

**NOT FRESHMAN C**

TOPIC:STATELESS PERSONS



# SOCOMUN XXVII

NOT Freshman C

Stateless Person

Hello, my name is Sofia Sallee. I will be your chair at this upcoming SOCOMUN this year! I am a Senior at SMCHS, and this is my fourth year participating in the MUN. I am so glad that I have been participating for the past four year because MUN has strengthened my skills of problem solving in general and for current world issues, public speaking, flexibility, leadership, cooperativeness, and many other skills as well! I have definitely grown as individual and believe that participating in MUN was a curricular that helped form me as a person throughout high school. Specifically, I enjoy debating topics related to DISEC, IAEA, and Human Rights, and topics pertaining to country and citizen disputes. I have participated in many local southern California conferences as well as invitational conferences to UC Berkeley and UPENN. Besides participating in MUN, I am part of the Girls Varsity Golf team here at SMCHS and am a Co-Founder and Co-President of the Blankets of Courage Club where we donate blankets to children in hospitals and other organizations.

I wish the best experience for you all here at SOCOMUN, and I am positive that it will be a fun, engaging, educational, and positive experience for you! Hopefully after this conference, you will be encouraged to continue MUN. When the conference begins, delegates will motion to debate, which is when delegates will typically give a one to two minute speech regarding the proposed solutions that fit within their country policies. After debating, delegates will be encouraged to motion for an unmoderated caucus, where they can personally interact with other delegates about solutions for the topic. Delegates are encouraged to begin forming resolution groups and become sponsors of one resolution group. Within the resolution group, delegates will be writing a resolution paper with the proposed solutions to the topic, and later, will be submitted to the Chair and be presented to the entire committee. After presentation of all the resolution papers, the committee will vote on resolutions to see if they should pass, which should be towards the end of our committee meeting. One of the most crucial things to have prepared for the conference is to make sure that you understand topic as well as your country’s policy on the topic. If you have any questions, feel free to email me at [socomunnotc@gmail.com](mailto:socomunnotc@gmail.com). I wish you all the best of luck preparing for the conference as well as attending the conference, and look forward to meeting you all!

**Background:**

Statelessness is the term for an individual who is not considered a citizen in any nation, they are therefore stateless. There are multiple reasons that determine why an individual does not belong to a nation. It is important to belong to a nation because it defines and individual’s being, and it provides an allegiance for such a person. Nations typically provide benefits for their citizens and usually require you to be a citizen or resident of that country in order to remain in that nation. Typical rights of a citizen for a country are the right to vote, freedom, apply for a job, utilize government funded programs (i.e. education, public healthcare, public organizations), own property, anything needed to be legally approved, etc. It is important to be a citizen of at least one nation, because if an individual is not, they will not receive rights from any nation and will not have any protection from a nation as well. Most individuals are assumed citizenship within the country they are born in or based on the nationality of their parents. That being said, there are multiple ways for an individual to become stateless. Statelessness can occur when there are laws within a country that are poorly written, and do not cover all scenarios with individuals and that may exclude unique individuals when they are born or when they move to that nation. Individuals that leave the nation of their birthplace and immigrate to a different country may not be allowed to integrate within a certain country, due to their restrictions on nationalities, races, genders, and ethnicities. For example, there are twenty-seven countries which do not allow women to impart their nationality. Statelessness may also occur when an individual will have left their own country for a while, and based off of modernization or updates to the law and the time that had been passed, citizens may not be able to return. This is a typical issue especially when a harmful event occurs in a country, forcing most citizens to leave, and therefore, attempting to find a place for refuge, but not being able to become a citizen of a new country or return to their originating state. However, without belonging to a state or nation, an individual is still entitled to all basic and civil human rights. Whether human rights are included or unincluded within certain nations’ laws, the United Nations recognizes that all individuals must be given natural rights.

The United Nations established a body that pertains to this issue, the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHCR). This council is focused on the lives of individuals, and their well-being. The UNHCR has been highly involved in topics pertaining to Stateless people such as those seeking refuge in foreign countries, as well as preventing statelessness, solving statelessness, etc. The UNHCR has four different activities that they cover when dealing with statelessness: Identification, Prevention, Reduction, and Protection. These activities have worked in order to help those individuals who are considered stateless. Since 1961, the UNHCR has been called to help reduce the statelessness issue at hand.

It is important to understand the position of the delegate’s nation that they are representing. Delegates are encouraged to know their nation’s rights of citizenship, and therefore apply constructive resolutions that will help resolve the issue at hand.

**Possible Solutions:**

Statelessness is not an easy issue to fix, and requires unique resolutions to solve the issue at hand. The best way to propose resolutions is to target the major overarching issues with the best possible solutions that will follow your country’s policy. Also, keep in mind, that funding will not be an issue for this committee since it is the responsibility of the Fifth Committee and the World Bank. Delegates are suggested to focus on constructive solutions that will target the issue as a whole. Solutions for related subjects on this topic are also encouraged. Utilizing the UNHCR and integrating it into your resolutions is highly recommended as well. One of the most important things is to always stay on country policy, therefore, providing solutions that will not go against your country’s moral values. However, in certain cases that a country is isolated from certain ideas and morals, compensations can be made between countries if it is in that isolated country’s best interest to stretch their country policies, however, remain as close to their country policies as possible.

Solutions that can be proposed are:

The delegate evaluates the countries with the highest amount of displaced persons. Regional nations surrounding those heavily populated statelessness nations may work together with the heavily populated nations to provide the stateless people with human rights. The big five countries can be worth considered integrating or not integrating into this situation as well. Consider other ways of integrating the stateless individuals into the foreign nation that they are within. Integration of a stateless individual is key because they have no nation that they are a member of, therefore, not receiving any rights or laws. Delegates can suggest laws that grant all citizens international human rights, or suggest specifies laws that countries should implement to support past, current, and future statelessness individuals. Also, consider the accessibility of receiving a citizenship in the foreign country or from the originating country of the stateless individual. Programs can be established or improvements to the UNHRC are encouraged as well. All other creative and composed solutions are highly encouraged as well! These are to help inspire you and give you a jumpstart to your solutions, these are not meant to be your only resolutions, and make your solutions personalized and also making sure it supports your country policy as well!

**Questions to consider:**

The questions below are only to guide you throughout your research and experience at the conference.

1. What are the rules of citizenship in your country, how are they in comparison to other countries?
2. What organizations have successfully contributed to minimizing the issue at hand? What organizations have failed to help the situation at hand? What can your country do to help strengthen a coexisting organization to help minimize conflict as well?
3. Specifically, what has the UNHCR done successfully? What can your nation do to help them become more successful?
4. Target what has influenced statelessness the most? What certain measures can be done to prevent statelessness by reducing the highest influence of statelessness?
5. Does your country lean closer towards their own laws for citizens or do they support international law of human rights? If not, what can be done in order to protect a stateless person’s human rights within your country?
6. What short term solutions can be implemented versus long term solutions?
7. What can your country do to bring awareness to this topic? What is the importance of bringing awareness to this topic?

Works Cited

United Nations. “Ending Statelessness.” *UNHCR*, [www.unhcr.org/stateless-people.html](http://www.unhcr.org/stateless-people.html).

Statelessness is a “person who is not considered as a national by any state under the operation of its law”. You can become a stateless person many ways like, if a child is born in a foreign country, new states and when orders change, and many other ways.It compares by it mainly focuses on the simple definition and causes of statelessness. Giving a good description of what it is and how you can become stateless. This website is going to be very useful whole writing the topic synopsis. It helped me get the basic understanding of what being stateless means and how you can become stateless.

Manu, Ashika. “#IBelong: The UNHCR's Global Campaign End Statelessness By 2024.” *The Organization for World Peace*, 14 Nov. 2017, theowp.org/reports/ibelong-the-unhcrs-global-campaign-end-statelessness-by-2024/.

This website talks about what the UN has done in the past to fight statelessness. Also, about UNHCR new campaign #IBelong that was started in 2014 and already has made a big difference in 4 years. This website explains more about their new campaign #IBelong that has helped many countries and list all ten steps in said campaign. Unlike the first website that focuses on the history and new campaign of UNHCR, while the first site was just about what statelessness was. With their new campaign, seeing all the steps they thought about and seeing all the countries that they have helped already. This website will be very beneficial for when you right about what the Un has done to help end statelessness

“Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons.” OHCHR, [www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/StatelessPersons.aspx](http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/StatelessPersons.aspx).

The Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons was adopted on September 28, 1954. Its main points were to define the term “stateless person”, religion, non-discrimination, rights and many more.

This website shows us what the Un has already done to try to help statelessness. This goes more in depth about this convention instead of the new campaign. This website really shows even back than in the 1950s to help the stateless person.

“What Is Statelessness?” The International Observatory on Statelessness, nationalityforall.org/whatis.

Statelessness person was first defined in the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons. But many disagreed and do not define stateless persons the same. This gives a better understanding of what statelessness is and the first website. With using the first website, also using this website will both help with the overall background.

Deutsche Welle. “Invisible and Vulnerable, World's Stateless Face Bleak Future | DW | 29.08.2011.” DW.COM, [www.dw.com/en/invisible-and-vulnerable-worlds-stateless- face-bleak-future/a-15350795](http://www.dw.com/en/invisible-and-vulnerable-worlds-stateless-%09face-bleak-future/a-15350795).

34-year-old mother of four, Oftoboy Kadibayeva, used to have passports for the Soviet Union, but became stateless after the inner-ethnic violence in Kyrgyzstan. This article tells a story about Oftoboy’s experience from belonging to a state to becoming stateless. This article shows just the horrors of what violence and how fast someone can become stateless.

“Ending Statelessness.” *UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency,* United Nations,

<http://www.unhcr.org/en-us/stateless-people.html>.

This source clarifies the circumstances in which a person is considered stateless according to the UNHCR. It includes detailed information on the main four causes of statelessness. This source is objective. Facts from this article would be in background.

Weissbordt, David, and Clay Collins. “The Human Rights of Stateless Persons.” *Scholarship Repository,* University of Minnesota Law School, 2006, [https://scholarship.law.umn.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1416&context=faculty\_artic les](https://scholarship.law.umn.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1416&context=faculty_artic%09les).

This PDF includes text from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other relevant conventions such as the 1954 Convention on Stateless Persons. Because of the focus on organizations and the UN, this would be in UN Involvement. This is objective.

Lambert, Héléne. “Statelessness Is an Evil That Has Been Hidden for Too Long.” *The Guardian,* Guardian News and Media, 5 Nov. 2014,

[https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/nov/05/statelessness-evil-hidden- long-un-refugee-agency](https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/nov/05/statelessness-evil-hidden-%09long-un-refugee-agency).

This news article explains what the UNHCR has done regarding providing protection for stateless persons while also focusing on what more can be done on this issue. This would be in UN Involvement. This source is biased against deporting stateless persons which is stated to be believed to cause forced displacement.

Waas, Lauran Van, et al. “The World’s Stateless.” *European Network on Statelessness,* 15 Dec. 2014,

[https://www.statelessness.eu/blog/world%E2%80%99s-stateless-new-report-why-size- does-and-doesn%E2%80%99t-matter](https://www.statelessness.eu/blog/world%E2%80%99s-stateless-new-report-why-size-%09does-and-doesn%E2%80%99t-matter).

This website addresses much of the issues that many countries been reluctant to address such as insubstantial data collection. It also provides worldwide statistics reported by the UNHCR, the most recent report being from 2014. This is objective. Information from this could be in both possible solutions and background.

“Stateless Persons.” *Icelandic Human Rights Centre,*

[http://www.humanrights.is/en/human-rights-education-project/human-rights-concepts- ideas-and-fora/the-human-rights-protection-of-vulnerable-groups/stateless-persons](http://www.humanrights.is/en/human-rights-education-project/human-rights-concepts-%09ideas-and-fora/the-human-rights-protection-of-vulnerable-groups/stateless-persons).

This source expands on the responsibility of supervision and its importance in the international community, proving its points with the legislation passed by the European, Inter-American, and the International Criminal Justice Courts. This is objective. This would be in background or country involvement.