## **Position Paper**





## Sudan

Sudan is a peaceful country that tries as much as possible not to interfere in the affairs of others and always searches for ways of dialogue and negotiation to be the best solution to resolving conflicts, such as what happened in the past years when the Sudanese government signed a peace agreement with several Sudanese rebel groups, with the aim of ending armed conflicts in Darfur, South Kordofan and South Blue Nile

Sudan gave up some of its policies to prevent wars and achieve the principle of peace.

Since the outbreak of the war in Ukraine, Sudan has maintained acceptable levels of relations with both parties to the conflict in the Ukraine crisis, with the aim of minimizing - as much as possible - its effects calculated.

And researchers and officials in Sudan stated that despite the lack of any role in Sudan in this crisis, it cannot escape the consequences of this global conflagration, as the impact of the crisis will be heavy on the country because of its dependence on foodstuffs that come from the two countries.

Fighting and sanctions have disrupted grain shipments from Russia and Ukraine, which between them account for nearly 30 per cent of global wheat exports, threatening hunger and social upheaval in many countries.

The impact will be especially severe in Sudan, one of the world's poorest countries, where a military coup in October led by army chief Abdel Fattah al-Burhan brought fresh turmoil and saw Western donor countries cut aid.

Sudan relied militarily on Russia under strongman Omar al-Bashir, who was ousted in 2019 following three decades in power marked by international isolation and crippling US sanctions.

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On February 23, the day before Russia invaded Ukraine, a Sudanese delegation headed by powerful Mohamed Hamdan Daglo arrived in Moscow for an eight-day visit. The two sides discussed diplomatic, political and economic topics, as well as Russian-Sudanese national security. The Sudanese Foreign Minister explained that the visit of the Vice-President to Moscow was scheduled before the outbreak of the Ukrainian crisis, and aims to discuss cooperation between the two countries.

The Sudanese government said that it supports dialogue between Russia and Ukraine to resolve the crisis, ignoring Western demands to publicly condemn the Russian military aggression against Ukraine. In statements after the meeting, the council affirmed Sudan's supportive stance for adopting dialogue as a means to resolve the crisis between Russia and Ukraine.

However, Sudan abstained on a vote to condemn Russian aggression by the UN General Assembly, joining 34 other countries, 17 of them in Africa, in doing so.

The issues between Russia and Ukraine are putting a cloud of tension over the world and that only seems to fuel the fire flaming underneath it. This is unacceptable and the need to put an end to this is now rather than later where the tensions could escalate into other countries surrounding it dragging them into the situation even if they try to avoid the tension.

Furthermore, we believe this situation should be handled in an orderly fashion and in a way that leaves both parties relatively satisfied with the choice that is made. As most of the world knows, we have close relations with Russia economically and we both wish to keep those ties between us relatively strong during a time of crisis.

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