



Malaysia Position Paper Ahmet Derin Kılyar



I. Background Information on Malaysia

Located in Southeast Asia, Malaysia is a country consisting of two non-contiguous zones called Peninsular Malaysia and East Malaysia. Peninsular Malaysia being on the Malay Peninsula, East Malaysia is located on an island named Borneo. The capital of the country, Kuala Lumpur, stretches out to the western region of the peninsula, being only 25 miles far from the administrative center, Putrajaya, which is situated 16 miles from the capital of the country. Malaysia shares a common border with Thailand in the north and is connected to the island republic of Singapore by a bridge and a causeway. The eastern region of Malaysia resides in the country's largest states, Sarawak and Sabah, which take up practically the northern part of the massive island. While Peninsular Malaysia occupies approximately 40% of the country's total area, East Malaysia constitutes 60% of it. Due to the fact that Malaysia lies at the core of Southeast Asia, its geopolitical location possesses a significant role in the country's involvement in conflicts within the region. Throughout history, the geopolitical alterations observed in Southeast Asia emphasize Malaysia's strategic significance for the prominent world powers. In its initial nature, Malaysia does not prefer to interfere with any political, economic, or social within the area and most of the time tries to remain impartial upon the regional conflicts. Yet, due to its geopolitical location, the country inevitably gets involved in territorial conflicts with other countries; nonetheless, none of those disputes have concluded with a military conflict yet. Malaysia adopts a policy that promotes impartiality and non-alignment and thus, the country's foreign policy is built upon neutrality in an official manner. Since the 1960s Malaysia's sole aim has been to preserve its relationships with all countries on a peaceful scale, regardless of their political, economic, or social ideologies or systems. Malaysia's neutral attribute bolsters the stability and security within the region of Southeast Asia; prioritizing an environment where peace and reconciliation prevail over the area. Therefore, Malaysia has been playing an active role in such organizations as the Commonwealth of Nations, the United Nations, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and the Non-Aligned Movement to fortify its relationships with particularly Islamic countries and organizations. As being one of the founding members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Malaysia's chief purposes consist of boosting growth in economy and business, accelerating social progress, alongside with preserving the region's culture. In quest of enhancing the foundation of prosperous and peace-loving relationships between countries, Malaysia has direct connections with the United Nations as well as its sub-organizations and agencies such as but not limited to UNESCO, World Bank, and International Monetary Bank.





II. Past Achievements and Attempts of Malaysia on the Issues

A. The question of the Durand Line:

- Malaysia does not have a direct link to the conflict within the region of the Durand Line; thus, Malaysia rather preferred to remain impartial upon the issue.
- The country's sole inference was that Malaysia recognized Afghan Interim Government (AIG) which was set up by Pakistani-based Islamic fighters in 1989 when Soviet Troops withdrew their troops from Afghanistan.

B. Tackling maritime security threats in the Bay of Bengal:

- In order to enhance the engagements between the U.S. Royal Malaysian navies initiated a
 Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training exercise that in cooperation with Pacific Partnership and
 is one of the massive annual many-sided humanitarian help which focuses on the adaptation of
 missions of collapse relief preparedness.
- On the 27th of October 1969, the governments of Malaysia and Indonesia made an agreement on the constraint of the continental shelves.
- Malaysia participates in Southeast Asia Cooperation and Training, which consists of almost a dozen maritime nations that aim to improve knowledge sharing and coordination skills between the countries.
- The navies of Malaysia, among those in ASEAN, are acquiring state-of-art military presences including surface platforms, anti-ship projectiles, submarines, maritime surveillance aircraft, and autonomous platforms.
- On 6 May 2009, Malaysia and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam collectively acknowledged the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, in correspondence with Article 76, paragraph 8, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.
- Malaysia ratified UNCLOS 1982 on 10 December 1982.
- Prepared by the Government of Malaysia in cooperation with the relevant agencies such as but not limited to Article 76 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea 1982 (UNCLOS 1982), the Partial Submission to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf emphasizes the delimitation of the outer edges of the coastline in the South China Sea.
- Called the Royal Malaysia Navy, the armed maritime force of Malaysia's chief purpose is to procure maritime monitoring and defense activities within the surface area of 603,210 square kilometers that encompass the country's coastal lines and Exclusive Economic Zones.

C. Curbing state-sponsored terrorism in Southern Asia:





- During the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) held on 4 April 2002 Malaysia defined terrorism as an act "encompassing all violence targeted at civilians".
- Malaysia's stance on terrorism is strengthened in Directive No. 18 subjected by the National Security Council which stresses that Malaysia condemns any country overlooking terrorism and any formation of terrorism.
- Right after the terrorist violence on World Trade Centre and the Pentagon on 11 September 2001, Malaysia has vigorously put an emphasis on the need to enhance the definition of terrorism alongside reevaluating the progressively inequitable environment against the Muslims.
- In 2006 Malaysian Government put into action an approach of total defense (HANRUH) as an element of the national defense doctrine.
- Malaysian police became under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Internal Security. The Financial Intelligence Unit of Malaysia provided special training to police forces throughout Southeast Asia.
- Malaysia's augmentation to the UN Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism came to have legal force.

III. Objectives, Aims and Possible Solutions Proposed by Malaysia on the Issues

A. The question of the Durand Line:

- In order to mitigate the detrimental effects of the humanitarian crisis going on within the region of Durand Line, Afghanistan and Pakistan ought to collaborate and they should both be willing to settle down the commission via putting an end to the ongoing homicide.
- An objective treaty that looks after both country's rights ought to be ratified promptly and both countries ought to prioritize the needs of the residents living within the area of Durand Line.
- Alongside making a compromise between Pakistan and Afghanistan, an international summit ought to be conducted especially with the participation of the United States of America in order to discuss a range of vital solutions to ensure border safety and whether an official borderline should be determined within the region or not.

B. Tackling maritime security threats in the Bay of Bengal:

- To resolve the conflicts in the Bay of Bengal, militaries and international organizations should aim to identify the areas within the borders of the bay to prevent any terrorist actions and criminal activities.
- A safe zone or a secured getaway should be created for those refugees fleeing away from genocide if the immense migration crisis is not wanted to end up leading to catastrophes created with thousands of deaths of innocent people.





- All countries that are involved in the rivalry to possess dominance over the area should be reminded that territorial issues will settle and peace will only come if and only if all the countries work collaboratively to efficiently preserve peace within the region.
- A meticulously established organization must be created or the already existing ones should be reinforced to focus on alternative ways to block piracy, drug trafficking, and smuggling.

C. Curbing state-sponsored terrorism in Southern Asia:

- In order to employ effective solutions to the accelerating issue of global state-sponsored terrorist attacks, governments and policymakers should prioritize identifying the strategies and techniques used by terrorist groups as a weapon against countries.
- Intelligence and security services should increase their capacity to further monitor possible terrorists via providing increased security to those at-risk, and they should give importance to identify individuals who are inclined to be radicalized.
- Websites that are composed of calls for violence and malevolence speeches or the ones that call for a discrimination environment should be monitored closely and taken down if necessary.





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