**Teacher Instructions**

**Overview:** This game was created to teach students the skills needed to understand current events and the different perspectives countries may hold. It was originally created based around an ISIS-related event in 2014, but can be adapted for a different event and different countries. The use of primary sources is also strongly recommended to supplement the perspectives described in the Country Information Cards. This version included maps for students to understand the surrounding geography of their countries. Speeches and newspaper articles reflecting countries’ points of view would also be useful.

**Group Size:** 5

**Time:** 30-45 minutes

**Materials for Each Group:**

* 1 of each Country Information Card and supplemental primary sources
* Scenario Sheets
* World Map
* Solutions Sheet
* Points Sheet (give to groups after solutions sheet has been completed)

Split students into groups of 5 and hand out materials to each group (world map, country cards, scenario sheets)

Discuss UN and Security Council with students.

Read the following scenario:

*This event really occurred in 2014. You will respond to it as if you are a member of the UN Security Council. Use your country cards to argue for a solution that will match what objectives your country feels are most important.*

*The Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, or ISIS, has expanded its control over the past several years, with the ultimate goal of controlling the entire Middle East and parts of Europe. The UN has previously condemned it for crimes against humanity including mass murder, genocide, and torture. They have a record of violence against Kurds, Yazidis, Christians, and Shiite Muslims.*

*Two months ago, ISIS began closing in on villages in northwest Iraq made up almost entirely of Yazidis. Now, 40,000 Yazidis have taken refuge in 9 different locations on Mt. Sinjar, a rocky mountain without many resources. These people have been trapped for weeks with little to no access to food, water, or ammunition to defend themselves with*

*This is not the first time ISIS has cornered a community like this, but this event has garnered a lot of publicity and global attention. People worldwide are calling for UN action, so the five permanent member countries (United States, Russia, China, United Kingdom, France) have gathered to reach a resolution as to what should be done.*

Instructions:

1. Read over your country cards to learn about your country’s stance on several topics.
2. As a group, read over the solutions on the Points Sheet. Debate over which ones you should choose based on how your country would argue. Remember that what you choose must be unanimous, because each permanent member of the Security Council has veto power. (10 min)
3. After you’ve had time to debate and come to a conclusion, you will be given a score sheet that tells you how many points each country gets based on the solutions chosen. Tally up each country’s points. The person whose country gets the most points wins for the group. The group that gets the most points overall wins for the whole class.