

Middle East- North Africa Sample Crisis Simulation

Read Ahead Materials

Outline

1. Simulation overview
2. Key analytical concepts
3. Player roles – player actors and planners/control group
4. Crisis scenario
5. Other materials – Red Sea by the numbers, country-specific objectives/energy data, and readings

1) Simulation overview

Simulation Topic:

The intersection of regional conflicts, great power competition, and global supply chain implications in the Middle East/North America, with a focus on the implications for Egypt and the Red Sea region.

Knowledge-building goals:

- Deepen understanding of the high-level political, economic, and security dynamics of regional conflicts and great power competition in the MENA region, with a focus on Egypt/Red Sea
- Deepen understanding and demonstrate the strategic objectives/constraints of various actors related to regional conflicts and great power competition in the MENA region, with a focus on Egypt/Red Sea

Skills-building goals:

- Practice intra-team and cross-team communication
- Refine intra-team and cross-team negotiations
- Replicate intra-team and cross-team decision-making under time pressure

Format: Security Council and External Powers

Interaction Design:

Introduction (15 minutes) - Control presents simulation overview, background, and scenario

Round 1 (45 minutes)

- Control presents Round 1 updates
- Players deliberate/prepare actions
- Players submit questions/clarifications to control group
- Players submit actions

Break (15 minutes)

Round 2 (45 minutes)

- Control presents Round 2 updates
- Players deliberate/prepare actions
- Players submit questions/clarifications to control group
- Players submit actions

Conclusion and Hotwash (30 minutes)

2) Key Analytical Concepts

Empathetic analysis: Assessing actors in the international system from the standpoint of geopolitical imperatives, strategic objectives/constraints, and strategy, while being aware of and guarding against personal bias and normative judgment in your analysis.

Geopolitical imperatives: primary objectives of any state, regardless of who is in power

- Domestic political consolidation
- Protection from neighbors/external powers
- Expansion of regional/global influence