United Nations General Assembly

International Intervention in Separatist Movements

Study Guide

Matúš Petrovský
Letter from the President

Esteemed delegates,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 14th year of Bratislava Model United Nations conference on behalf of the organizing team. We are very grateful for the opportunity to host such event and excited to meet many ambitious and enthusiastic people from around the world. The organizing team put lot of effort into the preparation of this exceptional event and was determined and eager to ensure that you, dear delegates, will experience enriching debates, expand your knowledge in issues of global importance, and enjoy yourselves exploring Bratislava.

My name is Matúš Petrovský and I have the honour to preside over the MUN General Assembly at BratMUN 2014. I am an International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme student at Gymnázium Jura Hronca in Bratislava. My experience with Model United Nations began last year at BratMUN 2013. I participated as an underchair in United Nations Human Rights Committee. Since then I participated as a delegate at ZAMUN 2014 which gave me the insight into what difficulties you, honourable delegates, will be facing in the upcoming weeks. BratMUN 2014 will be the first MUN Conference that I will have the opportunity to preside over. It will be very challenging for me, but, on the flipside, I am very honoured and grateful to face such challenge.

Choosing an interesting and engaging topic for the General Assembly is a difficult task. My main goal when choosing the topic for General Assembly was to make every delegate eager to express his/her opinion on an issue of global importance and get engaged in a vivid debate. International Intervention in Separatist Movements is one such topic. Current Ukrainian Crisis had great impact upon my decision making process regarding the topic. I truly hope that you, dear delegates, will find the topic interesting.

Separatist movements question the political and geographic integrity of the states involved and often play a stimulating role in future conflicts. Separatist movements are often results of ethical, religious, racist, or political oppressions. The topic relates to all the member states of the United Nations as the domestic and international political stability is at stake and therefore you should not be discouraged by the country you will have the opportunity to represent. I recommend checking the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of your country to clarify your country’s standpoint on recent separatist movements and positions of ethnic minorities in your countries.

I hope that BratMUN 2014 will be a rewarding, unforgettable, and inspiring experience for us all. I am looking forward to seeing you all in early November.

Matúš Petrovský
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What is the United Nations General Assembly?

The United Nations consists of six principal bodies: the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council, the International Court of Justice, and the Secretariat. Furthermore, the United Nations family is much larger, consisting of several other agencies, programmes, and bodies. The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) is the main deliberative body of the United Nations. On top of that, UNGA is the only principal body where each one of the 192 United Nations member states is equally represented and has the same voting rights, as opposed to, for example, the Security Council, which grants unique veto rights to five nations. The first session of the UNGA took place on 10th January 1946 in the Westminster Central Hall in London. Currently, the UNGA is located at United Nations Headquarters in New York. The extraordinarily important agenda of the UNGA covers overseeing the UN budget, appointing non-permanent members to the Security Council, receiving reports from other parts of the UN and making recommendations in the form of General Assembly Resolutions.

Suggestions for further reading:


UN General Assembly http://www.unfoundation.org/what-we-do/issues/united-nations/the-general-assembly.html
Introduction to the topic

International Intervention in Separatist Movements is a very broad topic touching upon wide areas of issues regarding geographic and political integrity of individual countries, violation of international law and discrimination of ethnic and religious minorities. I was inspired by current Ukrainian Crisis and recent conflict in Serbia/Kosovo, when choosing the topic. However, the goal of our debate will not be resolving these particular issues. On the flipside, it will be very useful to be very familiar with recent separatist movements and further conflicts as it will help you develop and support your arguments. There will be two main questions in our discussion upon which you will need to make a standpoint in your position papers.

1. Under what criteria do ethnic/religious/racial minorities have right to self-determination?
2. To what extent should the international community have right to intervene in separatist movements/ attempts of self-determination to prevent potential conflict and eliminate negative consequences?

In other words, our debate will not focus on resolving current Ukrainian Crisis or recent genocide in Serbia/Kosovo (to avoid stereotypes, bias, and conflict), but we will try to come up with a resolution upon which the international community should act in a similar crisis scenario, a resolution which will prevent and combat such actions in the future.

What is a Separatist Movement?

Separatist movement, or separatism, is the advocacy of a state of cultural, ethnic, tribal, religious, racial, governmental, or gender separation from the larger group.¹ Separatist movements are often accompanied by violation of human rights and international law. For example, recent Russian annexation of Crimea was in violation of international law according to the Western powers, because “the referendum seemed inconsistent with the Ukrainian constitution, which says all Ukrainians would have to vote on Crimea’s secession – not just those living in Crimea”² and presence of Russian troops in Crimea during the referendum. On the other hand, declaration of self-government in Kosovo was questioned by other parties and examined by the International Court of Justice, which

¹ Definition of a separatist movement
(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Separatist_movement)
² Why the Crimean referendum is illegal?; Lea Brilmayer, The Guardian
(http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/mar/14/crimean-referendum-illegal-international-law)
eventually recalled its conclusions, [that the adoption of the declaration of independence of 17 February 2008 did not violate general international law, or the Constitutional Framework]. Conflicts associated with separatist movements pose a vital threat to not only integrity of a country, but also peace and security of the region. Such movements may be referred to as regional separatism. Furthermore, separatist movements may be distinguished by the origin of the motivation of the movement. Accordingly, separatist movements may be based upon religion, economic status, geographic status/position, race, ethnicity, and gender. You will find more information about “Motivations for Separatist Movements” in the section below. Separatism is performed by separatists, who are the initializers and advocate cultural, ethnic, religious, or racial (etc.) separation. These people express desire to separate/secede because they feel oppressed or discriminated against by the larger group, or it might be to create greater unity or self-sufficiency among those in the group. Separatist movements are also called secession movements if the group wants to secede, or withdraw, from the larger political group and form their own state. If this is not the case, the separatist group usually aims to achieve greater autonomy or independence within a larger state while remain governed by the state and not establish its own state with independent government.

Vocabulary hint: Separatism “within national boundaries” refers to an event concerning only one country. Separatism “across national boundaries” refers to an event concerning more than one country.

Motivations for a Separatist Movement

In general, separatist groups are distinguished upon the origin of their motivation, as mentioned earlier. Consequently, we may encounter ethnic, racial, sexist, religious, geographic, socioeconomic, and political separatist groups. Their motivations for separatism originate from the oppression which stimulates their desire to secede.

Some motivations to consider regarding various separatist movements are:

- emotional resentment of rival communities
- protection from ethnic cleansing and genocide

3 International Court of Justice, Accordance with international law of the unilateral declaration of independence in respect of Kosovo, p. 14 (http://www.icj-cij.org/docket/files/141/16010.pdf)


5 Definition of separatist (http://www.thefreedictionary.com/separatist)
1992 separatist movement in Yugoslavia is an example of ethnic cleansing and genocide. In April 1992, the government of the Yugoslav republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina declared its independence from Yugoslavia. Over the next several years, Bosnian Serb forces, with the backing of the Serb-dominated Yugoslav army, targeted both Bosniak (Bosnian Muslim) and Croatian civilians for atrocious crimes resulting in the deaths of some 100,000 people (80 percent Bosniak) by 1995. It was the worst act of genocide since the Nazi regime’s destruction of some 6 million European Jews during World War II.⁶

- justified resistance by victims of oppression, including denigration of their language, culture or religion
  “During World War II, Soviet leader Joseph Stalin accused the Chechens of cooperating with the Nazis and forcibly deported the entire population to Kazakhstan and Siberia. Tens of thousands of Chechens died, and the survivors were allowed to return home only after Stalin's death.”⁷ Chechens are an ethnic minority living primarily in Russia’s North Caucasus region. For the past two hundred years, they have generally been governed by Moscow, though they have had varying degrees of de facto autonomy. After the fall of the Soviet Union, Chechen separatists launched a coordinated campaign for independence, which resulted in two devastating wars and an ongoing insurgency in Russia’s republic of Chechnya.

- propaganda by those who hope to gain politically from intergroup conflict and hatred

- the economic and political dominance of one group that does not share power and privilege in an egalitarian fashion
  Scottish referendum for Independent Scotland is an example of a separatist movement, or independence movement, which is partially based upon a belief that Scotland would be more prosperous if they could “[take responsibility by moving all Government Powers to Scotland and having a government of their choice]”⁸.

- economic motivations - seeking to end economic exploitation by a more powerful group or, conversely, to escape economic redistribution from a richer to a poorer group (economic inequality)

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⁶ Bosnian Genocide (http://www.history.com/topics/bosnian-genocide)
⁷ Chechen Terrorism (Russia, Chechnya, Separatist), Preeti Bhattacharji, April 8, 2010 on Council of Foreign Relations (http://www.cfr.org/separatist-terrorism/chechen-terrorism-russia-chechnya-separatist/p9181)
⁸ Independent Scotland, Resources and Views on the Scottish Referendum for an Independent Scotland (http://www.independentscotland.org/content/voting-yes-for-scottish-independence.htm)
Consequences of a Separatist Movement

Distinguished groups of people need motivation and determination to undergo the process of separation/secession. Once these groups, which feel oppressed and strive for more independence, decide to secede, their actions will have consequences which will have impact on political, economic, and social situation in the country. Importantly, separatist movements attract the attention of international community while they often are a source of conflict. Consequently, we may categorize the consequences of a separatist movement into three categories: political, economic, and social. These categories will have different costs to society and international community.

1. Political

If a separatist movement is accompanied by annexation of a territory and therefore by a violation of territorial integrity, domestic and international political situation is at stake. When territorial integrity of a state is violated, as we could have seen in Russian annexation of Crimea in March 2014, international law has been ignored and such actions consequently creates higher potential for disputes and conflicts. In such situations, international law is likely to be adjusted, domestic laws, war doctrines, and military strategies are likely to be altered. Legislature might be alternated as a result of political turmoil. Political relationships on both domestic and international basis will suffer. The public categorizes itself upon political preferences. Naturally, every nation is trying to defend its own interests. That is where the international community must intervene. However, under what conditions?

2. Social

Families easily break apart because of different opinions on separatism. Economic and political impacts on society are extensive in nature. War, increased criminality, protests, riots, demonstrations, and presence of police and military troops have negative impact on the society. Human rights are usually violated as a result of separatism. UNHRC is responsible to analyse and deal with such situations. For example, presence of military units, militia, or self-defence units (just like in eastern Ukraine) challenge basic human right to life, liberty and freedom, among others. If separatism is violent and extensive, people are likely to suffer economically. Unemployment may increase, people will lose their fixed income and suffer even more because the government might not be able to support the unemployed with benefits because it must use larger portion of government revenue to stabilize the unstable political and economic situation. Such conditions give people uncertainty.
Suggestions for further reading:

UNHRC on Ukrainian Crisis (pages 21-25)

3. Economic

If a separatist movement becomes violent and involves military intervention, the economic cost is very high. Countries under the influence of separatism will need to redistribute their resources in order to invest more into the military. Naturally, economic inequality is a big issue in today’s world and therefore, large percentage of a population will suffer because of the economic situation while a small percentage of oligarchs will keep its life standards. If separatism involves violence and military actions, economic costs increase because of destruction and increased military investment. On the flipside, separatist movement may be viewed as a positive stimulus for the economy since it motivates the government to increase government spending and the flow of financial capital in the economy increases rapidly. However, the economic costs of separatism are negative and very high regarding the changes in the political structure. The economy will suffer once economic sanctions are implemented by the international community, which has been a standard process in major separatist movements. For example, Russia and the European Union implemented economic sanctions upon each other as a result of political dispute over the Ukrainian Crisis. International trade will be hurt drastically as involved countries will limit their exports, imports, and set additional tariffs on exported and imported goods.

Examples of Separatist Movements

Soviet Union

The Soviet state was born in 1917. That year, the revolutionary Bolsheviks overthrew the Russian czar and established a socialist state in the territory that had once belonged to the Russian empire. In 1922, Russia proper joined its far-flung republics in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. The first leader of this Soviet state was the Marxist revolutionary Vladimir Lenin. It was ruled by a single party—the Communist Party—that demanded the allegiance of every Russian citizen. After 1924, when the dictator Joseph Stalin came to power, the state exercised totalitarian control over the economy, administering all industrial activity and establishing collective farms. It also controlled every aspect of political and social life. People who argued against Stalin’s policies were arrested.

9 Fall of the Soviet Union (http://www.history.com/topics/cold-war/fall-of-soviet-union)
and sent to labour camps or executed. In 1989 eastern European countries of
the Warsaw Pact, which had been beholden to the Soviet Union since the end of
World War II, had their communist governments replaced with non-communist
governments. Throughout 1989 Poland, East Germany, Hungary,
Czechoslovakia, Romania, and Bulgaria, which had been under Soviet control
since the end of World War II, established democratic governments and cut their
ties with the Soviet Union. On Christmas Day 1991, the Soviet flag flew over the
Kremlin in Moscow for the last time. A few days earlier, representatives from 11
Soviet republics (Ukraine, the Russian Federation, Belarus, Armenia, Azerbaijan,
Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan) met
in the Kazakh city of Alma-Ata and announced that they would no longer be part
of the Soviet Union. Consequently, the once-mighty Soviet Union had fallen.

Yugoslavia

Yugoslavia was first formed as a kingdom in 1918 and then recreated as a
Socialist state in 1945. Former Yugoslavia was made up of six constituent
countries, today known as Croatia, Serbia, Montenegro, Bosnia-Hercegovina,
Slovenia, and Macedonia. Serbia also had two autonomous provinces: Kosovo
and Vojvodina. The Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, formed in 1945,
started to fall apart by 1992 as the nationalism replaced communism and took
a dominant position in the Balkans, which caused disagreements among multiple
ethnicities within the country. Slovenia and then Croatia were the first to break
away, but only at the cost of renewed conflict with Serbia. The war in Croatia led
to hundreds of thousands of refugees and reawakened memories of the brutality
of the 1940s. As Bosnia declared independence in 1992, multiple conflicts
within Croats, Serbs, and Bosnians aroused as territorial integrity was at stake.

10 Fall of the Soviet Union (http://www.history.com/topics/cold-war/fall-of-soviet-
union)
11 Dissolution of the Soviet Union, Dallace W. Unger, Jr.
(http://www.publishyourarticles.net/knowledge-hub/history/dissolution-of-the-
soviet-union.html)
12 Dissolution of the Soviet Union, Dallace W. Unger, Jr.
(http://www.publishyourarticles.net/knowledge-hub/history/dissolution-of-the-
soviet-union.html)
13 Fall of the Soviet Union (http://www.history.com/topics/cold-war/fall-of-soviet-
union)
14 Separatism in Yugoslavia (http://prezi.com/kdbv8_wd63y/separatism-in-
yugoslavia/)
15 Timeline: Break-up of Yugoslavia, Disintegration
(http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/4997380.stm)
16 Timeline: Break-up of Yugoslavia, Disintegration
(http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/4997380.stm)
Some groups strived for separate state while other groups wanted to remain part of Yugoslavia. American pressure to end the war eventually led to the Dayton agreement of November 1995 which created two self-governing entities within Bosnia – the Bosnian Serb Republic and the Muslim (Bosnjak)-Croat Federation. Serbs within Bosnia-Herzegovina began a campaign of ethnic cleansing against the Bosniaks and Croats. Consequently, Croats took back most of the territory earlier captured by Serbs.

Until 1989, Kosovo enjoyed a high degree of autonomy within the former Yugoslavia, when Serbian leader Slobodan Milosevic altered the status of the region, removing its autonomy and bringing it under the direct control of Belgrade, the Serbian capital. The Kosovar Albanians strenuously opposed the move. In 1998, nine years after the abolition of Kosovo's autonomy, the Kosovo Liberation Army - supported by the majority ethnic Albanians - came out in open rebellion against Serbian rule. During 1998, open conflict between Serbian military and police forces and Kosovar Albanian forces resulted in the deaths of over 1,500 Kosovar Albanians and forced 400,000 people from their homes. International security was at stake which raised great concern to the international community. NATO and the United Nations intervened in order to resolve the conflict peacefully.

17 Timeline: Break-up of Yugoslavia, Dayton Peace Deal (http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/4997380.stm)
18 NATO’s Role in Relation to the Conflict in Kosovo (http://www.nato.int/kosovo/history.htm#B)
19 Timeline: Break-up of Yugoslavia, Kosovo Intervention (http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/4997380.stm)
20 NATO’s Role in Relation to the Conflict in Kosovo (http://www.nato.int/kosovo/history.htm#B)
The UN established UNMIK (United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo), marking the end of NATO intervention in Kosovo. UN Security Council authorized member states to establish a security presence to deter hostilities, demilitarize the KLA and facilitate the return of refugees. It also asked the Secretary-General to establish an international civil presence in Kosovo – the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) – in order to provide an interim administration for Kosovo under which the people could enjoy substantial autonomy and self-government.21

Suggestions for further reading:

- NATO’s intervention in Kosovo  http://www.nato.int/kosovo/history.htm#B

Ukraine

Ukraine used to be a part of the Soviet Union. Before the break-up of the Soviet Union in 1991, it was called The Ukraine. Ukraine has been separating Europe from Russia. Large country of population of 45 million people has developed into a nation with different views for the future of Ukraine. Western Ukraine has become more European, more Western oriented. However, Eastern Ukraine has become pro-Russian. Now, Ukraine is facing its biggest political crisis since the 2004 Orange Revolution. (Orange Revolution was a series of protests and political events in Ukraine. The campaign began in response to the fraudulent presidential elections and the campaigners demanded new, fair, and fraud-free elections.) Once again, huge crowds of Ukrainians are urging the government to embrace the West, particularly the EU. Former Ukrainian president Viktor Yanukovych triggered wide-spread anger November 2013, when he refused to sign a major trade and cooperation deal with the EU. Consequently, Ukrainian citizens, hampered by president’s decision, started series of pro-EU demonstrations which escalated into calls for Viktor Yanukovych and his government to resign. At the time, many political figures were accused of corruption. Many protesters gathered in Kyiv, led riots, and put up barricades near government buildings. Soon, they were confronted by large numbers of riot police armed officers. The riots continued extensively and there were clashes.

between the protesters and the police. The problem, however, is much more complicated. Ukraine is significantly culturally divided. The roots of people’s decisions and political preferences go deep into their cultural and historical heritage. Ukraine is deeply divided with historical Russian influence, which is still powerful in the industrial East.\(^{22}\)

According to the western powers, Russia saw the growing political and economic instability in Ukraine and aimed to protect its own interest in Crimea, where it still has large navy base. Legislature of Autonomous Republic of Crimea held a referendum on the status of Crimea on 16\(^{\text{th}}\) March, 2014. The annexation of Crimea by Russia was considered against international law by the western powers, mainly USA and EU, because of the violation of Ukrainian territorial integrity. Russian aggression in Ukraine, according to the western powers, stimulated Ukrainian separatist movement into even more violent spheres and extensively worsened Ukrainian domestic situation.

Since then, international political and economic stability and political security have been endangered by the Ukrainian Crisis. Domestic conflict in Ukraine and political disputes between Russia, Ukraine, and the West have reshaped current global economic situation. Economic sanctions imposed on Russia by the West and vice versa have changed global economic relationships. Ukraine’s dependence on imported energies proved very problematic in recent months when Russia stopped exporting gas to Ukraine. In addition, some EU countries like Slovakia lost their strategic economic position as a transition state regarding Russian exports of gas to the EU. However, recent decision to launch reverse gas flow to Ukraine from the EU has significantly contributed to potential economic improvements in Ukraine. However, the conflict is not resolved yet and separatism, which is present in Ukraine has already contributed to rapid changes in international relations which might have great consequences in the near future.

The UN General Assembly affirmed its commitment to Ukraine's sovereignty, political independence, unity and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders, underscoring the invalidity of the 16 March referendum held in autonomous Crimea.\(^{23}\) In addition, The UN Security Council has been monitoring the situation in Ukraine, keeping reports of past events, and organizing meetings with the member states regarding violation of human rights in Ukraine, territorial integrity, and economic situation.

\(^{22}\) Aftermath of Clashes in Ukraine (video) [http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-25827265]
\(^{23}\) UN Resolution A/RES/68/262; Territorial Integrity of Ukraine [http://www.cfr.org/territorial-disputes/un-resolution-res68262-territorial-integrity-ukraine/p32709]
Suggestions for further reading/self-study:

_Ukrainian Crisis Simplified (video)_

_Ukrainian Crisis Explained in 60 seconds (video)_

_UN Security Council Reports on Ukrainian Crisis_
http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/ukraine/

_Detailed Analysis of the Ukrainian Crisis_
http://www.cfr.org/ukraine/ukraine-crisis/p32540

_Ukrainian Crisis (Donetsk)_

_Scottish Independence Movement_
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scottish_independence

_Catalan Independence Movement_
http://www.cataloniavotes.eu/why-a-referendum/

_Chechen Independence Movement_
http://www.theguardian.com/world/2009/apr/16/chechnya-russia-timeline

_Venice Independence Movement_
http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/italy/10698299/Venice-prepares-for-referendum-on-secession-from-Italy.html

_Kurdish Independence Movement_
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/country_profiles/2893067.stm
Task

- Identify the motivations and consequences of the separatist movements analysed above.
- Can you think of any other motivations which (minority) groups might have to separate/secede?
- Can you think of any other consequences/cost/issues related to a separatist movement?
- Make your own research about the country you are representing. Analyse the economic/political/social structure of the country you are representing. Is there any oppression/discrimination/separatism present in your country? (See “Things to consider” section for more suggestions and information.)

Showing that you did your own research by making an argument about past separatist movements or potential for future separatism in the country you are representing in your position paper will give us good impression about your delegation and increase your chances for the best delegation award.

Important note

All the information in this study guide, regarding Kosovo and the Ukrainian Crisis in particular, has been collected from various sources and I did not include any of my personal opinions nor made any claims based on my beliefs when analysing current situation in Ukraine and past separatism in Yugoslavia. In addition, please, bear in mind that the focus of our discussion is not to solve the current situation in Ukraine or the unresolved question of Kosovo. It will be, however, extremely helpful to use these examples with which we all are relatively familiar in order to answer the two main questions mentioned above in the introduction. To clarify, these two questions are:

1. Under what criteria do ethnic/religious/racial minorities have right to self-determination/separation?

2. To what extent should the international community have right to intervene in separatist movements/attempts of self-determination to prevent potential conflict and eliminate negative consequences?
Things to Consider

1. Social structure of the country
2. Ethnic/religious/racial minorities
3. Racism and discrimination
4. Oppression based on religion/ethnicity/gender/race/sexual orientation
5. Differences between social classes
6. Economic inequality
7. Political preferences/opinions/inclinations
8. Level of education
9. Historical attempts for self-determination/secession/separatism
10. Economic situation/wealth/stability
11. Geographic position
12. Is the country mainly industrial/agricultural?

Possible Points of Discussion

The international community must make certain steps in order to eliminate the motivations for separatism. Once ethnic/religious/racial groups won’t feel oppressed or discriminated, they will not be motivated to separate/secede. The following points contain general suggestions for solving the issue.

1. Eliminating gender/ethnic/religious/racial discrimination
2. Establishing criteria under which a minority group has right to demand autonomy
3. Establishing criteria under which a minority group has right to occupy specific number of seats in the parliament in order to have an impact on legislature
4. Improvements in education
5. Uniting multicultural society and eliminating discrimination
6. Maintaining political and economic stability

You should ask yourself, how could the international community demotivate ethnic/racial/etc. groups from their desire to separate? To what extent should these groups have right to separate/secede? What responsibility does the international community have towards the country you are representing?
Closing Remark

Separatist movements have questioned the authority of the United Nations and the international community and destabilized global political and economic relationships in recent decades. In order to prevent separatism in the future, the international community should take necessary steps to eliminate motivations for separatism. Dear delegates, you should feel encouraged to study the political stance of the country you will be assigned by the BratMUN 2014 Organization Team as every nation can significantly contribute into establishing criteria upon which ethnic/racial/religious groups will have right to demand greater autonomy or legislative power and thus demotivate groups from separatism. I understand that “International Intervention in Separatist Movements” is an abstract topic. However, if you complete the tasks in this study guide, you will be well prepared for the discussion. Remember, that the goal of General Assembly at BratMUN 2014 is to address the two main questions mentioned multiple times in this study guide and thus find solutions for eliminating various motivations for separatism and prevent negative consequences associated with separatist movements. I look forward to seeing you in early November!

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

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Best regards,

Matúš Petrovský
President of the General Assembly