Committee: General Assembly Fourth Committee (SPECPOL)

Country: United States of America

Agenda Item: : Neocolonialism in the 21st Century in the West African Region

Delegate: Elif Yetğin

The United States of America believes that although the era of traditional colonialism has ended and countries have stopped direct military pressures, indirect forms of influence still continue in the West Africa region. These include economic and social dependency, political manipulation and influence over local elections. For these reasons, the United States considers the welfare and independence of African nations to be under threat. It advocates for countries to callaborate through cooperation and innovative approaches to address these challenges.

America was not a traditional and powerful colonizer in Africa. However ıt was an important force in the economic and political decisions of the continent and its countries, especially during the Cold War. One of the most controverial examples is the CIA’s involvement in the 1961 assassination of Congolese Prime Minister Patrice Lumumba. Moreover, the U.S. promoted economic policies through institutions like the World Bank, IMF that often favored Western corporations, limiting Africa’s economic sovereignty programs.

After all these historical events, the United States is not pursuing the strict policies of the past these days. And ıt is providing assistance to West Africa in many areas, such as military support, economic aid, social programs. In order to combat the foreign threats coming to Africa, the United States has established the Africa Command (AFRICOM) and many military bases. It provided weapons and military support to the countries of the region. It invests infrastructure and energy resources to support economic development. Furthermore, the U.S. has strengthened economic ties with West Africa through initiatives like the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). For example, in 2024, U.S. President Biden announced a $600 million support for the Lobito Corridor project to reduce China’s influence. Beyond economic and military aid, it supports social initiatives in healthcare (e.g. PEPFAR for HIV/AIDS).

America believes that colonialism can be reduced by countries implementing respectful and common policies instead of the harsh and biased policies of the past. The manipulative solutions of the past must not be repeated. African countries should be supported by other states to make their own economic and political decisions. The Unıted States of America is committed to working for the prosperity of the West African countries.

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