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HARARE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

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ZIMUN XII

The Cost of Innovation:

*Navigating the Ethical Responsibilities of Technological
Advancements and Societal Change for Inclusive, Sustainable
Development in a Globalised World*



High Commissioner for Refugees

*Creating long term solutions for internally displaced people in the
Republic of Sudan*

Committee: UNHCR

Issue: Creating long term solutions for internally displaced people in the Republic of Sudan

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INTRODUCTION

Sudan is currently facing the largest internal displacement crisis in the world. Since April 2023, over 8 million Sudanese people have been internally displaced, numbers skyrocketing following the outbreak of an ongoing Civil War. The situation in Sudan is one of the most pressing humanitarian crises found globally. The mass numbers of displacement have been accompanied by famine, violence and a complete collapse of the healthcare system, making this a critical issue which requires immediate action.

DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

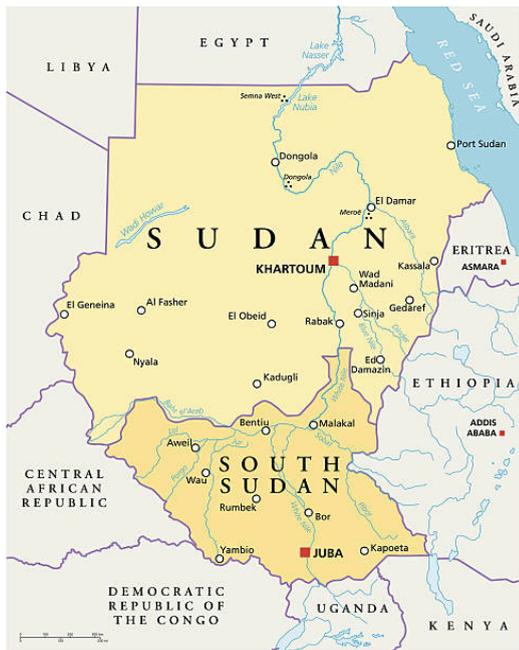
Displacement: According to the OHCHR, displacement is defined as “the coerced or forced movement of people from their homes or places of habitual residence, often due to conflict, generalized violence, human rights violations, or natural/human-made disasters”.

Internally Displaced People: Individuals or groups forced to flee their homes or places of habitual residence to avoid armed conflict, generalized violence, human rights violations, or natural/human-made disasters

Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF): The official military of The Republic of Sudan, established in 1925 and led by Abdel Fattah al-Burhan.

Rapid Support Forces (RSF): A paramilitary, Arab organisation from the Janjaweed militias of the Darfur conflict and were established in 2013. They were primarily used by Sudan's past prime minister Omar al-Bashir to suppress non-arab rebel groups.

Map of the Republic of Sudan and South Sudan:



BACKGROUND ON THE ISSUE

The current displacement ongoing in The Republic of Sudan stems from decades of conflict, although the recent crisis exploded in 2023, between the Sudanese Armed Forces and The Rapid Support Forces. Sudan has experienced decades of violence, with political instability beginning in 1956, when political and religious tensions provoked a civil war (1955-1972). Further political divides between the Arab-Muslim North and the Christian/Animist South contributed to another civil war which spanned between 1983 and 2005. In 2003, the Darfur conflict took place, led by rebels, and killed over 300,000, leaving 5 million displaced. Then, in 2019, uprisings emerged amidst an economic collapse in Sudan, leading to the ousting and overthrowing of leader Omar al-Bashir. On the 15th of April, a full scale war erupted, driven by a power struggle between the SAF and RSF, and the violence is still persistent today. Throughout the escalation of conflict in recent decades, Sudan has experienced an intensifying humanitarian crisis. There has been increased fighting and warfare underway, particularly in the Darfur region, and major infrastructure has been destroyed, accompanied by civilian death and displacement, calling the attention of the international community.

CURRENT CONTEXT

As of 2026, the conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces and The Rapid Support forces remains unsolved with fighting only escalating. The nation is sustaining the world's largest displacement crisis with over 9.1 million currently Internally Displaced Peoples across the 18 states. 25 million Sudanese people are currently suffering from extreme food security, and 4 million children are acutely malnourished. According to Aljazeera, both sides have been accused of crimes against humanity, and the UN is claims that the RSFs actions in Darfur may amount to genocide. Women and girls in particular, have been facing higher risks, with reports of rape, mass executions, and sexual abuse at the hands of RSF soldiers. In addition to internally displaced people, there are an estimated 4.34 million Sudanese refugees in neighbouring countries.

MAJOR COUNTRIES AND ORGANIZATION INVOLVED

Sudanese Government: The Sudanese government is essentially an SAF lead organisation, led by Abdel Fattah al-Burhan. It initiated the conflict in 2023 and has rejected all ceasefires without RSF capitulation. They have prioritised military victory over protecting civilians and internally displaced people, blocking aid corridors.

UNHCR: Whilst main aid organisations have been involved in the crisis, the UNHCR has led in providing protection, shelter, healthcare, psychological support and funding for over 7.1 million refugees and internally displaced people. It should be noted though that they have been facing the consequences of funding and budget cuts.

United Arab Emirates: The UAE has emerged as a major external contributor, backing the RSF by providing them with arms, drones, funding as well as logistics and information. Their interest in Sudan is tied to economic interests and securing resources, particularly gold.

Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Iran: These nations have backed the SAF, with arms training and funding. Saudi Arabia currently hosts 750,000 Sudanese refugees, and Egypt 800,000. These nations have pushed the signing of Quad Ceasefires, but have also perpetuated the continuation of the conflict through their backing of the SAF.

TIMELINE OF KEY EVENTS

15 April 2023 - War Breaks out in Sudan:

Fighting erupts between the Sudanese Armed Forces and The Rapid Support Forces Khartoum after decades of violence and tensions, and a recent military interrogation.

20 May 2023 - Jeddah Declaration:

A Declaration is signed in Jeddah, arranged by the United States and Saudi Arabia to ensure access to humanitarian aid and civilian protection.

End of 2023 - Sudan becomes World's Largest Displacement Crisis:

The international Organization for Immigration reports over 6 million internally displaced persons in Sudan, within only the first months of the war.

13 June 2024 - UN Security Council Resolution 2736:

The United Nations adopts resolution 2736, demanding the protection of civilians and their right to humanitarian access after the Jeddah Declaration was not properly upheld.

22 January 2024 – 1 December 2025: Siege of Babanusa:

On the 22nd of January, the RSF encircled the SAF in West Kordofan, a strategic transport hub near Darfur and oil areas. They targeted the SAF, and the siege led to the displacement of tens of thousands of civilians who were caught in the crossfire.

15 April 2025- G7s Ceasefire Call:

After 2 years of the ongoing war, the Group of 7 gathered at the United Nations to call for an immediate ceasefire and condemned the RSF and SAF for its inhumane attacks against civilians. Despite the ceasefire being called, the conflict has not reached an end, and fighting still continues.

End of 2025 - Partial Returns of IDP's:

The International Organisation of Immigration has recently reported that approximately 2.6 million Sudanese people have returned to their homes in recent months, in part of the country where the conflict has subsided, though many are returning to destroyed neighbourhoods and homes.

RELEVANT UN RESOLUTIONS, TREATIES, & EVENTS

1. **October 23 2009:** [Kamapala Convention, Treaty Protecting IDPs in Africa](#)
2. **March 8 2024:** [Resolution 2724](#)
3. **March 12 2024:** [Resolution 2725](#)
4. **February 17 2026:** [UNHCR Sudan Situation Appeal](#)
5. **February 23 2026:** [Security Council Press Statement Condemning RSF](#)

PREVIOUS ATTEMPT TO SOLVE THE ISSUE

Due to the large-scale humanitarian crisis which has arisen as a result of the ongoing conflict in Sudan, there has been continuous pressing efforts from the international community to attempt to end the war and aid the Sudanese people, particularly internally displaced persons. The 2024 Jeddah talks hosted by the United States and Saudi Arabia produced a humanitarian declaration affirming aid access to the civilian population, but was violated and collapsed with no achieved ceasefire. Foreign aid has entered Sudan in masses, with the US, EU, Saudi Arabia and a plethora of other states contributing hundreds of millions of dollars of funding towards humanitarian aid. The United States and United Kingdom have actively imposed sanctions on members found financing armed groups. Most recently, in 2026, the African Union launched efforts for mediation through African centered dialogue, prioritising civilian protection. Aid and humanitarian agencies have been able to work to mitigate the influx of internally disposed Sudanese people, and provide critical support, helping improve the situation for civilians. Whilst there have been strong international efforts for ceasefires, and to mitigate the conflict, the complexity of the war has ultimately made it very challenging for peace to be declared.

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

1. Imposing International Sanctions

Whilst mild sanctions have been imposed by the United States and United Kingdom on groups involved with violent attacks in the Darfur region as well as those accused of supplying the RSF and SAF with arms, the sanctions have been mild and have lacked effect. Imposing international scale sanctions on both the RSF and SAF, as well as heavily sanctioning parties such as the United Arab Emirates who has been funding the RSF would have a much stronger impact. Sanctions would not only hinder the importation of weaponry and arms into Sudan, which has facilitated the war, and will aid in pressuring parties into diplomatic negotiations. Additionally, imposing actual consequences will give more effect to the humanitarian laws which have been imposed through sanctions but not followed by either the RSF or SAF.

2. Reconstructing Voluntary Return Zones

Whilst looking to solve the current IDP crisis, it is critical to help facilitate the returns of the rising numbers of Displaced Sudanese people who have begun to return to their homes in areas where the conflict has dissipated. A reported 2.6 million Sudanese people have returned to their homes in recent months, though much of the areas which they are returning to have been completely destroyed and made uninhabitable. Launching programmes and giving funding to help reconstruct neighbourhoods and areas of cities as well as rural areas which have been damaged throughout the conflict is critical to supporting the return of internally displaced people. Funding from governments and the United Nations can not only be put towards helping reconstruct destroyed homes and infrastructure, but also creating rehabilitation programmes, and helping reinstall healthcare and education systems.

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