# NOTTSMUN 2024

# SOCHUM

# STUDYGUIDE

# Table of Contents:

# Introduction to the chairboard:

## President - Rita Ojo

Dear Delegates,

Its a pleasure to serve as your chair in the GA3- SOCHUM committee of this session of the NottsMUN. I am Rita Ojo, a MA International Relations student at the University of Nottingham. I love collaborating with young individuals in addressing and solving issues in the world around us, and this aligns with my passion for advancing the SDGs. My MUN journey began in 2018 during my undergraduate days, and since then, I have actively participated in different roles, including as a delegate, volunteer, and co-chair, and also won various awards at MUNs. I am passionate about MUNs and committed to inspiring positive change and building responsible global citizens through MUNs. My co-chair, Anurag and I look forward to your active engagement and participation as we draw up debates on the topics before the house.

Best Regards,

Rita Ojo

Chair, SOCHUM

NottsMUN 2024

# President - Anurag Nair

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to NottsMUN 2024!! My name is Anurag Nair and I am very excited to be one of your chairs for the GA3 - SOCHUM committee! I really look forward to meeting everyone this year, hearing about your experiences, and hearing all your solutions.

A little about me: I am a 3rd (Final) Year BEng Mechanical Engineering student at the University of Nottingham, where I am also the Programme Coordinator of the UN Society. I began my MUN journey in 2018, when one of my best friends introduced it to me in high school. I have been enjoying it ever since and have made it a significant part of my life. I have attended international conferences as delegates at THIMUN in The Hague in Netherlands and MUNoM in Munich in Germany, and routine weekly debates that took place at my school and in University. I hope to make the debates at NottsMUN with my fellow Co-Chair, Rita, engaging, cohesive and fair.

Look forward to meeting you all soon!

Kind Regards,

Anurag

Chair, SOCHUM

NottsMUN 2024

# Introduction to the Committee:

## History:

The Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee, most commonly known as SOCHUM, is the **third committee of the UN Security Council** out of the 6 committees. Founded in 1945, after the formation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), SOCHUM follows the UDHR and the UN charter of rights to enforce and ensure human rights in the member states. It also sets out directions and key principles for the member states, such as sovereignty, which refers to the autonomy the member state has when part of a large international organisation [Rodriguez and Faz].

SOCHUM's mandate extends to discussing social, humanitarian, and cultural issues, as well as protecting human rights among the international community. It takes on a broader scope than other committees, allowing comprehensive discussions on important global challenges. The right to life, cultural expression, accessibility, disabilities, the promotion of social development, and other various topics that reflect emerging global challenges are often discussed [Department of Foreign Affairs].

Historically, the committee has worked with other bodies in the UN, such as the Human Rights Council (UNHRC) and the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Together, they investigate global issues and aim to collaborate with non-governmental organisations as well. SOCHUM references many key documents to carry out its goals, allowing for more consensus among such a diverse group of nations. Currently, SOCHUM is in its 78th session from 2023 to 2024, chaired by the **Permanent Representative of Austria to the UN, Alexander Marschik** ["UN General Assembly - Third Committee - Social, Humanitarian & Cultural"].

# Agenda Item 1 - Fostering the Culture of Support and Openness in Mental Health and Wellbeing:

## Background:

In 2015, the United Nations member states collectively embraced the sustainable development goals, with SDG 3 specifically aiming to 'ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.' This collective commitment emphasises the significance of addressing our health and well-being and, in this case, mental health and well-being within our communities.

Mental health and well-being issues have emerged as leading global causes of mortality. Research underscores the heightened vulnerability of a substantial youth population worldwide to mortality resulting from mental illnesses. Despite a gradual increase in global awareness about mental health, there remains a concerning inadequacy in the responsiveness to support individuals facing mental health challenges.

The term "mental health and well-being" encompasses a variety of conditions, including mental disorders and psychological disabilities. According to the World Health Organization in 2019, 1 in 8 individuals worldwide struggles with mental health disorders, particularly anxiety and depression (WHO). While this is disheartening, the repercussions of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 have further exacerbated these statistics (Mental Health Act Statistics, Annual Figures 2019-20).

Although effective treatments for many mental health conditions exist at a reasonable cost, a substantial gap persists between those in need of care and those with access to it. Effective treatment coverage remains remarkably low, underscoring the urgent need to bridge this gap. Sadly, individuals with mental health disorders often confront not only their conditions but also societal stigma, discrimination, and violations of their fundamental human rights.

Transitioning to our central focus, fostering a culture of support and openness for mental health is paramount. It requires collective efforts to dismantle stigma, enhance accessibility to mental health services, and promote understanding within communities. Initiatives such as workplace mental health programs, educational campaigns, and community outreach can contribute significantly to creating an environment where individuals feel supported and encouraged to discuss their mental health concerns.

To foster this culture effectively, exploring various dimensions, such as destigmatizing mental health, improving access to resources, and advocating for policy changes, is essential. Additionally, integrating mental health education into school curricula and workplace training programs can play a pivotal role in shaping attitudes and perceptions.

## Discussion:

Recognizing the intrinsic importance of mental health, we understand that it is as crucial as physical well-being. While mental health issues have always existed, societal stigmas historically hindered awareness and discourse on the subject. The paradigm began to shift with the release of the WHO report on mental health in 2001, prompting a renewed focus on creating awareness and fostering supportive communities for individuals facing mental health challenges.

Mental health is a global concern with significant prevalence worldwide. Approximately one in eight people grapple with a mental disorder, the most common being anxiety and depressive disorders in both males and females. Suicide, affecting people of all ages and backgrounds, underscores the gravity of mental health conditions. Despite there being approximately 20 suicide attempts for every death, suicide remains a leading cause of mortality, particularly among young individuals(WHO). Suicide rates differ in age, country and gender. Males have higher suicide rates compared to females at a rate of 12.6 per 100 000 males in comparison with 5.4 per 100 000 females. Males in higher-income economies have higher suicide rates at 16.5 per 100 000 than females, and females in lower-income economies have higher suicide rates than males (WHO).

Understanding mental health is pivotal not only for individual well-being but also at broader societal levels. Mental health conditions lead to human rights violations, with affected individuals often excluded from community life and denied fundamental rights, including discrimination in employment, education, and housing. Human rights abuses within healthcare systems further compound the challenges faced by those seeking care. Implementing international human rights conventions, such as the Convention for the Rights of People with Disabilities, holds promise for addressing these issues. Anti-stigma interventions, particularly social contact strategies involving individuals with lived experience, contribute to shifting societal attitudes and actions.

Investing in mental health is imperative for social and economic development. Poor mental health impedes development by diminishing productivity, straining social relationships, and perpetuating cycles of poverty and disadvantage. Conversely, prioritising mental health creates an environment where individuals can learn, work effectively, and contribute positively to society.

**Comentado [1]:** Source?

In conclusion, fostering a comprehensive understanding of mental health is not only a personal necessity but also a requisite for addressing challenges at political, economic, social, technological, and legal levels. Breaking down stigmas, promoting awareness, and investing in mental health contribute not only to individual well-being but also to the broader fabric of a healthy and thriving society.

## Blocs:

## UNITED NATIONS:

The United Nations, acting through its specialised agency, the World Health Organization (WHO), has consistently advocated for and propelled global efforts to foster a culture of support and openness for mental health. Underpinning this commitment is the implementation of the "Comprehensive Mental Health Action Plan 2013–2030" by all WHO Member States. This action plan seeks to enhance mental health by bolstering effective leadership and governance, delivering comprehensive and responsive community-based care, implementing promotion and prevention strategies, and fortifying information systems, evidence, and research.

However, despite this commitment, the WHO's "Mental Health Atlas 2020" analysis in 2020 revealed insufficient progress against the targets outlined in the action plan, signalling the need for intensified efforts. This analysis emphasises the urgency for nations to accelerate the implementation of the action plan, as outlined in the "World Mental Health Report: Transforming Mental Health for All" [WHO Team].

The report puts forth three pivotal "paths to transformation" for countries to achieve meaningful progress in mental health:

1. Deepen the value attributed to mental health by individuals, communities, and governments, aligning this value with commitment, engagement, and investment across all sectors.
2. Reshape the physical, social, and economic characteristics of environments, spanning homes, schools, workplaces, and the wider community, to safeguard mental health and prevent mental health conditions.
3. Strengthen mental health care by establishing a community-based network of accessible, affordable, and quality services and supports to address the full spectrum of mental health needs.

WHO places particular emphasis on protecting and promoting human rights, empowering individuals with lived experience, and advocating for a multisectoral and multistakeholder approach. The organisation remains actively engaged at both national and international levels, including in humanitarian settings, providing governments and partners with strategic leadership, evidence, tools, and technical support to fortify a collective response to mental health. Through these initiatives, WHO strives to facilitate a transformative journey towards improved mental health for all.

## EUROPEAN UNION:

The European Union, through the European Commission, actively cultivates a supportive environment for mental health and well-being. Emphasising prevention, accessible mental healthcare, and reintegration after recovery, the Commission integrates mental health across policies, including the promotion of good mental health practices and prevention of mental health disorders in early stages such as in newborns and children.

Acknowledging heightened mental health challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Russia-Ukraine war, the Commission on June 7, 2023, adopted The Communication for a comprehensive approach. This approach extends moves beyond restricting mental health policies to  healthcare to  encompass areas like employment, education, and research development. Collaborating with member states, the Commission aims to enhance resilience and establish sustainable healthcare systems, aligning with UN Sustainable Development Goals and WHO targets (European Commission).

Aside from this, the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Russia-Ukraine war accelerated the rate of depression and anxiety in Europe. To address these urgent mental health needs, especially those resulting from the Ukraine crisis, over EUR 30 million from the

EU4Health program has been allocated. Notably, a EUR 28.4 million contribution agreement with the International Federation of Red Cross specifically supports mental health for those who fled Ukraine, reflecting the EU's commitment to holistic mental health initiatives.

In summary, these efforts underscore the European Union's commitment to fostering a culture of support and openness for mental health, recognizing its broad impact, and working towards a healthier, more resilient Europe.

Although developed countries have made measurable achievements toward addressing mental health issues, developing countries still face huge barriers to addressing mental health issues. As a result of the lack of adequate finances (low government investment towards mental health and funding), infrastructure, and medical professionals, little has been done about the issue of mental health in developing countries, especially in Africa. The cultural and societal stigma that comes with mental illness and disorders has also served as a barrier to addressing mental health issues in such communities.

## Questions to consider:

- How has your country addressed the issue of mental health?
- What policies or strategies have been implemented to create a conducive environment and culture for individuals with mental health issues in your country?
- How can the stigma around mental health issues be reduced?
- What strategies can be put in place to develop a fostering culture and community for individuals with mental health issues?
- How can awareness be created for mental issues?

## Further readings/viewings:

Making Mental Health a Global Development Priority
World Mental Health Day (October 10) – António Guterres (UN Secretary-General)
Mentally Healthy Communities: Thriving Together | European Mental Health Week 2023
Mental Health as part of the EU Global Health Strategy

# Agenda Item 2 - Strengthening International Cooperation to Address the Situation in Sudan:

## Background:



Sudan has been amid a political crisis since long-serving ruler **Omar al-Bashir** was overthrown in April 2019 [Copnall]. This came as a result of increasing US sanctions on Sudan that caused an economic collapse and loss of oil revenue. The then President Omar al-Bashir cut down subsidies on bread and fuel, which sparked demonstrations from people living in the eastern part of the country regarding the **decreasing living standards**. This issue eventually dominoed into the capital of Sudan, **Khartoum**. On the anniversary of **1985 non-violent uprising,** which was on the **6th of April 2023**, that resulted in the removal of dictator **Jaafar Nimeiri**, the protest that had been non-violent so far, transformed to a more violent uprising with rallied support for the removal of **President Bashir** after being in power for almost 30 years [BBC]. The protest brought Sudanese people from all walks of life onto the streets, with the organisation of the demonstrations done by **Sudanese Professional Association (SPA).** What was also quite intriguing to most was that the proportion of women protesters was put as high as **70%**.

A coup was carried out for the removal of President Bashir, which was head by two generals, **General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan**, the head of **Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF)** and **General Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo**, the head of the paramilitary **Rapid Support Forces (RSF)**. Soon after the removal of Omar al-Bashir, the interim government that the coup had resulted in was

governed by **Lt Gen Awad Ibn Auf**, who declared a 3-month state emergency and two-year transition period to prepare for civilian rule [BBC].



*Figure 1 - Gen Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo (Left) and Gen Abdel Fattah al-Burhan (Right).*

Both General Dagalo and General Burhan share a long history together (Copnall), especially when they fought together against the **Darfuri Rebels in 2003**, in the civil war in western region of Sudan. The civil war in the western part of Sudan began in 2003 when rebels launched an insurrection to protest what they contended was the Sudanese government's disregard for the western region and its non-Arab population ["Sudan - Darfur Conflict, Genocide, War Crimes"]. General Dagalo and General Burhan played key roles in the counterinsurgency against Darfur rebels during the conflict [Copnall].

General Burhan rose to control the Sudanese army in Darfur, while General Dagalo acted as his deputy [Armitage et al.]. But for General Dagalo, who was nicknamed as **Hemedti**, life changed after the conflict. Hemedti was a member of the **Sudanese Arab Janjaweed militia** in Darfur. He rose through the ranks of Janjaweed and commanded a brigade which caught the eye of the then dictator Omar al-Bashir, who appointed him as an enforcer. Bashir treated Hemedti like his son. He then briefly led a rebellion against Bashir in 2007-08, eventually withdrawing his forces and fighting until he struck a deal with the government. This then led to Hemedti forming the RSF, which would recruit people from Janjaweed and supply soldiers to fight as mercenaries in Yemen. Soon after during the revolution against Bashir, he joined hands with General Burhan in deposing Bashir [Beaumont].

## Discussion - Current Situation:

The two generals are currently at the heart of the ongoing political crisis in Sudan, with General Burhan moving to a key position as the head of the body overseeing the transition, and General Dagalo acting as his deputy [Armitage et al.]. The two generals have been sharing power since

2021, but they both have different sources of power and wealth. This current crisis in Sudan has been going over for more than 6 months, with both fighting against each other in a war that has affected the population of Sudan gravely. The conflict between the SAF and RSF has resulted in the displacement of **5.7 million people** with around **4.7 million** displaced within Sudan and **1.1 million** crossing the borders [BBC].
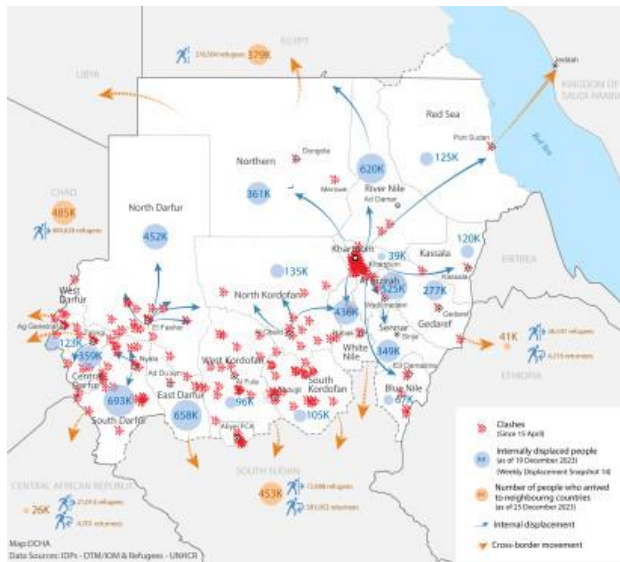


*Figure 2 - Map showing the displacement of civilians in and out of Sudan ["Sudan Humanitarian Update (12 November 2023)"]*

In the disputed region at the border between Sudan and South Sudan, **Abyei**, around 75 people have been killed because of continued violence between the two countries. The UN's representative in South Sudan has called for an investigation and has asked for both sides to reduce attacks and violence. As a result, the region of Abyei is under the protection of UN peacekeeping troops. According to the UN, around **24.7 million** people need dire assistance in 2023 [OCHA]. And ever since the war broke out, there has been a rise in child rights violations with around **3130 allegations of severe child rights violations** reported in Sudan, around half of which are in the region of Darfur [Relief Web - OCHA].

Matters don't stop getting worse here, the country is also facing several disease outbreaks that include diarrhoea/cholera, measles, dengue, and malaria. Around 70% of all medical facilities and hospitals are affected by the conflict and/or are not functioning with the remaining functioning ones being overburdened with the influx of loads to people. With depleting water resources, the cases of diarrhoea and cholera are increasing with many people dying across 8 states of Sudan namely **44 in Gedaref, 20 in Al Jazirah, 36 in Khartoum (Capital), 8 in South Kordofan** and **1 in Sennar**.
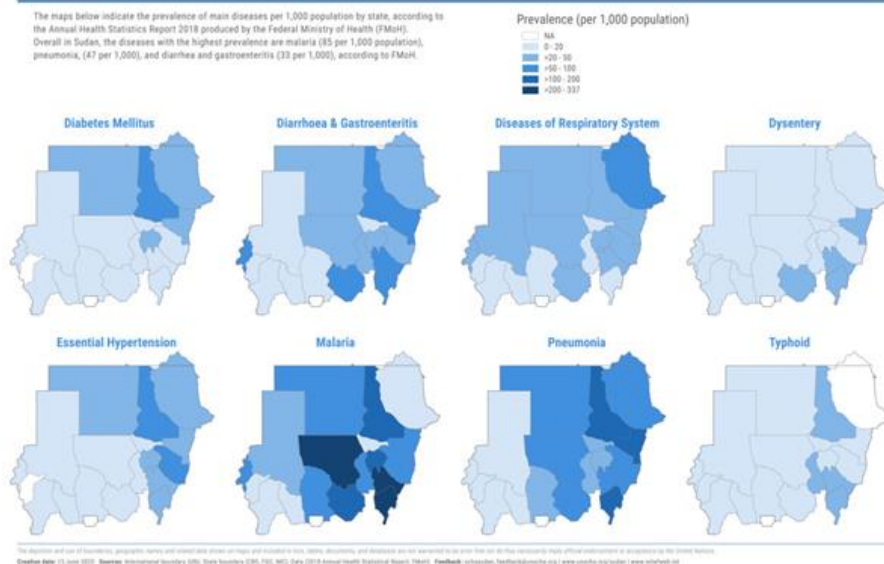
*Figure 3 - Prevalence of Diseases in Outpatient Clinics per State (2020)*

As a result of the conflict, a staggering **12 million** children have been deprived of schooling since April, with the total number of children in Sudan who are out of schooling mounting up to **19 million** as reported by *Save the Children (SC)* and *UN Children's Agency (UNICEF)*. If the war doesn't stop, then no child will be able to return to schooling for the near future. According to UNICEF, Sudan is on the brink of becoming home to the worst education crisis in the world ["Sudan Six months of conflict - Key Facts and Figures (19 October 2023)"].

In comparison to countries such as Yemen and Syria who are also going through a similar or worse humanitarian crisis had their **economy shrink by 50%** over the past decade, Sudan's economic contraction is said to be happening at a much faster rate. This conflict has resulted in shrinking in activities across the country, especially in commerce and finance with detrimental impacts on food security and forced displacement ["Sudan Six months of conflict - Key Facts and Figures (19 October 2023)"].

## The UN and its efforts:



*Figure 4: Women and girls fleeing conflict in Sudan are provided with assistance by UNFPA in Toumtouma camp, eastern Chad* [Kobena]

The UN Security Council has expressed its deep concern over the continued clash by condemning any attacks on civilians and calling for a rapid, safe, and unhindered humanitarian access throughout Sudan. The **levels of malnutrition** have been alarming in many parts of Sudan, especially in Port Sudan. The World Food Program (WFP) has been providing food to those in need. Recently they have reported cases of looting of WFP humanitarian supplies with one being reported in south-central Sudan [Elamin].

The United Nations and its organisations are working to support Sudan in the current crisis. The UN Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS) is a special political mission that is helping to support the Sudanese democratic transition [Hallqvist and Le Du]. The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) is coordinating with 140 partners, including UN agencies, national and international NGOs, and civil society groups, to assist the projected 1.8 million refugees, returnees, and third-country nationals who will need assistance up to the end of 2023, primarily in Chad, South Sudan, Egypt, Ethiopia, and the Central African Republic [Grandi]. UNHCR emergency teams are tirelessly working with authorities, partners, and other UN agencies to provide support to newcomers, establish transit centres for rest and access to essential protection services, and distribute emergency supplies such as blankets, soap, and mosquito nets ["Sudan Crisis Explained"]. The UN and humanitarian partners continue to scale up the aid response for the millions in need across Sudan [Le Du and Zakaria]. However, the revised 2023 Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan appeal is only 33.8% funded as of 12 November ["Sudan Humanitarian Update (12 November 2023)"].

*Figure 5: In the Ahmed Gasim Health Centre in Port Sudan, a child is fed ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) [Sedlmayr]*

The ineffectiveness of the UN and its members is apparent from previous events of war and suffering that has taken place across the world. For example: -

- **The Syrian Civil War**: The international community has been slow and ineffective in responding to the Syrian Civil War, which has been ongoing since 2011. The United Nations Security Council has been deadlocked on the issue, with Russia and China vetoing resolutions that would have imposed sanctions on the Syrian government or provided military assistance to the rebels. As a result, the war has continued to rage, with hundreds of thousands of people killed and millions displaced [Chughtai].
- **The Rohingya Crisis** The international community has also been slow and ineffective in responding to the Rohingya crisis, which began in 2017 when the Myanmar military launched a brutal crackdown on the Rohingya people, a Muslim minority group in Myanmar. The United Nations has called the crackdown a "textbook example of ethnic cleansing," but the international community has been reluctant to take decisive action. As a result, the Rohingya people continue to face persecution and violence in Myanmar [BBC].

The UN, the African Union, and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) facilitated a political process that resulted in an agreement being signed in December 2022 between the military and some key civilian political stakeholders, jumpstarting efforts aimed at restoring a credible democratic civilian government [Hallqvist and Le Du].

## Blocs:

**United States:**



Source: [Karson]

The United States calls for an end to this crisis and supports enhanced humanitarian assistance when conditions allow. The US President, Joe Biden, has issued an executive order that expands US authorities to respond to the violence that began in April this year, by sanctioning individuals and holding those responsible who perpetrated the violence and threaten peace in the region ["Statement from President Joe Biden on the Conflict in Sudan"]. The US state department has established a special task force to deal with the crisis and will oversee project development, management, and logistics [Hansler].

**Arab League:**



Source: [Awsat]

The Arab League has publicly supported the Sudanese Government in the conflict with the Rapid Support Forces. The League held an emergency meeting on the Sudan crisis in May 2023, though nothing has been made clear as to what came of it [Lucente]. It warned of the consequences and repercussions of these actions, which may intensify the conflict and which violate international humanitarian law. The League stressed the need to resolve the crisis in a way that guarantees Sudan's security, sovereignty and territorial integrity, protects its institutions and fulfils the aspirations of its people for peace and development. It stressed its

rejection of foreign interference in Sudan's domestic affairs to avoid fueling the conflict, prolonging the crisis, and threatening regional peace and security (Awsat).

**African Union:**

Source: [Laxmi]

The African Union has been actively involved in this crisis by calling for a political solution and resumption of the transition process towards a democratic civilian-led government [Changwe and Alusala]. The Union has also urged Sudan's neighbours and the international community to offer immediate humanitarian support to civilians affected by the conflict. The African Union Commission is monitoring the situation and has called for the safe transit of civilians across the borders of Sudan [Laxmi].

## Questions to consider:

- The potential effectiveness of a US brokered Ceasefire and its impact on the conflict,
- The role of the UN, the Arab League, and the African Union in resolving this conflict,
- The humanitarian issue in Sudan, including the displacement of people and child rights abuse,
- The International Community's response to this situation and ways to achieve stability and security in the region.

## Further readings/viewings:

Sudan conflict: At least 4.9m at risk of extreme hunger | BBC News
Sudan's conflict explained in 5 minutes: 'Lawlessness on the streets of Khartoum'
What role do outside players have in the war in Sudan? | Inside Story
Where does the conflict in Sudan stand after eight months? | Inside Story
Battle for power in Sudan reignites conflict in Darfur
Could Sudan conflict lead to full blown civil war?

# References:

Armitage, Rebecca, et al. "'They hate each other's guts': Two men who despise each other are driving Sudan to the brink of war." *ABC News*, 20 April 2023, https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-04-21/what-is-driving-sudan-to-the-brink-of-civil-war-/102239974. Accessed 22 December 2023.

Awsat, Asharq Al. "Arab League Calls for Ending War in Sudan." *Asharq Al-Awsat*, 3 May 2023, https://english.aawsat.com/home/article/4307966/arab-league-calls-ending-war-sudan. Accessed 3 December 2023.

BBC. "Myanmar Rohingya: What you need to know about the crisis." *BBC*, 23 January 2020, https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-41566561. Accessed 27 December 2023.

BBC. "Sudan." *BBC*, https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/topics/cq23pdgvgm8t/sudan. Accessed 22 December 2023.

BBC. "Sudan coup: Why Omar al-Bashir was overthrown." *BBC*, BBC World News, 15 April 2019, https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-47852496. Accessed 22 November 2023.

Beaumont, Peter. "Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo: the feared ex-warlord taking on Sudan's army | profile." *The Guardian*, 17 April 2023, https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/apr/17/mohamed-hamdan-dagalo-the-feared-ex-warlord-taking-on-sudan-army-hemedti. Accessed 22 December 2023.

Changwe, Chris, and Nelson Alusala. "Sudan's peace mediation should be led by the African Union: 3 reasons why." *The Conversation*, 23 May 2023, https://theconversation.com/sudans-peace-mediation-should-be-led-by-the-african-union-3-reasons-why-205663. Accessed 22 December 2023.

Chughtai, Alia. "Syria's war: Ten years – and counting | Arab Spring: 10 years on News." *Al Jazeera*, 15 March 2021, https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/3/15/syria-ten-years-of-war. Accessed 27 December 2023.

Copnall, James. "Sudan crisis: Burhan and Hemedti - the two generals at the heart of the conflict." *BBC*, BBC, 17 April 2023, https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-65297714. Accessed 22 December 2023.

Department of Foreign Affairs. "UN General Assembly Social, Humanitarian and Cultural "Third" Committee." *Gov.ie*, 16 May 2020, https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/ca527-un-general-assembly-social-humanitarian-and-cultural-third-committee/. Accessed 24 January 2024.

Elamin, Mohamed. "Sudan: Crisis fuels 'desperate' situation for civilians, as Security Council demands unhindered humanitarian access." *UN News*, UN News, 2 June 2023, https://news.un.org/en/story/2023/06/1137292. Accessed 22 December 2023.

Grandi, Filippo. "Sudan emergency." *UNHCR*, UNHCR, https://www.unhcr.org/emergencies/sudan-emergency. Accessed 22 December 2023.

Hallqvist, Charlotte, and Donaig Le Du. "Background to a crisis: In Sudan, the stakes are high for the whole of Africa." *UN News*, UN News, 28 April 2023, https://news.un.org/en/story/2023/04/1136187. Accessed 22 December 2023.

Hansler, Jennifer. "Sudan: US State Department establishes special taskforce to deal with crisis." *CNN*, 18 April 2023, https://edition.cnn.com/2023/04/18/politics/state-department-taskforce-sudan/index.html. Accessed 22 December 2023.

Karson, Kendall. "Joe Biden: What you need to know about the 46th president." *ABC News*, 19 January 2021, https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/joe-biden-entering-2020-field/story?id=61078936. Accessed 1 December 2023.

Kobena, Muriel. "Negotiated solution only way to end Sudan war: senior UN official." *UN News*, UN News, 9 August 2023, https://news.un.org/en/story/2023/08/1139612. Accessed 22 December 2023.

Laxmi, Bijay. "African Union Intervenes in Sudan Crisis: Calls for Humanitarian Aid and Political Resolution." *BNN Breaking*, 24 October 2023, https://bnn.network/world/sudan/african-union-intervenes-in-sudan-crisis-calls-for-humanitarian-aid-and-political-resolution/. Accessed 22 December 2023.

Le Du, Donaig, and Mohamed Zakaria. "Sudan crisis: UN continues to scale up aid, as security allows." *UN News*, UN News, 16 May 2023, https://news.un.org/en/story/2023/05/1136717. Accessed 22 December 2023.

Lucente, Adam. "Arab League calls emergency meeting on crisis in Sudan, readmitting Syria." *Al-Monitor*, 4 May 2023, https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2023/05/arab-league-calls-emergency-meeting-crisis-sudan-readmitting-syria. Accessed 22 December 2023.

"Mental Health Act Statistics, Annual Figures 2019-20." *NHS Digital*, 27 October 2020, https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/mental-health-act-statistics-annual-figures/2019-20-annual-figures. Accessed 12 January 2024.

OCHA. "Sudan | Situation Reports." *Situation Reports*, UNOCHA, 2023, https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/sudan/. Accessed 22 December 2023.

Relief Web - OCHA. "At least 5 million children at the brink in Darfur as unchecked conflict worsens." *Relief Web*, UNOCHA, 24 June 2019, https://reliefweb.int/report/sudan/least-5-million-children-brink-darfur-unchecked-conflict-worsens?_gl=1*gdugfs*_ga*OTQxNzE4MDM0LjE2OTUzOTA0NDM.*_ga_E60ZNX2F68*MTcwMDk2MjE5My4zLjAuMTcwMDk2MjE5My42MC4wLjA. Accessed 22 December 2023.

Rodriguez, Mariana, and Ximena Faz. "SOCHUM - Background Guide." *IMUNA*, National High School Model United Nations, 24 June 2019, https://imuna.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/NHSMUN-2024-Background-Guide-SOCHUM.pdf. Accessed 22 December 2023.

Sedlmayr, Sebastian. "Sudan: Zehntausende Kinder in Lebensgefahr." *UNICEF Deutschland*, UNICEF Deutschland, Accessed 19 September 2023,

https://www.unicef.de/informieren/aktuelles/presse/-/sudan-zehntausende-kinder-in-lebensgefahr/339658. Accessed 22 December 2023.

"Statement from President Joe Biden on the Conflict in Sudan." *The White House*, The White House Briefing Room, 4 May 2023, https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2023/05/04/statement-from-president-joe-biden-on-the-conflict-in-sudan/. Accessed 22 December 2023.

"Sudan Crisis Explained." *USA for UNHCR*, UNHCR, 14 July 2023, https://www.unrefugees.org/news/sudan-crisis-explained/. Accessed 22 December 2023.

"Sudan - Darfur Conflict, Genocide, War Crimes." *Britannica*, https://www.britannica.com/place/Sudan/Conflict-in-Darfur. Accessed 22 December 2023.

"Sudan Humanitarian Update (12 November 2023)." *OCHA*, UNOCHA, 12 November 2023, https://www.unocha.org/publications/report/sudan/sudan-humanitarian-update-12-november-2023. Accessed 22 December 2023.

"Sudan Six months of conflict - Key Facts and Figures (19 October 2023)." *OCHA*, UNOCHA, 19 October 2023, https://www.unocha.org/publications/report/sudan/sudan-six-months-conflict-key-facts-and-figures-19-october-2023. Accessed 22 December 2023.

"UN General Assembly - Third Committee - Social, Humanitarian & Cultural." *The United Nations*, General Assembly of the United Nations, https://www.un.org/en/ga/third/. Accessed 12 January 2024.

WHO. "Mental health." *World Health Organization (WHO)*, 2024, https://www.who.int/health-topics/mental-health#tab=tab_1. Accessed 12 January 2024.

WHO Team. *Mental Health Atlas 2020*. Miscellaneous, World Health Organization, 2021, https://iris.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665/345946/9789240036703-eng.pdf?sequence=1. Accessed 14 February 2024.

WHO (2024), Mental health, World Health Organization. Available at: https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/mental-health-strengthening-our-response (Accessed: 29 February 2024).

United Nations (2024) Health - United Nations Sustainable Development, United Nations. Available at: https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/health/ (Accessed: 29 February 2024).

European Commission (2024) Mental health, Public Health. Available at: https://health.ec.europa.eu/non-communicable-diseases/mental-health_en (Accessed: 29 February 2024).

WHO (2024) Global strategic direction for mental health, World Health Organization. Available at: https://www.who.int/observatories/global-observatory-on-health-research-and-

development/analyses-and-syntheses/mental-health/global-strategic-direction (Accessed: 29 February 2024).

WHO (2024) Suicide, World Health Organization. Available at: https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/suicide (Accessed: 29 February 2024).

WHO (2024) One in 100 deaths is by suicide, World Health Organization. Available at: https://www.who.int/news/item/17-06-2021-one-in-100-deaths-is-by-suicide (Accessed: 29 February 2024).