



**NATIONAL JUNIOR COLLEGE**  
**General Certificate of Education Advanced Level**

**PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2017**

**HISTORY**  
**Higher 1**

**8814/01**

**Paper 1**  
**International History, 1945-2000**

**24 August 2017**  
**3 Hours**

**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

Write your name and registration number in the space provided on the answer paper.

Write in dark blue or black ink.

Do not use staples, paper clips, glue or correction fluid.

Write your answers on the separate answer paper provided.

Please start each answer on a fresh sheet of paper, and label your answers clearly according to the question number.

**Section A**

Answer **Question 1**.

**Section B**

Answer any **three** questions.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

Please place the cover sheet in front of your examination script.

All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.

## Section A

You must answer Question 1.

### THE ROLE OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

1. Read the sources and then answer the question.

#### Source A

The Chairman of the Independent Inquiry into United Nations actions during the 1994 Rwanda genocide, Ingvar Carlsson, presented his report to the Security Council this morning, saying the Council had the power to have prevented at least some of the Rwandan tragedy, and could act to ensure such a tragedy did not happen again. He described the lack of political will to act in the face of crises as the most dangerous obstacle to United Nations' work for the maintenance of peace. The Council's decision to reduce the strength of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) after the genocide started, and despite its knowledge of the atrocities, was the cause of much bitterness in Rwanda. The Council must give missions the mandate they needed, mobilize the necessary troops and resources, and accept its responsibility irrespective of where problems occurred.

*United Nations Security Council Press Release SC/6843, April 2000.*

#### Source B

First, contrary to the conventional wisdom, Russia and China are not the most profligate in their use of the veto. Since the 1970s, that distinction has belonged to the United States (usually on draft resolutions containing criticism of Israel). Second, overall use of the veto has declined markedly since the end of the Cold War. The threat of the veto has important shadow effects on Council deliberations, of course, but the historical trajectory is toward greater consensus on the Council and against the casual use of the veto. Perhaps the most fundamental point about the veto is that you could not have a Security Council without it. Major powers will simply not grant an international body binding legal authority on matters of peace and security unless they are certain that it will not prejudice their interests. So the alternative to the Security Council veto is really no Security Council, or at least not in a recognizable form. As maddening as the likely Russian veto will be, that's a trade-off that few would be willing to make. As frustrating as it is, the Security Council is still an enormously useful body, not least because it institutionalizes the practice of great-power security consultations.

*Adapted from The Journal of Foreign Affairs, 2012.*

#### Source C

During the Cold War, the Security Council could never function as intended, because the Soviet Union used its veto power as a permanent member of the Security Council to thwart actions opposed by its client states or by General Assembly blocs that Soviet diplomacy sought to estrange from America and the West. Deadlock in the Security Council was not the only result of the Cold War. A 'nonaligned' bloc of Asian, African and Latin American countries sought to exploit the rivalry between the Western alliance and the Soviet bloc. As long as their defections to the Soviet camp were a credible threat, Third World countries could attempt to extort concessions from the USA and its allies.

*An excerpt by Michael Lind, a foreign policy analyst in Washington, D.C., who writes frequently on American diplomacy, 1994.*

### **Source D**

We stand today at a unique and extraordinary moment. The crisis in the Persian Gulf, as grave as it is, also offers a rare opportunity to move toward an historic period of cooperation. We can now point to five United Nations Security Council Resolutions that condemn Iraq's aggression. They call for Iraq's immediate and unconditional withdrawal. The United Nations is backing up its words with action. The Security Council has imposed mandatory economic sanctions on Iraq, designed to force Iraq to relinquish the spoils of its illegal conquest. The Security Council has also taken the decisive step of authorizing the use of all means necessary to ensure compliance with these sanctions.

*From US President George H. W. Bush's Address to Congress, September 1990.*

### **Source E**

The initial reason for the inclusion of this [veto] power in the Charter was to prevent the UN to take direct actions against any of its principal founding members. The use of veto power has become distant from that initial reason and this power has turned into a tool for protecting national interests of permanent members or their strategic allies...

The first veto was cast in February 1946 by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) and since then the permanent members have used their veto power a total of 263 times... The Soviet Union used its veto power more than any other country. From 1946 to the time of its fall and the subsequent succession of Russia, this country vetoed a total of 119 resolutions.

*Academic journal article about SC Veto Power and Its Reform, published in 2011.*

### **Now answer the following question.**

How far do Sources A to E support the view that the UN Security Council hindered peacekeeping efforts during the period 1945-2000?

## Section B

You must answer **three** questions from this section.

2. "More than anything else, national security concerns were the primary cause of the start of the Cold War." How far do you agree?
3. "Credit for the ending of the Cold War should be given to the masses, not the leaders". How valid is this statement?
4. Assess the view that the oil crises of the 1970s represented the greatest problem the global economy faced from 1945 – 2000.
5. "Industrial reforms laid the foundation for China's economic miracle in the post-Mao era." Discuss this statement with reference to China's rise in the 1970s-2000.
6. To what extent was Israel more responsible for the continued Arab-Israeli conflict since 1948?

**~ GOOD LUCK – YOU CAN DO IT! ~**