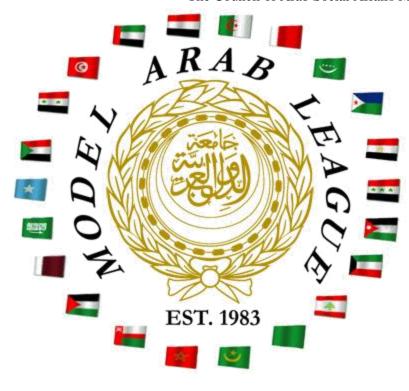
The Council of Arab Social Affairs Ministers



2014 - 2015

Model Arab League

BACKGROUND GUIDE

Council of Arab Social Affairs Ministers

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Original draft by Kandice Miles, Chair of the Council of Arab Social Affairs Ministers at the 2015 National University Model Arab League, with contributions from the dedicated staff and volunteers at the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations

Honorable Delegates,

Welcome to the 2014-2015 Model Arab League and the Council of Arab Social Affairs Ministers. My name is Kandice Miles and it is a privilege to serve as the Chair of this council for the National University Model Arab League Conference. I am a junior at Converse College in Spartanburg, SC, and I am majoring in Chemistry. This is my third year with the Model Arab League programs and my second year chairing for the Model Arab League. This is my first time chairing for the National University Model Arab League Conference as the Council of Arab Social Affairs Ministers Chair.

The Council of Arab Social Affairs Ministers is vital to the Arab League, and the topics that you will address will cover significant challenges facing the region. I encourage all delegates to research your country's policies on each individual topic as well as other challenges facing the region. I hope that each delegate will arrive to council fully prepared to debate with inclusive research and solutions. I look forward to meeting and working with you all.

Best of Luck,

Kandice Miles

Topic I: Evaluating policies directed to those outside of traditional family structures, such as, but not limited to, widows, orphans, and those with disabilities, and their specific rights to health, education, and welfare

I. Introduction to the Topic

A. General Background

While the challenges faced by the often marginalized groups named in this topic, and the policy prescriptions addressing them, are not new to the Arab world they have only grown more acute with civil conflict, political unrest, and war spreading across parts of the region. Much of the focus has been on the women and children left behind after male family members have been killed in conflict, but there are other marginalized groups that lack the support of the traditional family structure in everyday life.

The extended family unit is the fundamental unit of traditional Arab culture; children typically live with their families until they are married, children are expected to care for their parents when they grow old, and widowed mothers often receive assistance from large family networks. The family "also provides security and support in times of individual and societal stress." However, as a result of conflicts or social circumstances, not everyone has familial support. Even in times of peace, those outside of traditional family structures struggle to gain access to essential services such as healthcare, education, and housing. Impractical infrastructure and a lack of appropriate skills training can result in poverty, isolation, and homelessness.

With continued conflict in populated urban areas, both innocent civilians and active fighters are killed, leaving behind survivors who must simultaneously mourn the loss of a loved one while fending for one's own survival, without support or income.² The cost of conflict has diminished state resources, and in several countries even the physical infrastructure has been destroyed by conflict. Other important sources of support in embattled communities such as United Nations operations, as well as religious charities, have faced significant challenges, severing communities from critical relief and resources. The exact number of the number of widows, orphans, or disabled people in the Arab states is not known, exacerbating the challenges of this topic.

B. History of the Topic in the Arab World

In some parts of the Arab League, it can be challenging for women to gain access to all services outside the home without a male family escort.³ Family law varies between states, but often involves husbands or fathers as primary contacts for marriage, divorce, healthcare, and in some

¹ Barakat, Haim. "The Arab Family and the Challenge of Change." *Teachmideast.org.* The Arab World, 1993. Web 5 Sept. 2014. http://acc.teachmideast.org/texts.php?module_id=8&reading_id=13&sequence=2

² Shurafa, Sara. "Arab Orphans Day: The Forgotten Children." *Gulfnews.com*. The Gulf News, 6 Apr. 2012. Web. 17 Aug. 2014. http://gulfnews.com/news/arab-orphans-day-the-forgotten-children-1.1004917.

³ Associated Press, The. "A Look at the Rights of Women in Arab Countries." *haaretz.com*. The Associated Press, 8 Mar. 2014. Web. 17 Aug. 2014. http://www.haaretz.com/news/middle-east/1.578635.

cases, freedom of travel.⁴ This limits widows' access to financial resources, and can complicate efforts to obtain typical social support. Social and cultural constraints can limit the type of work available to women, and disparities in educational systems can lead to long-term disadvantages in the workplace and community. As a result, widows may face difficulty providing for their families. The challenge, then, is not to criticize individual state's laws or societies, but instead focusing on improving the health and welfare of widows overall, as well as that of the families they are providing for.

The number of orphans in the Middle East is growing each year with ongoing and emerging conflicts across the region. It is estimated that there are over 5 million orphans in Iraq alone. These children face a multitude of challenges; while state, civil, and non-governmental institutions may meet the basic needs required for orphans' survival, they are simply unable to ensure long-term, independent, successful integration into society. Orphans are not allowed to take their adoptive parents' name due to the inheritance laws in many Arab countries, which can lead to social stigmatization. Further, adoption as such is strictly regulated according to religious affiliation and family lines. Family and inheritance laws play a significant role in how adoption is perceived across the region. Ideally, relatives will assume responsibility for an orphaned child, but specific conditions required for legal adoption can mean that many children grow up without a family support system or rights to inheritance. For example, Moroccan adoption law requires that the adoption process may only be undertaken by "virtuous Muslim couples, both morally and socially responsible, who have sufficient means to support the needs of the child," and Islamic law requires that adopted children's inheritance rights differ from biological rights.

Mentally or physically handicapped Arabs face significant challenges obtaining appropriate education and healthcare because infrastructure may be unsafe or inaccessible, and because practitioners may lack the training to effectively serve those with disabilities. ¹⁰ These vulnerable members of society do not have equal opportunity to thrive because their special needs cannot be accommodated in some areas of the region. Awareness of certain disabilities may also inhibit

⁴PBS. "Wide Angle: Family Law in the Middle East and North Africa." *PBS.org.* 25 July 2006. Web. 10 September 2014. http://www.pbs.org/wnet/wideangle/episodes/class-of-2006/map-family-law-in-the-middle-east-and-north-africa/map/2000/

⁵ Shurafa, Sara. "Arab Orphans Day: The Forgotten Children." *Gulfnews.com*. The Gulf News, 6 Apr. 2012. Web. 17 Aug. 2014. http://gulfnews.com/news/arab-orphans-day-the-forgotten-children-1.1004917.

⁶ Ibid

⁷Abulnasr, Shannon. "Muslim Orphans: Are Their Cries Less Real?" *onislam.net*. Onislam, 19 June 2013. Web. 17 Aug. 2014. http://www.onislam.net/english/reading-islam/living-islam/463176-muslim-orphans-are-their-cries-less-real.html.

⁸ Hamouda, Salah Hesham. "Islamic Inheritance Law Reform: the Problem of Orphaned Grandchildren's Inheritance Rights." The American University in Cairo Digital Archive Reserve Repository. *Daraucegypt.ecu*. 29 May 2011. Web. 10 September 2014. http://dar.aucegypt.edu/handle/10526/2256

⁹ Al Arabiya News. "Moroccan Adoption Law Change Leaves Foreigners in Limbo." *English.Al-Arabiya.net*. Al-Arabiya News. 21 April 2013. Web. 10 September 2014.

http://english.alarabiya.net/en/perspective/2013/04/21/Moroccan-adoption-law-change-leaves-foreigners-in-limbo-.html

¹⁰ UN Special Rapporteur on Disability. "Disability in the Arab World." *Srdisability.org*. United Nations Special Rapporteur on Disability: Reports. January 2007. Web. 10 September 2014. http://www.srdisability.org/articles/disabilityarab-jan07.html

families from properly addressing the issue. Lastly, disabilities can also be stigmatized, further alienating an already disconnected demographic. ¹¹

C. Finding a Solution to the Problem: Past, Present, and Future

In discussing how to ensure the basic rights for these disadvantaged members of society, the Social Affairs Council may want to focus on current region-wide circumstances and examine hindrances to improving the lives of those without traditional family structures. Being cognizant of family laws and social customs, resolutions should acknowledge these traditions while finding ways to bring relief and basic services to needy constituents. Resolutions might also address the need for a pan-Arab solution that will sustain these groups in the future; in addition, legislation and programming already in place in various member states should be examined and reviewed for possible implementation across the League.

II. Questions to Consider in Your Research

- What laws in my country inhibit the rights of vulnerable populations in my country?
- How have recent events and conflicts affected and added to the challenges of those members of society without familial support?
- What steps, if any, has my government taken to protect the rights of these people?
- How accessible are healthcare, safe housing and education for widows, orphans, and the disabled communities currently in my country?

III. Questions a Resolution Might Answer

- How should the League of Arab States approach the increase in number of people living without traditional family structures?
- What can be done to promote awareness of those with disabilities and their rights?
- How can the League ensure the basic needs of these members of society will be met and their rights will be upheld?
- What can be done to protect these vulnerable populations during periods of conflict?

IV. Additional Resources to Review

Kehoe, Karrie. "Women's Rights in the Arab World" http://af.reuters.com/article/comorosNews/idAFL5N0IN06T20131112

"World Programme of Action Concerning Disabled Persons" http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/enable/diswpa01.htm

Finer, Jonathan. "Orphans in Iraq's Storm" http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/09/01/AR2006090101526.html

¹¹ Al Thani, Hissa. "Disability in the Arab Region: Current Situation and Prospects." Behinderung und Dritte Welt, Journal for Disability and International Development. March 2006. Web. 10 September 2014. http://www.iiz-dvv.de/index.php?article_id=137&clang=1

Topic II: Discussing the roles of refugees and foreign workers in host societies and considering increased opportunities for citizens of Arab League member states

I. Introduction to the Topic

A. General Background

This topic is relatively unique, combining refugee and foreign worker issues into one topic dealing with non-citizen residents in Arab League member states. The fact that the topic only asks delegates to discuss these demographics' roles in host societies indicates that the impetus of the topic is on the latter part, increasing opportunities for refugees and foreign workers hailing from League member states. While many past topics have dealt with refugees and foreign workers, this topic specifically asks for special consideration for the League citizens among those groups.

B. History of the Topic in the Arab World

Ongoing conflicts across the region have resulted in a great many refugees crossing, and sometimes re-crossing, member states' borders. These refugees are largely being provided the basic necessities to survive by the host country with international assistance, but the massive requirements have taken a toll on host countries' people, infrastructure, and economies. Over three million Palestinian refugees fall under the scope of this topic ¹², as well as millions of Syrians, Iraqis, Somalis, Yemenis, Libyans, and others across the region.

Additionally, migrant and foreign labor makes up a significant part of the skilled and unskilled workforce in the Arab Gulf countries as well as in others. In Qatar for example, which has received heavy criticism for working conditions for unskilled and construction laborers, the workforce is 94% foreign. The Council of Arab Social Affairs Ministers is tasked with considering how countries might utilize labor for fellow League member states, particularly those where unemployment is high.

Conflicts in the region have led to the displacement of hundreds of thousands of people from their homes in order to escape violence, either becoming refugees in other countries or internally displaced persons, sometimes destabilizing the host country. ¹⁴ Currently there are over 2,000,000 Syrians seeking refuge in neighboring countries including Turkey, Iraq, Lebanon, and Jordan. ¹⁵ A majority of these refugees are under the age of 18. ¹⁶ Most refugees are living in camps and subsisting on bare minimum supplies of food and water. Other fleeing foreign nationals have been flooding local real estate markets causing an increase in rental prices. The host countries are largely responsible, with the help of relief organizations, for providing the physical space for

16 Ibid.

¹² United Nations Relief and Works Agency. "Palestinian Refugees." http://www.unrwa.org/palestine-refugees. Calamur, Krishnadev. "Foreign Workers Abused in Qatar, Report Says." National Public Radio, 18 November 2013. http://www.npr.org/blogs/parallels/2013/11/18/245990852/foreign-workers-abused-in-qatar-report-says.

14 Guzansky, Yoel and Erez Striem. "The 'Arab Spring' and Refugees in the Middle East." reliefweb.int. The Institute for National Security Studies, 12 Dec. 2013. Web. 19 Aug. 2014. http://reliefweb.int/report/syrian-arab-republic/arab-spring-and-refugees-middle-east.

15 Ibid.

camps as well as a myriad of resources like food, water, electricity, and housing, putting a significant strain on the host country. The refugees are causing host country fatigue as several states simply don't have the capacity to sustain large refugee populations for an indeterminate length of time.¹⁷

Several states, particularly in the Arabian Gulf, have received criticism for systemic mistreatment and under- or non-payment of foreign workers by employers. When countries with high unemployment rates try to improve their economic outlook by setting limits on the number of foreign workers allowed entry for work purposes, the countries' own residents are not eager to take those positions due to negative perceptions of certain types of work in the service industry, manual labor and construction. These jobs are considered inferior because they are unskilled and have historically been held by foreign workers. Young people would prefer opportunities that match their interests and academic backgrounds. As a result, dependence on foreign workers continues and member states' unemployment rates are increasing.

C. Finding a Solution to the Problem: Past, Present, and Future

Addressing the issue of the roles of refugees in their host country will need both long term and a short term solutions. Attention should be paid to those hosting the refugees and expatriate workers, but also what those being hosted can contribute to host societies – many refugees and foreign workers are skilled such as doctors, lawyers, engineers, academics, etc.. Delegates will grapple with questions of whether member states have special obligations to citizens of their fellow League member states, and what should be done to aid those states who are carrying the burden of hosting large numbers of refugees. It may be necessary to address the issue of migrant labor in the context of the dramatic increase of displaced Arabs who are now seeking opportunities elsewhere. The solutions offered might address the need to employ refugees while also working with member states to lower their unemployment rates. A solution will likely also examine the rights of the migrant workers.

II. Ouestions to Consider in Your Research

- What is my country's policy on refugees and migrant workers?
- What percentage of the workforce are migrant workers?
- What has my country done to protect the rights of refugees and migrant workers?
- What number/percentage of refugees does my country have?

¹⁷ Carberry, Sean. "Syrian Refugees May Be Wearing Out Turk's Welcome." npr.org. National Public Radio, 11 Mar. 2012. Web. 19 Aug. 2014. http://www.npr.org/2012/03/11/148327930/syrian-refugees-may-be-wearing-out-turks-welcome.

¹⁸ Calamur, Krishnadev. "Foreign Workers Abused in Qatar." npr.org. National Public Radio, 18 Nov. 2013. http://www.npr.org/blogs/parallels/2013/11/18/245990852/foreign-workers-abused-in-qatar-report-says.

¹⁹ Adelman, Carol. "Saudi Arabia's Deportation of Foreign Workers Will Exacerbate Middle Eastern Economic Weakness." *forbes.com.* Forbes.com, 22 Dec. 2013. Web. 1 Aug. 2014.

http://www.forbes.com/sites/realspin/2013/12/22/saudi-arabias-deportation-of-foreign-workers-will-exacerbate-middle-eastern-economic-weakness/>.

III. Questions a Resolution Might Answer

- What can governments do to help integrate refugees into society?
- What can the League do to lower fatigue on the host countries?
- How can the League provide protection to migrant workers?

IV. Resources to Review

Valley, Bekaa. "As Syria Bleeds, Neighbors Brace for Refugees." http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/02/10/us-syria-refugees-idUSTRE81919W20120210

"Guest Workers"

http://lewishistoricalsociety.com/wiki2011/tiki-read_article.php?articleId=25

"Go Home, but Who Will Replace You?"

 $\underline{http://www.economist.com/news/middle-east-and-africa/21589871-saudi-edict-limit-reliance-foreign-workers-fraught}$

"Migrant Rights" http://www.migrant-rights.org/

Topic III: Assessing the accelerating rate of globalization and its effects on Arab identity in the context of Arab cultural progression and preservation

I. Introduction to the Topic

A. General Background

Thanks to an advent of technology, global communication, and increased international connections, barriers which traditionally divided the world are increasing being broken down. The trend of globalization has effects on many levels of society, from economic to cultural, and the Arab world is no exception to these shifts. These manifest in products, media, language, etc. While these exchanges offer certain benefits and new opportunities, there is also valid concern about the impacts of globalization on local cultures, not least in the Arab world. The question facing the Council is how to join the global world in a way which benefits the citizens of member states but does not abandon nor endanger deeply valued regional cultures.

B. History of the Topic in the Arab World

Due to a history of empire, colonization, and its advantageous geographic location for global trade, international/external presence is not a new phenomenon in the Arab world. The history of the region has seen outside powers vying for rule, colonial and mandate powers disrupting and restructuring political and social institutions, as well as great interest in the economic advantages of ports and natural resources in the region. This nuanced history of outside influence in the area provides an important context for the new trend of globalization; delegates should remember that, historically, international influence has often been detrimental to member states. Yet in the modern time, the Arab world's participation is critical to the world economy, not only as a source of hydrocarbons but also as a market of over 300 million people. This demonstrates the potential hazards as well as benefits that globalization may offer, making an examination of globalization timely and pertinent.

The role of oil, natural gas, and phosphates is vital in the global economy; the member states of the Arab League produce around 30% of the world's oil, and Saudi Arabia alone has 16% of the world's proven petroleum reserves and is the largest exporter of petroleum in the world. Additionally, Morocco holds 75% of the world's phosphate reserves, is the world's first exporter of phosphates and third producer. Other member states also possess considerable economic influence or potential for the world economy, and exchange of these goods in the world market can mean economic benefit for citizens, as well as cultural exchange.

However, this exchange can tend toward Westernization and other shifts in both Arab identity and culture. Music, TV, and other aspects of popular culture often come from countries like the

²⁰ Shah, Anup. "The Historic Struggle for Control of Resources." Globalissues.org. 30 December 2002. Web. 10 September 2014. http://www.globalissues.org/article/260/control-of-resources-supporting-dictators-rise-of-terrorism ²¹ CIA World Fact Book. "Saudi Arabia." CIA.gov. 3 September 2014. Web. https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/sa.html

²² CIA World Fact Book. "Morocco." CIA.gov. 3 September 2014. Web. https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/mo.html

United States. While this is not inherently bad, the League has a responsibility to examine how the region can benefit from globalization without eradicating Arab cultural contributions to the world.

C. Finding a Solution to the Problem: Past, Present, and Future

When seeking a balance between seeking the benefits of globalization and retaining Arab culture along the way, the Council must look for realistic solutions that bring out the best Arab culture has to offer. Globalization is the new norm, neither a single event nor even limited trend. Within this framework, however, there are many options for a solution. A pan-Arab approach may be taken to preserve the more commonly shared aspects of Arab culture, or resolutions may look to specializing approaches to protect more distinct cultural aspects (for example Maghreb music or Levantine food or Gulfi poetry). Solutions should offer a way to safeguard culture without limiting the benefits that globalization and participation in the world marketplace may offer, especially given the resources that many member states possess, and consequently the gains which citizens stand to reap through economic activity.

II. Questions to Consider in Your Research

- How is my country's culture being threatened by globalization?
- How is globalization affecting my country?
- How is my country protecting its culture present currently?

III. Questions a Resolution Might Answer

- How can the League protect current Arab culture?
- How can globalization help the League advance economically?
- How will globalization affect the League?

IV. Resources to Review

"The Arab World and Globalization: Challenges and Opportunities" http://www.lcps-lebanon.org/activities/1323341619-
The%20Arab%20World%20and%20Globalization%20Challenges%20and%20Opportunities.pdf

"Impact of Globalization":

http://middleeasttribune.wordpress.com/impact-of-globalization/

Mishra, Girish. "Globalization and Culture" http://www.stateofnature.org/?p=6292

Altwaijri, Abdulaziz. "Globalization and the Cultural Life in the Islamic World" http://www.futureislam.com/20051101/insight/a othman altwaijri/Globalization and the Cultural_Life.asp

Topic IV: Exploring actions to prevent youth involvement in conflict and war with a special focus on providing effective education systems and rehabilitating and reintegrating those affected back into society

I. Introduction to the Topic

A. General Background

Hot wars are raging across the region, including Libya, Syria, Iraq, and simmering civil discontent in some countries and stress on the entire region from neighboring conflicts is a tangible threat. While these challenges threaten society at large, losing youth to violent conflict is painful for families, as well as the economy, civil society, etc. Especially in the Middle East, where 63% of the population is under the age of 30, efforts must be made to prevent losing the youth to such conflict. ²³

The focus of this topic is essentially to avoid ruining the next generation by reducing their role in regional hot conflicts. This is not only an issue for the countries in which these conflicts are taking place. In Syria, for example, as many as 12,000 foreign fighters are involved with radical groups – a large majority originates from Arab countries, and many are young men – opening the door for radicalized youth returning home after the war. ²⁴ The trend can be extended for years into the past, including conflicts like Iraq, Afghanistan, Chechnya, Algeria, and many others, where foreigners fight abroad and return home radicalized and psychologically damaged from war.

The topic also delineates the thrust of solutions the Council should consider: 1) prevention through education and the increased opportunities it provides, and 2) addressing those already damaged by war through rehabilitation and reintegration programs.

B. History of the Topic in the Arab World

For several years the youth population has been growing. It is the largest age group in the Middle East and it is the age group with the highest unemployment rate. ²⁵ This demographic shift has been demonstrated in a variety of ways, perhaps most notably through its role in the Arab Spring. Beginning in Tunisia and spreading to Libya, Egypt, Syria, Yemen, and Bahrain, with protests also occurring in Morocco, Algeria, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Oman, and Kuwait. ²⁶ In addition to demands to address unemployment, goals of the Arab Spring evolved to be wider ranging, seeking a general improvement in quality of life and social and civil liberties.

²³ Slackman, Michael. "Bullets Stall Youthful Push for Arab Spring." *nytimes.com*. The New York Times, 17 Mar. 2011. Web. 21 Aug. 2014.

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/03/18/world/middleeast/18youth.html?pagewanted=all&_r=0>.

²⁴ Hashim, Mohaned. "Iraq and Syria: Who are the Foreign Fighters?" BBC News. 3 September 2014. http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-29043331

²⁵ Schwartz, Stephanie. "Youth and the 'Arab Spring'." *usip.org*. The United States Institute for Peace, 28 Apr. 2011. Web. 21 Aug. 2014. http://www.usip.org/publications/youth-and-the-arab-spring

²⁶ "Arab Uprising: Country by Country." BBC News. 16 December 2013. 3 September 2014. Web. http://www.bbc.com/news/world-12482297

Unfortunately, these movements have also led to conflict in the region; Egypt, Libya, and most intensely, Syria and Iraq, have suffered violence in this context. This violence ranges from protests turning aggressive to riot, the rise of militants, and full-fledged war. This escalation of intensity and violence in the area naturally affects youth, and has led to many leaving their daily life to fight or flee; this means leaving school, work, and family. Addressing this topic means preventing or mitigating such consequences through educational opportunities, and seeking to reintegrate those who have already been impacted back into society.

D. Finding a Solution to the Problem: Past, Present, and Future

In seeking to address this complex situation, the council must formulate both long term and short term approaches. The immediate need of currently-affected youth is paramount. The most high profile example of reintegration programs is Saudi Arabia's semi-successful de-radicalization program for former fighters, still a work in progress. However, the bigger picture of ongoing conflict must also be considered. While long term peace which will provide safety, security, and greater quality of life for all members of the Arab world is certainly the ultimate goal, the topic seeks a medium-term solution in education. While not all countries within the League are directly involved in these conflicts, the region at large is hugely shaped by such events, and finding solutions is thusly for the benefit of all member states.

An education system better equipped to not only address violence but also provide adequate alternative opportunities to violence can provide safety to youth and direct them toward more productive, secure futures. This means considering education from primary school through higher education, and how these students can be absorbed into the work force. Providing for those citizens who have suffered disruptions to their education, employment, or family life (IE refugees) is an acute challenge; institutional changes alone will not provide for the immediate needs of many tragically impacted by violence and unrest throughout the Arab world.

II. Questions to Consider in Your Research

- What is the current youth situation in my country?
- How has the "Arab Spring" affected my country and my country's youth?
- What educational systems are currently in my country and how are they helping the youth to find employment?
- How is my country helping youth adapt to regular society after being involved in conflict and war?

III. Questions a Resolution Might Answer

- What can the League do to prevent youth involvement in conflicts and wars?
- How can the League provide improve employment opportunities to the youth?
- How can the League provide help to those who have been victims of conflict and war?
- How can the League address the larger context of conflict in the region?

²⁷ Porges, Marisa L. "The Saudi Deradicalization Experiment." Council on Foreign Relations. 22 January 2010. http://www.cfr.org/radicalization-and-extremism/saudi-deradicalization-experiment/p21292

IV. Resources to Review

United Nations Refugee Agency: Jordan

http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/country.php?id=103

United Nations Refugee Agency: Syira

http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php

Stewart, Cameron. "Is Syria Turning Our Idealistic Youth into Hardened Jihadis?" http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/features/is-syria-turning-our-idealistic-youth-into-hardened-jihadis/story-e6frg6z6-1226630278661?nk=b6028eb79e7c19e014820722fee61141

"Youth in the Arab States: Catalyst for Change" http://www.unfpa.org/public/site/global/home/news/pid/8101