

TOPIC: NATIONAL SECURITY

ROOT CAUSES OF THE CONFLICT-GENERAL LEVEL	1. Superiority & Exclusion,
	2. Unequal distribution of national wealth
	3. Unequal opportunity to education
	4. Land dispute
	5. Tribalism, Injustice, Denominational Segregation & Economics barriers
IMPACTS	1. The cycle of poverty, the culture of violence & illiteracy
	2. Corruption, polarized society, and breakdown of cultural, traditional, moral, values and norms
	3. Hatred, unemployment, underdevelopment, destruction of infrastructure, brain drain, insecurity, low standards, health hazards, government not able to control economy/price, dependency syndrome and low nationalistic spirit/patriotism
definitions:	
national security	The protection, safety, stability, tranquility of every citizen's life and their property
reconciliation	Bringing together people who have differences
conflict management	The act of controlling an existing conflict so as to avoid it from spreading or worsening. If a conflict is managed well, it can be resolved
human rights	Refers to the equal treatment of all mankind regardless of color, race, religion and social status
rule of law	To be ruled by the laws of the land. The constitution and other international conventions your country is signatory to (e.g. CRC)
SECURITY SECTOR REFORMS	1. Going back to the drawing board, dissolving all security structures and recruiting new men based on credible international standards. Proper rating and screening are needed

WAY FORWARD	1. Recruitment in the security sector must be done based on language (tribal) level
	2. We need advance security training established in Liberia
	3. Personnel be paid well and given appropriate benefits
	4. Enforce the law always
	5. There should be no “sacred cows” under the Rule of Law
	6. Preach patriotism to our people
	7. Security personnel must be made to respect and protect the right of the people
	8. Government in, consultation with the people, develop good policies on the acquisition and usage of land
	9. Include Liberian youths in national decision-making process
	10. Pronouncement on sensitive issues which may border on national security threats must be done carefully
	11. Recruitment in all our security agencies must be only Liberians
	12. Government must have Liberians to head all security agencies
	13. Government must recognize the presence of all civil society organizations in decision-making on national policy
	14. Government should ensure that the Liberianization policy within the labor and business sectors are enhanced and enforced
	15. Government should ensure that criminal justice education is taught up to master degree level in the higher education institutions
	16. Government should ensure equal access to good health care delivery and education at all levels across the country, regardless of religious, cultural and political difference
	17. The church should constructively speak out and engage the government when there is a threat on the nation’s sovereignty even if it is against one individual