

Forum: Historical Security Council

Issue: The Hungarian Revolution (1956)

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Introduction

The Historical Security Council topics of BEIMUN XXXII take the house back to 1956 when the Warsaw Pact was still in place, and Hungary was a satellite state of the Soviet Union (USSR), alongside Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Poland, and Romania (The Editors of Encyclopedia Britannica). Furthermore, the USSR was entangled in the Cold War with the United States of America (US), leading to rising tensions between democratic and communist governing systems from the West and East, especially considering the Soviet Union's expansion into Eastern Europe ("The Cold War Intensifies..."). The Soviet Union had been aggressively spreading communism while also being locked in constant competition with the US to develop nuclear arms and their respective space programs ("The Arms Race...").

However, control of its satellite states is more challenging than it seems. A "secret speech" made by Nikita Khrushchev that attacked Joseph Stalin's rule cast light on the flaws of the USSR (The Editors of Encyclopedia Britannica). Following this, a tide of unrest swept over citizens in Hungary, beginning with a student and workers' demonstration in Budapest protesting the Soviet Union's authoritarian ruling methods ("The Hungarian Uprising..."). While the initial revolution was successful, Hungarian rebels were eventually crushed by the Soviet Union's forces, leading to the arrests and deaths of over 3,000 Hungarians ("The Hungarian Uprising...").

While the revolution did not lead to direct changes in policy, and while other countries chose not to intervene, the Hungarian revolution left significant impacts on the future of Hungary and geopolitical relations within the (USSR). As a delegate of the HSC, you will have much freedom to explore the political ideologies in place and identify which ones match your country's stance. Depending on your geopolitical alliances and historic actions, we encourage you to craft new policies and decisions that influence history to your benefit. **As a reference date, take the committee's meeting as an alternate version of the United Nation's 754 Security Council Meeting on Nov 5, 1956 on the topic of the Hungarian Revolution** (time also indicated in bold on event timeline).

Definition of Key Terms

Cold War

Described as an “open yet restricted rivalry,” the Cold War was a political and economic war waged between the United States of America and the Soviet Union (The Editors of Encyclopedia Britannica). The Cold War developed towards the tail end of WW2; after Nazi Germany’s surrender to Allied states, the uneasy wartime alliance between the Americans and British on one side, and Soviet Union on the other “unravel[ed]”. On one hand, the United States and United Kingdom feared “permanent Soviet domination” and permanent communist influences in Europe; meanwhile, the Soviet Union was determined the maintain control of Eastern Europe to safeguard against threats from Germany and to spread communism worldwide (The Editors of Encyclopedia Britannica). By 1949, 2 clear camps had emerged: the United States and the Western bloc on one side, versus the Eastern bloc and Soviet Union on the other (“The Cold War...”).

As previously stated, this was not a conventional war, and for the large, countries avoided physical military clashes, only sending out combat operation to keep allies from defecting to the other side (The Editors of Encyclopedia Britannica). For example, the Soviet Union sent troops to preserve communist rule in several countries: Eastern Germany (1953), Czechoslovakia (1968), Afghanistan (1979), and of course, Hungary (1956).

Eastern Bloc

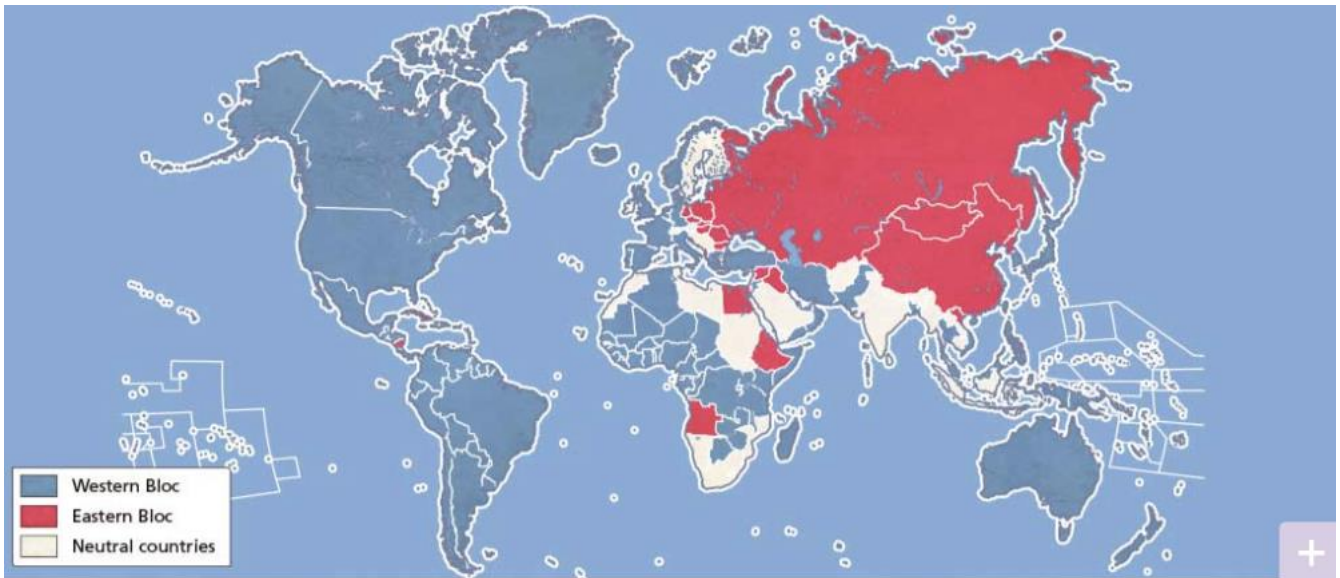
Described countries that were affiliated with the Soviet Union during the Cold War. This initially only included Eastern European communist regimes, but as the Soviet Union’s influence spread, other Latin American countries also joined the Eastern bloc including Cuba and Nicaragua; African countries, such as Angola and Ethiopia; Asian countries such as North Korea and Vietnam (“The Bipolar System”).

Eastern European countries in the Eastern bloc formed the Warsaw Pact (Nato).

Western Bloc

Countries that were aligned with the United States, including the democratic states of Western Europe, but also including America, Oceania, and parts of Asia such as Japan (“The Bipolar system”). Western European countries in the Western Bloc formed the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (Nato).

The Western bloc was characterized by capitalist economies, democratic governments, and a strong disapproval of communism (Western Bloc -). Countries within the Western bloc participated in various economic cooperation initiatives, particularly to help war-torn western European states (Western Bloc). They would also conduct cultural exchanges and share propaganda to promote democracy and capitalism while countering Soviet influence (Western bloc-).



North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)

A military alliance was created in 1949. The original alliance included of the United States, Canada, Belgium, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, and the United Kingdom, but expanded over time to include more members (Milestones in the ...).

Warsaw Pact

Formally known as “Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance,” it was created on 14 May 1955, right after West Germany joined NATO (Nato). The Warsaw Pact embodied the Eastern bloc in Europe, including Soviet satellite states Albania (withdrew in 1968), Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Poland, and Romania (Nato).

The treaty called for the maintenance of Soviet military units in its satellite states, much to the hostility of Hungary (The Editors of Encyclopedia Britannica). It was disbanded on 25th February 1991, shortly followed by the dissolution of the Soviet Union in December 1991 (Nato).

Iron Curtain

The metaphorical border between Eastern and Western-bloc countries in Europe, coined by Winston Churchill in a 1946 speech (“The Bipolar System). It was an imaginary border based on political and ideological differences, with the western bloc and eastern bloc on either side (*The Iron Curtain*). On either side, European states joined their own international military alliances: the Warsaw pact and NATO (*The Iron Curtain*). Physically, the Soviet Union tried to isolate itself and its satellite states from open contact with the other side of the Iron Curtain; both sides also set up border defenses in the middle of Europe, most notably the Berlin Wall (*The Iron Curtain*).

Satellite States

Refers to a country that is not fully independent and has to share control of its external relations with a foreign power, often a stronger state (*Satellite State Definition · LSData*). During the Cold War, Poland, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, and East Germany were all satellite states of the USSR (“Satellite Nations During...”). This meant that they had to follow similar policies dictated by the USSR and supported the USSR in the Cold War.

Marshall Plan

An America initiative enacted in 1948, funding Western European in economic recovery and rebuilding efforts after World War 2 (Western Bloc-). Among all, it helped to introduce free market capitalism to Western European countries (Notre Dame International Security Center).

Hungarian State Police Protection Department/ state Protection authority

Initially called ÁVO (the Hungarian State Police State Protection Department, Magyar Államrendőrség Államvédelmi Osztálya), but later renamed to ÁVH (the State Protection Authority, Államvédelmi Hatóság) (Hungarian Secret Police). However, the name AVO is still generally used. The AVO was Communist Hungary’s notorious police force, which inspired much fear and hatred with the common people (Hungarian Secret Police). Those who knew they were going to be purged by the AVO would rather commit suicide first (Hungarian Secret Police). During the Hungarian Revolution, significant members of the AVO were targets of violence; After the Revolution, it was clear that the AVO was universally detested and was dissolved (Hungarian Secret Police).

Background

Cold War and Tensions

As explained previously, the Soviet Union and the United States of America had been locked in the Cold War since the end of WW2 in 1945. The USSR had been spreading its influence over Eastern Europe, in hopes of creating a buffer zone between the Soviet Union and Western Europe, which would protect them from future attacks from the west (“The Soviet Expansion...”). One notable incident that occurred was the **Berlin Blockade** in 1948, where the Soviet Union cut off land access to Germany’s capital, Berlin, for Allied countries (“Berlin Blockade and...”). From that incident, it was clear that the Soviet Union was going to continue their hegemonic actions and would not cooperate with the West easily (“The Cold War intensifies...”). As part of the Cold War, both countries were set on producing the best technology and weapons; this started with the Soviet Union also developing the atomic bomb, ending USA’s monopoly on nuclear warheads, and continued through their stockpiling of advanced weapons and development of space programs (“The Arms Race...”). However, this ruthless competition only built up the stakes for each country, and neither side was willing to lose; This amounted to higher and higher costs incurred, which only burdened the USSR and its satellite states (“The Arms Race...”).

Reasons for Rebellion

Lack of Political Freedom

Although Hungary hosted democratic elections at first, it was clear that the Soviet Union had a firm grasp over Hungarian politics, which they solidified through the Hungarian Secret Police (Hungarian Secret Police). During Hungary's free election in November 1945, the Hungarian Communist Party won only 17% of the votes, with the Smallholder's Party winning the majority 57%; However, the Smallholder's party was pressured into forming a coalition with the Communists, that would still give them important positions (Hungarian Secret Police). For example, the leader of the Communist Party, Mátyás Rákosi, was deputy-Prime minister, and communist László Rajk was minister of the interior, which allowed him to create the Hungarian police force, AVO (Hungarian Secret Police). Subsequently, the Smallholder's Party was forced out of politics and several of its leaders were arrested in 1947 (Hungarian Secret Police).

During the AVO and Communist party's presence in Hungary, Hungarian citizens had no freedom of speech and could be arrested for something as trivial as listening to Western Music ("Learn About and revise..."). Furthermore, the Hungarian Prime Minister Mátyás Rákosi was a staunch communist fully in league with Moscow ("The Hungarian Uprising").

Quality of Life

Furthermore, life in Hungary was not good during the Cold War. Citizens would often suffer from shortages of food and fuel ("The Hungarian Uprising..."). Students had already been complaining about their living and studying conditions before the Hungarian Revolution (Granville).

Additionally, thousands of Soviet troops were stationed in Hungary, draining Hungarian resources, leading to poverty among citizens ("Learn About and revise..."). Much of the food and industrial goods produced in the country had to be sent to the USSR to meet strict production quotas, rather than being utilized to repair Hungary's economy and help those in poverty ("Hungarian Revolution 1956...").

Societal Changes

Hungarians also suffered from a lack of religious freedom; For example, the Soviet Union banned the Catholic religion and imprisoned the Church leader Cardinal Mindszenty ("Learn about and revise..."). Hungarians also had to learn the Russian language, rather than their own, and the USSR dictated what could and could not be taught in schools ("Learn about and revise..."). The USSR also tried to undermine Hungary's national identity by tearing down

Hungarian street signs and replacing them with Russian versions and dictating Russian as the main language of instruction (“The Hungarian Uprising”).

The Secret Speech

After enduring oppression and inferior quality of living under the USSR, it was only a matter of time before the Hungarian citizens rebelled, and that day came on February 25, 1956 (Editors of the Encyclopedia Britannica). The impetus to rebel came from a speech made by the first secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union himself, Nikita Khrushchev (Editors of the Encyclopedia Britannica). During a closed session of the 20th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Khrushchev made a “secret speech” that attacked the legacy of Joseph Stalin, intending to destroy the image of Stalin as an infallible leader, and to support a Lenin’s ideals instead (The Editors of the Encyclopedia Britannica). Khrushchev directly expressed his disapproval of Stalin: he recalled how Vladimir Lenin himself had warned the party against Stalin; cited numerous instances where Stalin abused his power, such as the Great Purge in the mid-1930s, which tortured and forced innocent communists to admit to crimes against the party; criticized Stalin on creating policies that left the USSR vulnerable to attack by Germany; exposed his irrational behavior, such as deporting nationality groups (The Editors of the Encyclopedia Britannica).

Additionally, Khrushchev also outlined his de-Stalinization policy, claiming that he would be less harsh than Stalin, and favor diplomacy, rather than brute force (“The Hungarian Uprising”).

The secret speech was only officially made public in 1989; however, it was passed around to different parties and eventually made its way to the USSR’s satellite states (Editors of the Encyclopedia Britannica). Consequently, citizens of East Bloc countries hoped that they would be able to enjoy more freedom in their countries (“The Hungarian Uprising”).

Chaos in Hungary

Although violence and fighting breaks out in October 1956, unrest in Hungary began from the June of that year. During **June**, Hungarians began to protest the regime of their Prime Minister, Matyas Rákosi, and thus, he was replaced by Erno Gero (“The Hungarian Uprising”).

Subsequently, on **October 23, 1956**, the Hungarians led a protest, demanding reforms such as a more democratic political system and freedom from Soviet repression (Sullivan). During the fighting, members of the Hungarian Secret Police were openly arrested and executed, and then publicly hanged from lampposts with money stuffed into their mouths (Hungarian Secret Police).

As a response to the uprising, the USSR named Imre Nagy the new of Hungary Prime Minister on 24 October 1956. He was previously dismissed from the party for his criticisms of Stalinist policies and would support more liberal policies (Sullivan).

At first, Nagy was able to negotiate peace with the Soviet troops, leading to their withdrawal from the country; however, his subsequent declarations of Hungarian neutrality in the cold war and anti-communist reforms went a step too far (Sullivan).

On November 4, 1956, Soviet tanks entered Budapest to crush the uprising (Sullivan). Within a day, the Hungarian Revolution was quelled and a new Prime Minister (supported by Moscow), was appointed (Sullivan).

A more detailed breakdown of the events of the Hungarian Revolution can be found in the “timeline section,” please read that for further details!

Aftermath

Hungary

The rebels in Hungary were eventually defeated after the Soviet Union sent their troops in (“The Hungarian Uprising...”). They fought alone, with no military intervention or support from other countries (Sullivan).

Hungarian Prime Minister Imre Nagy sought asylum at the Yugoslav Embassy in Budapest, but he was quickly captured and executed two years later (Sullivan). His successor János Kádár, with the backing of the USSR, was flown in from Moscow (“The Hungarian Uprising...”).

In total, around 2,500 were killed (Sullivan). After the revolution, sporadic armed resistance, strikes, and mass arrests continued for months after, causing substantial economic disruption (Sullivan).

Over 200,000 Hungarians fled as refugees, causing what is now described as the “greatest refugee crisis in Europe since the end of World War 2” (“Operation Safe Haven...”). Most of them initially went to Austria, who was welcoming to the refugees; however, Austria was soon overwhelmed and sought out the United Nations for support (“Operation Safe Haven...”). Over 20 member states responded with support, including the United States, which took in about 30,000 Hungarian refugees (“Operation Safe Haven...”).

Within Hungary, although immediate political reforms were not made, Stalinist type-domination and exploitation of citizens did not return, and sources state that after the revolution, Hungary slowly gained internal autonomy (The Editors of Encyclopedia Britannica).

Western Bloc

Previously, Western states thought that Stalin’s death and Khrushchev’s de-Stalinization policies meant lessening tensions between the two parties; however, the USSR’s violent response to the Hungarian

Revolution showed that despite Khrushchev's desire for cooperation and peaceful co-existence, he was not a passive or docile leader ("Hungarian Revolution 1956...").

The evident brutality exhibited toward Hungarian citizens led Communist parties in Western European countries (such as Italy, Britain, and France) to change their opinion of the USSR ("The Hungarian Uprising..."). In fact, individuals in other countries who were previously in communist parties decided to leave, after being horrified by the USSR's actions ("Hungarian Revolution 1956...").

Although NATO countries, especially America was heavily against communism, they were unwilling to intervene within the Soviet bloc countries ("The Hungarian Uprising..."). This was due to many reasons:

1. Their attention was fixed on the Anglo-French invasion of Suez (other HSC topic!), and western powers were divided and weakened by dealing with the situation there
2. President Eisenhower was busy campaigning for re-election and did not want to interfere with Hungary
3. NATO forces physically could not access Hungary, as Austria was neutral and would not allow NATO forces to advance through it
4. Nikita Khrushchev threatened Britain and France with physical military clashes because of intervening; In general, western forces were afraid of another war

This caused backlash, especially on America, as it had previously aired broadcasts suggesting that the United States supported the "liberation" of "captive peoples" under communist rules, the United States did nothing much but issue public statements of sympathy for the Hungarians (Sullivan).

Eastern Bloc (Big W for the Soviet Union)

The Hungarian Revolution sent a message to other states that the Although Khrushchev was introducing de-Stalinization policies, he and the USSR would not allow any country to break free from the Warsaw Pact or fight for independence ("Learn About and Revise...").

This was especially the case for Hungary, as the Soviets intended for Hungary to be a buffer zone between their country and Germany ("The Hungarian Uprising").

However, the revolution also exposed the cracks in USSR's governance, such as failure to provide for its citizens, which was what led to citizen unrest and revolution ("Hungarian Revolution 1956..."). This inspired Khrushchev to implement reforms in late 1956 and early 1957 ("Hungarian Revolution 1956..."). For example, he disbanded the much-hated Hungarian Secret Police (Hungarian Secret Police). This led to mixed responses, especially from hard-line communists in the USSR and China ("Hungarian Revolution 1956...").

United Nations

The United Nations declared its disapproval and disgust toward the inhumane treatment of Hungarians and raised aid money for Hungarian refugees after the event (“The Hungarian Uprising...”). However, it did not intervene during the Revolution.

Major Parties Involved

United Nations Security Council (UNSC)

The UNSC serves as the primary organ for responding to urgent situations, which are often conflicts. Both internal and external conflicts may involve the UNSC when there is a clear disregard for human rights and/or a risk of escalation from multiple sides of the conflict. Through passing resolutions, providing a space for diplomatic dialogue, and magnifying the voices of the international community, the UNSC stands as a major frontier for addressing the rapidly accelerating crisis in Hungary. In the context of the Hungarian revolution, the SC was rapidly called into session to discuss measures to thoroughly address this issue, which concluded with limited results.

United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)

The General Assembly organ of the UN usually is responsible for responding to less pressing issues, but after the passing of the Uniting of Peace Resolution in 1950, is granted the emergency power to pass Security Council resolutions in the case where a P5 country vetoes a crucial resolution. As such, since the USSR vetoes resolutions condemning the conflict, the General Assembly will serve as a catalyst for the voice of the SC and the wider international community.

Hungary

As the location where the civilian unrest amplified by the speech of Khrushchev morphed into public protests that threatened the communist regime, social cohesion, and the wider authority and image of the USSR in the international community, Hungary is the central country in which the conflict takes place. As a member of the Eastern Bloc and a satellite state of the USSR, the government of Hungary was not only bound to the terms and agreements of the Warsaw Pact, which bestows the USSR with the authority to quell any movements that threatened socialism but is also a firm believer in Communism, creating an ideological dissonance with the protestors. Under Gero, the government has responded to protestors through forceful means and often unlawful detainment and arrests. However, under the leadership of Nagy, the subsequent prime minister, the government became more tolerant of the protests and Nagy promised increased autonomy, freedom, and independence.

USSR

The USSR was symbolic of the physical manifestation of the ideology of socialism or communism during the Cold War and holds the responsibility to protect all countries bound together by the Warsaw Pact regarding any dangers to socialism. With one of the most powerful militaries and the most sophisticated intel-gathering network at the time, the USSR feels pressure to quell any protests through militant means to prove the strength of socialism

in its ideological battle with the West. The uprising in Hungary communicated the voices of discontent among people under a socialist regime, underscoring the vulnerability of the Eastern Bloc and creating difficulty for the USSR to maintain its firm facade.

Austria

Starting in April of 1955, Austria and the USSR reached an agreement in the form of a treaty, which outlined the stance of neutrality which remained for the remaining years of the Cold War. As a result, Austria aligned neither with the West nor the East. As refugees started fleeing Hungary as violence escalated, Austria welcomed them with open arms, providing food, shelter, and safety. Moreover, it hosted a joint program in collaboration with the U.S. to provide enough supplies for the refugees to maintain their livelihoods while also allowing them to migrate to surrounding countries. While the neutrality of Austria effectively saved and improved many lives of refugees fleeing Hungary, Austria restricts UN peacekeepers and allied forces from passing through the country to access Hungary and maintains a tense relationship with Hungary because of accusations of smuggling weapons via trade routes to support rebel protestors.

USA

The USA strongly opposes the ideology of socialism, standing firm in its belief in capitalism, which is exemplified through the active voice the USA takes in the UN Security Council to condemn the actions of the USSR for its treatment of the protestors in Hungary. Due to worries of escalation with the USSR, the USA takes a more careful approach by operating through the UN and indirectly supporting the people of Hungary. In addition, internal affairs, such as the presidential election, and other external affairs, such as the Suez crisis and threats from Khrushchev in the case of a direct intervention for the U.S., pushed the U.S. to focalize their resources into other areas. Despite the difficult circumstances, the U.S. started an emergency program collaborating with Austria to provide food and supplies to refugees. In addition, as Hungary was getting overwhelmed by the vast number of refugees, the U.S. started Operation Safe Haven, which transported significant numbers of migrants into the state of New Jersey for immigration processing, and afterward, focused through NGOs and non-profits to assist refugees with adapting to the political and cultural climate of the U.S.

Timeline of Events

Date	Description of event
April 4, 1949	NATO Alliance is formed
May 14, 1955	The Warsaw pact is created
February 25, 1956	Nikita S. Khrushchev delivers a speech during the closed session of the 20 th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. Among all, he denounces deceased ex-

	USSR leader Joseph Stalin and criticizes his ruling methods. This begins to stoke unrest in satellite states, including Hungary
June/July 1956	Hungarian people begin to protest Rákosi's regime, and he is replaced by Erno Gero.
Oct 23, 1956	<p>Student and Workers host a demonstration in Budapest, demanding democracy, freedom of speech, and independence from the USSR. Members of the Hungarian secret police are killed, and Soviet monuments are attacked.</p> <p>Students suggest a list of 16 points for reform, which include freedom of speech, a national minimum wage, the readjustment of production quotas, and the withdrawal of Soviet troops.</p> <p>Prime Minister Gero rejects the petition and orders the police to disperse the demonstration. The police fires on the crowd, leading to resistance from the protestors, who fight against the police, AVO (Hungarian Secret Police) and Russian Soldiers.</p> <p>Immense fighting ensues with kills on both ends.</p>
Oct 24, 1956	<p>Soviet troops and tanks enter Budapest in response to the rebellion and are deployed to shoot at demonstrators. Protestors organize a general strike and destroy symbols of the Soviet occupation.</p> <p>Erno Gero is replaced by Imre Nagy, a less extreme leader and more liberal and popular among the citizens.</p>
Oct 28, 1956	<p>Soviet tanks are withdrawn from Budapest. Protestors continue to demand more freedom. They make it clear that they want to get rid of the Communist Party and leave the Warsaw Pact.</p> <p>Imre Nagy begins to plan political and economic reforms, instituting democratically elected governments, impartial legal systems, freedom of religion, the permanent withdrawal of Soviet troops from the nation, and future Hungarian neutrality in the Cold War.</p> <p>Imre Nagy hoped for support from Western countries and the United Nations</p>
Nov 1, 1956	Imre Nagy formally announces that Hungary will hold democratic elections, abolish the one-party rule, and leave the Warsaw Pact
Nov 4, 1956	Khrushchev sends the USSR's soldiers (about 6,000 Soviet tanks) back into Budapest and cracks down on Hungary. Vicious street fighting breaks out, but the Soviet's

	eventually win. On the same day, Imre Nagy flees and seeks asylum at the Yugoslav Embassy in Budapest. Thousands of protestors are killed, 20,000 are injured, and more are arrested. Some attempt to flee the country.
Nov 5, 1956	The United Nations Security Council has its 754 th meeting on the topic of the Hungarian Revolution, passing resolution 120.
Nov 10, 1956	A ceasefire is agreed
1958	Imre Nagy is executed for treason

Previous Attempts to Resolve the Issue

On November 4th, 1956, the United Nations Security Council was called to convene to pass a resolution that addressed the brewing crisis of the quickly escalating conflict in Hungary. However, the USSR exercised its veto power to silence the resolution, forcing an emergency drafting of Security Council Resolution 120, which effectively pushed the issue into the hands of the General Assembly, where the USSR would not have veto power. This resolution passed, with the USSR being the only country that voted against it. Subsequently, a more thorough resolution was drafted and passed in the General Assembly, which not only condemned the invasion of Hungary with armed forces and the violence against protestors but also outlined requests towards the government of the USSR and Hungary to allow neutral third-party individuals such as UN peacekeepers and observers to be deployed to oversee the trajectory of the conflict and the unfolding events.

However, due to the respect for national sovereignty and the lack of enforcement power towards their resolution, the UN has limited results to show for their efforts. The United States demonstrated most of its effort in working through the UN to prevent the risk of an escalating global conflict and sending aid to refugees who have fled to surrounding countries. Therefore, the USSR, despite facing international condemnation for actively suppressing the rights of protestors stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, was allowed to remain unchallenged.

- The situation in Hungary, 4 November 1956, S/3733
- Resolution 1004, 4 November 1956, GA/RES/ES-II
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 10 December 1948, GA/RES/217A

Possible Solutions

- Establishing a human rights watch group to report actively and factually regarding the situation in Hungary is crucial for allowing the international community to understand the scope of the conflict, the actions

taken by both the government of Hungary and the USSR and providing the protestors with a voice. Practically, this can be achieved through thoughtful and thorough collaboration between the UN as a neutral third-party observer and free-lance journalists or neutral journalist organizations. Increased transparency regarding this grave situation could encourage the governments of Hungary and the USSR to utilize less forceful means of addressing the protests.

- Creating an emergency UN refugee program specific to addressing this crisis to ensure ready access to healthcare, supplies, and shelter for refugees. Specifically, this program could include similar elements to the U.S. Operation Safe Haven, which will distribute refugees to other nations which can effectively support them as the conflict gradually resolves and could also serve as a platform for people to speak freely of their experience with Hungary without the fear of prosecution. Focusing on the humanitarian aspect of the conflict will mitigate the lasting trauma it inflicts upon future generations and will adequately protect vulnerable civilians.
- Hosting negotiations discussing the autonomy of Hungary, between the government under Nagy and the USSR, through neutral third-party states or organizations like the UN, could potentially encourage the USSR to allow Hungary greater freedom for self-governance. For instance, Hungary could emphasize its desire for freedom of expression and religion and propose establishing Hungary as an autonomous region inside the Eastern Bloc, which could influence the decision the USSR takes. These negotiations will ideally take place through neutral countries such as Austria and be organized by the UN, to ensure a peaceful atmosphere that will foster productive dialogue that promotes peace.

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