

Committee: NATO

Country: Denmark

Agenda: Syrian Civil War

Delegate: Melek Sena Altınok (MERMUN delegation)

The Syrian Civil War is a conflict that began between the Syrian army, the Syrian government and internal rebels in Syria, later joined by the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, Al-Nusra and some Kurdish, Turkmen, Druze and Assyrian groups, and more recently by external forces such as Russia, Iran, the United States, Turkey and Israel, in a limited and regular manner. The civil war began on March 15, 2011, and spread throughout the country by April 2011. It had global effects outside the country. Some of the main challenges that this created were mass migration of civilians fleeing government oppression, intervention by armed groups and international forces, the conflict became more complex and intractable, opposition groups began to include "jihadist" and "al-Qaeda" affiliates, and international and regional forces became involved in the war. In addition, civil war has caused immigrant density and problems in some countries such as Turkey. The complexity of war, the involvement of many local, regional and global actors, the constant emergence of new actors and the increase in variables affecting the conflict environment have brought to life. We considered the situation in Damascus safe and did not give residence permits to Syrian refugees, and we were criticized for this. In addition, after a while, we decided that the civil war in Syria had ended and a safe environment had been created for return, and we started the process of canceling the residence permits of Syrian asylum seekers. We also stated that we would provide financial aid to Syrian asylum seekers who voluntarily want to return to their country. We rejected their residence permits, thinking they were safe, and rejected the residence applications of approximately 189 Syrians last summer. Some of the actions we took were that we decided to send ground troops to Syria under the name of "fighting ISIS". The unit consisted of 400 specially trained soldiers, F-16 fighter jets and a Hercules-type special combat aircraft, and we provided them. We became the first European country to cancel the residence status of Syrian refugees, and we received a lot of backlash for this. We pointed out that our government should sit at the negotiating table with the Bashar Assad regime for this problem and that a temporary government should be established. Some of our solutions for this are to continue peace efforts, to support militia groups with nuclear agreements and to resort to sanctions in situations that cause and criticize this, and to ensure border security. Our government has done everything it can to help Syria and is kind of dying to do so. Our sensitivity to human rights pushes us to help them and we are proud of that.

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