

POL 361: International Organization Project Guidelines

Listed below are the group project topics for Fall 2007

1. New United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki Moon has selected your group to make recommendations for the creation of a UN rapid response force to be deployed in cases where suspected genocide is taking place in order to provide a secure environment for threatened groups. This force would not be drawn from the military forces of member states, but would be hired from private military companies. Evaluate the potential for the use of private military companies by the United Nations in this context. Survey the legal issues involved both in the deployment of such forces (who would authorize such missions, who would command them, etc.) as well as the legal status of the personnel deployed in such missions (where do they fit in the Geneva Conventions, who monitors their behavior, etc.).
2. President George W. Bush has named Jan 1, 2009 as the withdrawal date for US combat forces in Iraq. The United Nations is called upon to provide a stabilization force for the purpose of nation building for the five years following a US withdrawal. Draw up a plan for the deployment of a this force, including manpower requirements and a (very rough) budgetary outline. Be specific as to the likely national contributors to such a force, the rules of engagement, political and economic goals, and oversight structure.
3. Representatives from the US, the EU, Japan, Brazil, India, and South Africa have selected your group to solve the impasse in the current (Doha) round of international trade negotiations. You have been given a mandate to create a framework agreement resolving the current issues that have blocked the round as well as making any changes to the WTO Dispute Settlement Mechanism necessary to enforce the new rules fairly for all states. Focus on the major areas of concern under the Doha negotiations and present your solutions to this problem.
4. The World Bank has selected your group to design a micro-finance program for the Caribbean modeled on the Grameen Bank. Select a country in the Caribbean region as the site for the bank and create a plan for the implementation of a micro-lending program in that country using the Grameen Bank as a model, including an estimate of budgetary needs for the first five years of operation.
5. The signatories to the North American Free Trade Agreement have decided that the only way to handle the migration of people across the borders is to create a single market for labor within NAFTA. Design a program to implement a single labor market within NAFTA that allows workers from any member state to work in any other member state.
6. Design a successor to the Kyoto Treaty on Climate Change that will be acceptable to the major industrial states as well as the rising industrial states like China and India. Start with the AR4 report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (the 2007 report) as a baseline of the consensus on the issues and design an international governance solution to the key problems

outlined in the report.

7. Warren Buffet has decided to provide \$100 million over five years to fund new non-governmental organization promoting indigenous people's interests. Pick one country or region and design a non-governmental organization to act for the promotion of the interests of the indigenous persons in the region of your choice. NOTE: This can be anything you want. It can be promoting eco-tourism or indigenous resource production to take advantage of the market or it can be indigenous area protections to keep the market out. Its up to you. The key here is to make the project manageable and reasonably effective within your budget constraints.
8. Royal Dutch Shell is concerned about growing unrest in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria. They have decided to create a non-governmental organization to deliver social services in the region in the hopes of getting good publicity and also making the local inhabitants happier with the global oil company. You have a budget of US\$30 million per year. Design a non-governmental organization to provide basic social services to the region. NOTE: The services provided by your organization will be in addition to the services provided by the national and regional governments. You must target this money in such a way as to make most use of it, but also in ways that Shell can use for positive publicity.
9. The US backed Free Trade Area of the Americas is the US vision of a trade pact for the western hemisphere. The problem is that it also seeks to promote US interests. You have been selected by the governments of the members of MERCOSUR to propose a FTAA that represents the interests of the countries of South America. Design a FTAA that includes all states in the western hemisphere, that reflects the interests of Latin America, and that the US would be willing to join. Remember that you need to design an organization that can actually get approved by the member states. This means Hugo Chavez's Venezuela and George Bush's USA both need to like it enough to join.
10. The rules of war (The Geneva Conventions) were written in a very different security context. Create a new set of articles to account for non-state violent actors. Adjust the older rules as needed to accommodate your new additions. Remember that any changes to the rules of war must be able to gain approval from the signatory states in order for them to have effect.