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AMERICA



STUDY GUIDE

2022-2023

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The Carlos and Malú Alvarez Academic WorldQuest 2022-2023 National Competition is made possible by the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Alvarez of San Antonio, Texas.



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ABOUT US

The [World Affairs Councils of America](#) is an independent, nonpartisan organization dedicated to engaging the public and leading global voices to better understand the world, America's international role, and the policy choices that impact our daily lives and our future.

Established in 1986 as a nonprofit membership organization in Washington, DC, the World Affairs Councils of America (WACA) carries out its mission by:

- **Supporting more than 90 World Affairs Councils across the United States** and promoting their programs and educational initiatives for diverse, multi-generational audiences. We bring the world to classrooms, C-suites, and conferences in the nation's capital and town hall-style forums in your community.
- **Developing Councils' convening power nationwide** by providing face-to-face connections and dialogue with global leaders, business executives, policy experts, social innovators, and distinguished opinion makers.
- **Exploring new ideas in dozens of dynamic Council events each week** that shape public discourse on a range of critical issues, including: national security; the economy and international trade; global health; energy and the environment; immigration; human rights; education; and culture.
- **Challenging the next generation to develop leadership skills and global acumen** so that our communities can better compete, collaborate, and make informed decisions.
- **Partnering with organizations** that seek to reach out to "grassroots" and "grasstops" citizens, disseminate research, mutually expand networks, and transform how people, enterprises, and governments think about the world.
- **Expanding informed, respectful public discourse about international relations and current events** through WACA conference calls, podcasts, information services, and social media. We are digitally accessible from anywhere in the world.

The World Affairs Councils of America takes no institutional positions on matters of policy. Any opinions expressed in the resources are the views of the authors.

ACADEMIC WORLDQUEST™



INTRODUCTION

This year, we host the 21st Annual Academic WorldQuest™ (AWQ), the flagship education program of the World Affairs Councils of America. One of the greatest challenges facing our nation and our schools across the country is preparing our youth for the globally interconnected world of the 21st Century. America's ability to face economic and security challenges and seize new opportunities depends on an informed citizenry and a well-educated workforce. Academic WorldQuest™ is a unique, competitive educational program that exposes youth to the world outside our borders and prepares them for the challenges and opportunities of the 21st Century.

Founded in 2003, Academic WorldQuest™ is a team game testing high school students' knowledge of international affairs. In the game, four-person teams compete by answering questions divided into ten unique and engaging thematic categories. The winner is the team with the most correct answers.

STRUCTURE OF PROGRAM

During the academic year preceding The Carlos and Malú Alvarez 2022 Academic WorldQuest™ National Competition in the spring, 4,000 to 5,000 students participated in local AWQ competitions hosted by some 50 World Affairs Councils across the United States. This information packet includes the AWQ Study Guide, which provides detailed resources on each of 10 question categories to help students and teachers to prepare for the competition (with the exception of the Current Events category). Questions for the competition are drawn from the resources in the AWQ Study Guide. One winning team is invited to represent their high school, city, and local World Affairs Council at The Carlos and Malú Alvarez Academic WorldQuest™ National Competition, held in the spring each year – with last year's 2022 Competition held hybrid (in-person and virtually).

COMMON CORE STANDARDS

Academic WorldQuest™ contributes to the national Common Core State Standards Initiative by fostering reading comprehension skills for informational text.

To find a local competition in your area, look on the [World Affairs Councils of America website](#) to locate your local World Affairs Council.

ACADEMIC WORLDQUEST™



AWQ 2022-2023 CATEGORIES

The categories for this year's AWQ National Competition have been selected by the World Affairs Councils of America, with input from member World Affairs Councils across the country, to reflect several of the most critical global and U.S. foreign policy issues:

1. Securing the Future of the World's Wildlife
2. The Arctic Council: Frozen Cooperation
3. Atrocity Prevention and Accountability
4. Combating Global Food Insecurity
5. Economic Sanctions - A Double-Edged Sword
6. Great Decisions
7. Country in Focus: Ethiopia
8. The Future of Supply Chains
9. Battle of the Century: Autocracy vs. Democracy
10. Current Events

STUDY GUIDE OVERVIEW

The official Academic WorldQuest™ Study Guide has been prepared by the World Affairs Councils of America. Questions for all of the above categories, with the exception of Great Decisions and Current Events, are drawn from the resources included in the AWQ Study Guide.

EVENT DETAILS

The Carlos and Malú Alvarez 2023 Academic WorldQuest™ National Competition honors the tremendous dedication and philanthropic support of WACA Board Member Carlos Alvarez and his wife Malú to our flagship program and the Academic WorldQuest™ Endowment Fund. (For information on making a gift to the AWQ Fund, please visit WACA's website: www.worldaffairsCouncils.org/Support.)

The National Competition is attended by 200-250 of the nation's most promising high school students each year, along with their parents, teachers, and chaperones. The 4-hour AWQ competition is a unique opportunity for students to visit the nation's capital, perhaps for the first time.

ACADEMIC WORLDQUEST™



RULES AND REGULATIONS

QUALIFYING FOR AWQ 2022-2023 NATIONAL COMPETITION:

All teams that compete in The Carlos and Malú Alvarez 2023 Academic WorldQuest™ National Competition must win a local AWQ competition sponsored by a Member Council of the World Affairs Councils of America. Teams may compete in only one (1) local competition in order to qualify to compete in the National Competition. A team consists of four (4) Primary Teammates who are currently high school students (freshman–senior year). No more than four players per team will be able to compete in the National Competition. Teams of fewer than four students are allowed to compete, but this is strongly discouraged.

HOW TO PLAY

There are 10 rounds in the competition, each round having 10 questions. Teams will have 45 seconds at the local competition and 30 seconds at the National Competition to answer each question. NOTE: For the AWQ National Competition, all of the categories are multiple choice. For Local AWQ Competitions organized by Councils, you may use the multiple-choice format for the Current Events category.

SCORING

One (1) point is awarded for each correct answer. No penalty for incorrect answers or no answer. The team with the most correct answers out of all 100 questions is declared AWQ Champion. If, at the conclusion of the competition, there is a tie for 1st through 3rd place, tiebreaker rounds will be played.

REGULATIONS

A team consists of four (4) players. Player substitutions are not allowed.

Teams are not allowed to consult with the audience, wireless devices, cell phones, other teams, books, or other written materials at any point during the competition. Any team found by World Affairs Councils of America judges, staff, or volunteers to be violating this rule will be automatically disqualified and ejected from the Competition. If a team believes another team is cheating, a player may alert a World Affairs Councils of America representative.

However, if the other team is not found to be in violation of any rules, the accusing team will forfeit two (2) points.



ACADEMIC WORLDQUEST™

2022-2023 STUDY GUIDE

All questions for this year's Carlos and Malú Alvarez Academic WorldQuest 2022-2023 program will be drawn from the sources in this Study Guide (with the exception of the Current Events category, which will be drawn mostly from WACA's [Weekly World News Update](#)). This is a primary source that contains articles from a variety of media organizations worldwide.

The overall aim of this AWQ Study Guide is to help you learn about important international topics of the day and to help prepare you for your future careers. More specifically, to prepare for the AWQ competitions, when reading the material, use your critical thinking skills to synthesize and understand the material. WACA often creates questions that are not straight memorization types and will ask questions instead that require broader synthesis of the required readings.

The AWQ Study Guide is best viewed in a current version of Adobe Reader. If you are having trouble clicking any of the below links, cut and paste them into your browser instead of clicking them, or try a different browser.

SECURING THE FUTURE OF THE WORLD'S WILDLIFE



Animals, plants, and the ecosystems they live in make up the world around us. Environmental and human-related factors have placed wildlife at risk of endangerment and extinction. Climate change has increased annual temperatures in areas where certain species are unable to sustain themselves and deforestation and animal hunting have destroyed habitats and contributed to the extinction of many species. Failure to act now will only contribute to further endangerment of species worldwide. This topic will explore the importance of biodiversity and the variety of conservation efforts aiming to protect the future of the natural world.

SOURCES

- [“Understanding Conservation”](#) National Wildlife Federation
- [“The Importance on Biological Diversity”](#) World Wildlife Day, YouTube – February 15, 2022
- [“Bringing Back the Beasts: Global Rewilding Plans Take Shape”](#) Janey Marinelli, Yale Environment 360 – July 5, 2022
- [“What is Cop15 and Why Does it Matter for All Life on Earth?”](#) Patrick Greenfield and Phoebe Weston, The Guardian – August 30, 2022
- [“Trophy Hunting: Why a UK Import Ban Threatens Wildlife Conservation”](#) Amy Dickman, The Conversation – August 10, 2022
- [“How New Initiatives Are Protecting the Galápagos For Future Generations”](#) Mark Stratton, National Geographic – August 28, 2022
- [“How Saving Wildlife Benefits Humans – In Ways We Really Need”](#) Marina Qutab, One Green Planet – 2020
- [“Preventing Pandemics Through Biodiversity Conservation and Smart Wildlife Trade Regulation”](#) Vanda Felbab-Brown, Brookings – January 25, 2021
- [“To Secure a Future For Wildlife, Look to Their Distant Past, Study Says”](#) Suzana Camargo, Mongabay – May 3, 2022
- [“Lessons From Panda Conservation Could Help Asia’s Other, Overlooked, Bears”](#) Spoorthy Raman, Mongabay – May 9, 2022
- [“The Holberg Prize Award Ceremony for 2021 Laureate Martha C. Nussbaum”](#) Holberg Prize, Youtube – June 25, 2021
- [“Bringing Extinct Species Back From the Dead Could Hurt—Not Help—Conservation Efforts”](#) David Schultz, Science – February 27, 2017
- [“Cisco & NTT Ltd. Initiative, Connected Conservation, Expands into Kenya”](#) Chris Panzeca, Cisco – July 15, 2020
- [“These New Technologies Could Transform Wildlife Conservation”](#) Trang Chu Minh, Changing America – February 4, 2022

THE ARCTIC COUNCIL: FROZEN COOPERATION



The Arctic Council is an intergovernmental organization that promotes research and facilitates cooperation among Arctic countries. Established in 1996 by the signing of the Ottawa Declaration, member states of the Council include Canada, Denmark, Finland, Norway, Russia, Sweden and the United States. The Chairmanship of the Arctic Council rotates every two years among the Arctic States. The current chair for the Arctic Council is the Russian Federation (2021-2023). In March 2022, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and the United States declared that they will not attend meetings of the Arctic Council under Russian chairmanship in response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine. For this topic, we will investigate what happens to an intergovernmental organization when member states are at odds.

SOURCES

Overview

- "[What is the Arctic Council](#)" - Over the Circle
- "[About the Arctic Council](#)" - Arctic Council Official Site
 - "[Russian Chairmanship 2021-2023](#)" Arctic Council - 2021
- "[The Influence of the Arctic Council](#)" - Matthew Gross, Harvard International Review - February 16, 2022
- "[The Arctic Council: Indispensable International Regime?](#)" - Polar Geopolitics - February 6, 2019

Current Issues

- "[Military and Environmental Challenges in the Arctic](#)" - Carnegie Europe, November 28, 2019
- "[Changes in the Arctic: Background and Issues for Congress](#)" - CRS, March 24, 2022. **Read the following:**
 - Pg. 1-10
 - Geopolitical Environment: pg. 25-42
- "[How the Russia-Ukraine War Challenges Arctic Governance](#)" - Daniel McVicar, CFR - May 10, 2022
- "[Russia May Become the Only Non-NATO Nation in the Arctic, Sparking Fears of Conflict](#)" - Jackie Northam, All Things Considered (NPR) - May 12, 2022
- "[Lessons from Ukraine for the Arctic: Russian “Dialogue” Isn’t Always What It Seems](#)" - Jeremy Greenwood, Brookings - January 31, 2022
- "[“Nor Night Nor Day No Rest”: Arctic Diplomacy Divided \(and United\)](#)" - Marc Lanteigne, Over the Circle - May 21, 2022

THE ARCTIC COUNCIL: FROZEN COOPERATION

Current Issues Continued

- "[Russian Ambassador to US Warns Arctic Council Against Making Decisions Without Moscow](#)" - Trine Jonassen, High North News - June 10, 2022
- "[A Line Drawn Here: Arctic Boundaries Shift in a Time of Conflict](#)" - Marc Lanteigne, Over the Circle - July 15, 2022
- "[Arctic Council Paused: The Search for A Future for Arctic Cooperation Continues](#)" - Astri Edvardsen, High North News - April 27, 2022
- "[Could The Arctic Be a Wedge Between Russia and China?](#)" - Jeremy Greenwood & Shuxian Luo, War on the Rocks - April 4, 2022
- "[U.S. Policymakers Should Remain Wary of Chinese Ambitions in the Arctic](#)" - Daniel Kochis, The Heritage Foundation - July 28, 2022

ATROCITY PREVENTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY



Atrocity crimes – war crimes, crimes against humanity, genocide and the crime of aggression – threaten U.S. and global security. Current events in Ukraine, Myanmar, Afghanistan, and other countries underscore the continuing need for the United States to play a leading role in preventing atrocities and holding perpetrators accountable. This category will explore developments in U.S. and global policy around atrocities and incorporate current and historical case examples.

This category is sponsored by the United States Institute of Peace, a national, nonpartisan, public institution created by Congress and dedicated to helping prevent, mitigate and resolve violent conflict abroad.

SOURCES

Background

- U.S. Department of State, [United State Strategy to Anticipate, Prevent, and Respond to Atrocities](#), July 2022
- U.S. Department of State, [2022 Report to Congress Pursuant to Section 5 of the Elie Wiesel Genocide and Atrocities Prevention Act of 2018 \(P.L. 115-441\)](#), July 2022
- U.S. Institute of Peace, [Five Ways to Make the U.S. Atrocity Prevention Strategy Work, Analysis and Commentary](#), August 2022
- U.S. Agency for International Development, [Field Guide: Helping Prevent Mass Atrocities](#), June 2015
 - Document pages 3-8
- The Stimson Center, [Social Media Misinformation and the Prevention of Political Instability and Mass Atrocities](#), July 2022
- International Criminal Court, [The Court Today](#), July 2022
 - Page 1

Country Examples

- U.S. Institute of Peace, [How to Achieve Accountability for Atrocities in Ukraine, Analysis and Commentary](#), April 2022
- United Nations, [Violence, rhetoric, hate speech, drive atrocity crimes in Ukraine and beyond](#), Security Council hears, June 2022
- U.S. Institute of Peace, [Four Ways the U.S. Can Help Prevent Mass Atrocities in Afghanistan, Analysis and Commentary](#), June 2022

ATROCITY PREVENTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Country Examples (continued)

- The Heritage Foundation, [Why the U.S. Should Issue an Atrocity Determination for Uighurs](#), September 2020
- United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, [Risk of Mass Atrocities Against the Rohingya Post-Coup](#), August 2021
- The Stimson Center, [An Assessment of the Risk of Mass Atrocities in Uganda](#), October 2021
 - Executive Summary Page 4; Background Pages 10-14; Findings Pages 15-17
- United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, [“Don’t Abandon Us”: Preventing Mass Atrocities in Papua Indonesia](#), July 2022
- United States Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, [“Closing the Accountability Gap in Syria: Pathways to Prosecution,”](#) May 2022
- Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, [Hague Tribunal History: Decades of Atrocities, Anguish, and Justice for Ex-Yugoslavia](#), June 2021
- United States International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, [Infographic: ICTY Facts & Figures](#)

COMBATING GLOBAL FOOD INSECURITY



After steadily declining for over a decade, global hunger is on the rise again with over 828 million people going hungry every night. The ongoing conflict in Ukraine has resulted in a disruption to food markets and has aggravated the already existing food crisis caused by conflict, climate and COVID-19. In 2022, we have watched as food prices have reached an all-time high and countries are on the brink of famine. What can be done to alleviate these strains? For this topic, we will look at how countries and humanitarian organizations have taken immediate action to mitigate the risks of food insecurity.

SOURCES

- "[The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World \(2022\)](#)" UNICEF – July 7, 2022. **Read Chapter 2.**
- "[No Bread, No Peace](#)" Ehud Eiran, Michaela Elias & Aron M. Troen, Foreign Policy Magazine – January 23, 2021
- "[G7 Statement on Global Food Security](#)" G7 Germany – June 28, 2022
- "[Food Security Update](#)" World Bank – July 15, 2022.
- "[World Food Programme Annual Review 2021](#)" World Food Programme – 2021
- "[The Impact of the War in Ukraine on Food Security](#)" World Bank – April 5, 2022
- "[Haitian Migration: Food Insecurity, Fragility, and a Better Way Forward](#)" Jamie Lutz & Erol Yayboke, CSIS – November 22, 2021
- "[Greenhouse Farming Improves Food Security in Cameroon](#)" Blaise Eyong, DW News – July 23, 2022
- "[Food Systems: Solutions to Ending Global Hunger](#)" Elizabeth Nyamayaro, Better Food. Better World. (WFP) – December 23, 2021
- "[Modelling Alternative Futures of Global Food Security: Insights From FOODSECURE](#)" Hansvan Meijl, et. al – March, 17 2020
- "[Feeding 9 Billion](#)" Jonathan Foley, National Geographic – 2020
- "[U.S. Government Global Food Security Strategy](#)" U.S Government– 2022. **Read pages 26-40.**

ECONOMIC SANCTIONS - A DOUBLE-EDGED SWORD



Whether faced with aggressive military actions by one country against another, interference by one country in another country's elections, intolerable human rights violations, or the illegal testing of nuclear weapons, economic sanctions are among the first foreign policy options discussed as a response. Sanctions can be a strategic and symbolic way to exert leverage but sanctions can also bring along potential dangers after implementation. For this topic, we will analyze the decision to use sanctions and the effectiveness of these sanctions on their directed targets.

SOURCES

- "[What Are Economic Sanctions?](#)" - Jonathan Masters, CFR - August 12, 2019
- "[Sanctions: Diplomatic Tool, or Warfare by Other Means?](#)" Shane Smith, Beyond Intractability - April 2004
- "[Sanctions: Do They Work? Lessons Learned From North Korea, Iran, Cuba, Venezuela | Business Beyond](#)" DW News, Youtube - March 9, 2022
- "[The Pros/Cons of Economic Sanctions Explained: Definition, Examples, Advantages and Disadvantages](#)" One Minute Economics, YouTube - December 19, 2022
- "[Money Talks: Sanctioning Behavior](#)" The Economist - March 2, 2022
- "[FACT SHEET: Joined by Allies and Partners, the United States Imposes Devastating Costs on Russia](#)" The White House, February 24, 2022
- "[Are Sanctions Actually Hurting Russia's Economy? Here's What You Need to Know](#)" Ashish Valentine, NPR - July 1, 2022
- "[Ineffective, Immoral, Politically Convenient: America's Overreliance on Economic Sanctions and What to Do About It](#)" CATO Institute - February 18, 2020
- "[Biden Administration's Cuba Policy Changes](#)" Mark P. Sullivan, CRS - August 11, 2022
- "[The Sanctions Weapon](#)" IMF - June 2022
- "[Sanctions and Their Impact on Children](#)" Zoë Pelter, Camila Teixeira & Erica Moret, UNICEF - 2022
- "[The Role of Sanctions in Diplomacy](#)" ODU United Nations Society - 2020
- "[Economic Weaponry: Uses and Effectiveness of Sanctions](#)" World Economic Forum, YouTube - May 29, 2022. **Watch from 17:00 until 22:00**
- "[How Sanctions Work and the Power of U.S. Sanctions | The Day After](#)" Carnegie Endowment, YouTube - Sep 14, 2020
- "[The Future of U.S. Economic Sanctions](#)" Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft, YouTube - April 6, 2022. **Watch from 27:00 until 32:00**

GREAT DECISIONS



NOTE: In the 2022-2023 AWQ Competition, WACA has decided to modify the way we present Great Decisions as a topic. In previous years, we used all 8 topics in the AWQ Competition and recommended the same for local AWQ Competitions. Below is the outline for this year's Great Decisions Category

Great Decisions is an annual program that focuses on critical international issues provided by the Foreign Policy Association, a member of the World Affairs Councils of America. This year's Great Decisions topics are:

- Changing Demographics
- Outer Space
- Climate Change
- Russia and the U.S.
- Myanmar and ASEAN
- Quad Alliance
- Drug Policy in Latin America
- Industrial Policy
- Biden's Agenda.

LOCAL COMPETITION

To prepare for local AWQ competitions WACA **recommends** that students study the following topics from FPA High School Magazine Editions for Great Decisions. Questions for the local AWQ competition may be derived from the magazines, including the videos and links provided in both editions.:

- [Climate Change](#) (Issue 11: 05/22)
- [The New Space Race](#) (Issue 9: 02/22)

NATIONAL COMPETITION

The **Great Decisions 2022 Briefing Book** is **required** study material for the AWQ National Competition. For the 2023 AWQ National Competition, questions will be drawn from the following four Great Decisions 2022 Briefing Book topics:

- [Changing Demographics](#)
- [Drug Policy in Latin America](#)
- [Myanmar and ASEAN](#)
- [Outer Space](#)

The Briefing Book will be made available at a later date through the World Affairs Councils of America to the Member Councils participating in the National Competition.

COUNTRY IN FOCUS: ETHIOPIA



Known as the “cradle of humanity and located in the Horn of Africa, Ethiopia is Africa’s oldest independent country. With Africa’s second largest population, Ethiopia represents a melting pot of ancient cultures from the Middle East and Africa. Following a past wracked with military rule, civil war, and catastrophic famine, Ethiopia emerged as a major power in the Horn of Africa during the 21st century, enjoying rapid economic growth and increasing strategic importance within the region. The economic growth of Ethiopia in recent years has been stunted with the outbreak of conflict in the Tigray region in 2020, and the rise of food-insecurity in response to grain shortages caused by the Russian-Ukraine War. This topic will focus on an overview of the state; an introduction to the U.S.-Ethiopia relations; the Tigray conflict that has shaped the country’s foreign policy; and the impact the Russian-Ukraine War has had on Ethiopia.

SOURCES

Overview and History

- [Ethiopia](#) – Britannica. **Read the following sections:**
 - People
 - Cultural Life
 - Government and Society
- [Ethiopia](#) – CIA World Factbook. **Read the following sections:**
 - Introduction
 - Transnational Issues
- [“Ethiopia: East Africa’s Emerging Giant”](#) Claire Klobucista, CFR – November 4, 2020

U.S.-Ethiopian Relations

- [“U.S. Relations With Ethiopia”](#) – Bureau of African Affairs, U.S. State Department – January 14, 2020
- [“Ethio-US Relations”](#) Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
- [“History of USAID in Ethiopia”](#) USAID – August 29, 2022
- [“Ethiopia Conflict Dynamics Shift as New U.S. Envoy Takes Over”](#) Michelle Gavin, CFR – January 10, 2022
- [“The US Risks Losing Its Influence in the Horn of Africa. Here’s How to Get it Back”](#) Gabriel Negatu, Atlantic Council – January 11, 2022
- [“A Perspective on the Ethiopian-U.S. Relationship After a Year of Conflict”](#) Ambassador Jeffrey Feltman, U.S. Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa, U.S. State Department – November 1, 2021

COUNTRY IN FOCUS: ETHIOPIA

Regional Conflicts

- [“Ethiopia Tigray Conflict & Famine Explained: Eritrea, Abiy Ahmed, War Crimes & Latest News”](#) Behind the News, YouTube – July 8, 2021
- [“Dual Agenda”](#) Ayenat Mersie, Giulia Paravicini & Katharine Houreld, Reuters – November 1, 2021
- [“Still Far From Peace in Ethiopia”](#) Vanda Falbab-Brown, Brookings – February 1, 2022
- [“Could Ethiopia’s War in Tigray Spark Conflict with Sudan”](#) The Economist, YouTube – May 19, 2022
- [“Ethiopia: A Conflict at Breaking Point”](#) Hafsa Halawa, Carnegie Europe – June 29, 2022

Ethiopia and Russia-Ukraine War

- [“Ethiopians Hope to Fight for Russia in Ukraine”](#) Reuters, YouTube – April 21, 2022
- [“Russia’s Africa Moves Force Europe Rethink on Ethiopia”](#) Ilya Gridneff, Politico – July 28, 2022
- [“How the Ukraine War Hit Ethiopia's Food Supply”](#) Channel 4 News, YouTube – July 22, 2022
- [“Ukraine Grain Ship With Aid for Ethiopia Docks in Djibouti”](#) Catherine Byaruhanga, BBC News – August, 29 2022

THE FUTURE OF SUPPLY CHAINS



The International Labour Organization (ILO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations. It was created by the Treaty of Versailles in 1919 following the devastation of WWI. The beginning of the 20th century was a time of tremendous change due to the Industrial Revolution, social change, and competing economic models. The ILO was created with the idea that promoting social justice is essential to universal and lasting peace.

Supply chains around the world have experienced unprecedented disruption due to COVID-19, the rise of e-commerce, the digitalization of industry, and the ongoing U.S.-China trade war. In response, we have witnessed businesses working to keep pace with breakneck technological advancements, while also developing initiatives to create sustainable supply chains. For this topic, we will explore how companies are working alongside nations to ensure that rights are protected while also fighting to meet the growing demands as we enter the post-pandemic world.

SOURCES

- [“The Supply Chain Crisis and the Future of Globalization”](#) Harold James, Foreign Affairs – February 19, 2022
- [“Six Ways to Improve Supply Chains”](#) Darrell M. West, Brookings – July 12, 2022
- [“How Innovation Can Help End Forced Labor in Global Supply Chains”](#) - Dan Viederman, CFR – December 7, 2020
- [“‘Virtually Entire’ Fashion Industry Complicit in Uighur Forced Labour, Say Rights Groups”](#) Annie Kelly, The Guardian – July 23, 2020
- [“Gartner Predicts the Future of Supply Chain Technology”](#) Sarah Hippold, Gartner – April 20, 2022
- [“G7 Leaders’ Communiqué”](#) G7 Germany – June 28, 2022. **Read pages 6-12.**
- [“Supply Chains in a Post-COVID World”](#) Jody Aked via TED Talk, YouTube – November 3, 2020
- [“How Companies Are Overhauling Supply Chains to Ease Bottlenecks”](#) Wall Street Journal, YouTube – January 13, 2022
- [“Sustainable Supply Chains to Build Forward Better”](#) - ILO. **Read the following:**
 - [Project Overview Fact Sheet](#)
 - [Country Case Study: Coffee Production in Colombia for the European Market](#)
- [“Building Blocks for a Comprehensive Strategy on Achieving Decent Work in Supply Chains”](#) ILO – July 5, 2020
- [“Takeaways From President Biden’s Supply Chain Plan for 2022”](#) Aidan Arasasingham, Emily Benson & William Alan Reinsch, CSIS – February 28, 2022
- [“Reshaping Global Value Chains in Light of COVID-19”](#) The World Bank – 2020. **Read Chapter 6 only.**

BATTLE OF THE CENTURY: AUTOCRACY VS. DEMOCRACY



On a trip to Taiwan in August 2022, Speaker Nancy Pelosi stated: “Today, the world faces a choice between democracy and autocracy. America’s determination to preserve democracy here in Taiwan and in the world remains iron-clad.” With the invasion of Ukraine by Russia, we witnessed the alarming threat to democracy as authoritarian forces reached across borders to spread their regime. We have also witnessed recent events of democratic countries pushing their ideals into the realm of global politics, notably Speaker Pelosi’s recent trip to Taiwan. In this topic, we will investigate how autocracies and democracies are playing for power in the realm of global politics.

SOURCES

- "[Mapped: The State of Global Democracy in 2022](#)" Visual Capitalist, May 13, 2022
- "[Democracy Report 2022: Autocratization Changing Nature?](#)" V-Dem Institute. **Read pages 12-15, 30-37**
- "[Hungary's Authoritarian Leader Viktor Orban Wins Fourth Term in General Election](#)" France24, YouTube – April 3, 2022
- "[From Democratic Decline to Authoritarian Regime](#)" Mike Smeltzer & Noah Buyon, Freedom House – 2022
- "[With Autocrats on the Defensive, Can Democrats Rise to the Occasion?](#)" Kenneth Roth, Human Rights Watch – 2022
- "[Autocracy Versus Democracy After the Ukraine Invasion: Mapping a Middle Way](#)" Richard Youngs, Carnegie Europe – July 20, 2022
- "[Autocracies Versus Democracies: 7-3 At Halftime, But a Lot Can Still Happen in the Second Half](#)" Jamie Shea, Friends of Europe – April 19, 2022
- "[Pelosi in Taiwan Says World Faces a Choice Between Democracy and Autocracy](#)" CBC.CA – August 3, 2022
- "[Authoritarianism Advances as World Battles the Pandemic](#)" Jill Lawless, AP News – July 15, 2021
- "[When U.S. Democracy Promotion Hits a Wall](#)" Lucas Myers, Wilson Center – August 17, 2021
- "[Autocracy and Instability in Africa](#)" Africa Center for Strategic Studies – March 9, 2021
- "[The Rise of Latin America’s Anti-Politicians](#)" Sandra Weiss, IPS – June 12, 2021
- "[The Rise of Nayib Bukele, El Salvador’s Authoritarian President](#)" Jonathan Blitzer, The New Yorker – September 5, 2022

CURRENT EVENTS



For the Current Events category questions are composed only of **Weekly World News Update (WWNU)** newsletters created by WACA.

To view the required WWNU newsletters from WACA's website, select the "Newsroom" tab, view the "World Briefing" box and select 2022 and 2023 from the archive dropdown menu. Subscribe [here](#) or scan the QR code.



LOCAL COMPETITION

To prepare for local AWQ competition Current Event section WACA recommends that students study the Current Events sources for the local competitions will be composed of only **Weekly World News Update (WWNU)** newsletters between **August 1, 2022 and October 31, 2022**.

NATIONAL COMPETITION

Current events sources for the National Competition will be composed of only **Weekly World News Update (WWNU)** newsletters between **January 1, 2023 and March 31, 2023**.



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