

## CLASSROOM LAW PROJECT

## International Disaster Relief

## Vocabulary

**Directions:** Frontload (introduce and review) these vocabulary words with your students to facilitate their understanding of the topic and coinciding resources:

- 1. **Natural Disaster** (n.) The negative impact following an actual occurrence of natural hazard in the event that it significantly harms a community
- 2. **USAID** (n.) The United States Agency for International Development is an independent agency of the U.S. federal government that is primarily responsible for administering civilian foreign aid and development assistance
- 3. **Humanitarian Relief** (n.) Material and logistic assistance to people who need help. It is usually short-term help until the long-term help by the government and other institutions replaces it.
- 4. **Non Governmental Organization (NGO)** (n.) A nonprofit organization that operates independently of any government, typically one whose purpose is to address a social or political issue
- 5. **Soft Diplomacy** (v.) Involves shaping the preferences of others through appeal and attraction. A defining feature of soft power is that it is non-coercive

## Current Event Essential Questions

**Directions:** As you read through news and other resources about TOPIC, consider the following questions:

- ➤ What is humanitarian relief?
- > Why is humanitarian or disaster relief sometimes referred to as 'soft power'?
- ➤ What are some of the challenges governments face after there has been a natural or humanitarian disaster in their country? How do countries try to address those challenges?
- ➤ What are some of the unintended consequences of uncoordinated humanitarian/disaster relief? How can these consequences be proper addressed?
- ➤ What are the arguments for and against countries limiting their humanitarian/disaster relief to foreign nations?
- ➤ In your opinion, should there be a global entity in charge of all coordination and execution of humanitarian/disaster relief? Explain.
- ➤ In your opinion, should the United States and other countries offer humanitarian relief to all nations, regardless of relationship? Explain.