressed, would go on. In addition to that Kennedy seconded the idea of pulling the missiles out of Turkey if the USSR agreed to do so as well. With that, on October 28, 1962, Khrushchev announced over the Russian radio that he would agree to transfer the missiles back to Russia and in return US withdrew their missiles from Turkey. And so the long-feared nuclear war was once again averted.

### **The Vietnam War (1955-):**

Tensions between one-time allies the USA and the USSR have increased tremendously at the end of the second World War. American Government viewed communism as nothing but a mere ideology wielded as a great political weapon that was prone to spread across nations nearby. Despite they were being ,for a considerable amount of time, on amicable terms, the USA was afraid that communist propaganda would lead to an outbreak of war between other nations like Vietnam which was the most blatant target at that time. Fearing that communism might hit Vietnam USA staged her involvement in 1949 when they provided France with the necessary instruments in the First Indochina War. Communist North Vietnam and anti-communist South Vietnam clashed, in the north the newly-formed National Liberation Front carried out a Guerilla Warfare-like campaign, The USSR took advantage of this and supplied the North with military equipment, as a countermeasure USA passed on necessary sustenance and ammunition to the South. Over a few years the situation has escalated to a detrimental point.

### **The Prague Spring (1968):**

The mass protests began to spark by means of implementing political liberalisation in Czechoslovakia. The former First Secretary of Czechoslovakia Communist Party Antonin Navotny who yielded the reigns of power to Alexander Dubcek was the pioneer of de-Stalinization which encouraged openness on the media, speech and travel. However those steps to liberation and decentralisation of authoritative power were not received well by the Soviets who then sent half a million Warsaw Pact troops to the country with the sole purpose of invading it.[4] The sordid coercion later on became the cause of a massive wave of immigration. The nation defied the curfews, flimsily attempted to instill fraternalism to overthrow the Soviet oppression. The country is still currently under the Soviet influence.

### **Apollo 11 landed on the Moon (1969):**

This is perhaps one of the biggest milestones in the history of America. The spaceflight under the commandership of Neil Armstrong and his accomplice, pilot Buzz Aldrin took place on July 20 1969. Apollo's main mission was set by John F. Kennedy. Classified as a national goal it was expected to initiate a crewed landing on the surface and return. On July 18, Armstrong and Aldrin put on their spacesuits and climbed through the docking tunnel from Columbia to Eagle to check out the LM, and to make the second TV transmission. On July 20, Armstrong and Aldrin made a final check and they took off. []

## TIMELINE OF MAJOR EVENTS

1947	After the U.K. government had informed the United States that they could no longer continue their aid to Greece and Turkey, U.S. President Harry S. Truman made a pronouncement called the Truman Doctrine to aid the countries under the threat of communist opposition. The congress approved the request of 400 million dollars for two nations.
1955	The United States announced that its plans to launch a satellite to orbit, and soon in response, The USSR said it will also be launching in the near future.
1957	The USSR Government launched Sputnik 1 and Sputnik 2, which was the first earth-orbiting satellite in history, got ahead of the race
1958	The United States launched Explorer 1, their first satellite to reach the orbit
1958	The National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics (NACA) was replaced with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).
1959	After the failure of Luna 1, the USSR launched Luna 2 and Luna 3 which they succeeded to land a craft on the moon surface and to photograph the far side of the moon respectively.
1960	Two dogs and a range of plants were sent to space with Sputnik 5 and were returned safe and sound.
1961	USSR achieved the mission of sending a human to space. Yuri Gagarin completed an orbit the earth and became the first man to reach space.
1962	After a year of USSR success, the American Astronaut John Glenn orbited the earth.
1963	Valentina Tereshkova became the first woman in space. She spent 48 hours in the earth's orbit.
1965	Alexei Leonov became the first man to leave his craft and to make a space walk for 12 minutes.
1965	The United States became the first on sending a spacecraft to Mars. Mariner 4 finished its voyage with the first images of the martian surface
1967	Both the United States and the USSR had fatal accidents with spaceflight testings. Seven astronauts in Apollo 1 and one in Soyuz 1 died due to technical errors.

1969	Aboard the Apollo 11, Neil Armstrong became the first man to walk on the moon's surface.
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## USEFUL LINKS AND SOURCES

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