

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



Topic A: Drug Trafficking

Topic B: Terrorist Recruitment

Director: Karina Singh

POSITION PAPERS DUE on October 17th by 11:59 pm to Committee Email

October 24-25, 2020

To Delegates of CHSMUN Advanced 2020

Dear Delegates,
Welcome to CHSMUN Advanced 2020!

It is our highest honor and pleasure to welcome you all to our 2020 online advanced conference here at Cerritos High School. On behalf of the Cerritos High School Model United Nations program, we are proud to host our very first advanced conference, where you will become more knowledgeable on international issues, participate in intellectually stimulating discussions, and create new and everlasting friendships.

The CHSMUN program continues to compete around the world as a nationally ranked MUN program. Our delegates utilize diplomacy in order to create complex solutions towards multilateral issues in the global community. Our head chairs are selected from only the best seniors of our program, undergoing a rigorous training process to ensure the highest quality of moderating and grading of debate. Furthermore, all the topic synopses have been reviewed and edited numerous times. We strongly believe that by providing each and every delegate with the necessary tools and understanding, he or she will have everything they need to thrive in all aspects of the committee. We thoroughly encourage each delegate to engage in all of the facets of their topic, in order to grow in their skills as a delegate and develop a greater knowledge of the world around them.

Although this wasn't what we expected, our advisors and staff have put in countless hours to ensure delegates have an amazing experience at the online conference. Our greatest hope is that from attending CHSMUN 2020, students are encouraged to continue on in Model United Nations and nevertheless, inspired to spark change in their surrounding communities. With this strong circuit consisting of 6 schools and over 500 delegates, CHSMUN Advanced 2020 will provide a quality experience for intermediate delegates to enhance their speaking and delegating skills.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact us! We look forward to seeing you at CHSMUN Advanced 2020!

Sincerely,

Anjali Mani and Karishma Patel

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Secretary-Generals

A Note From The Director

Delegates,

My name is Karina Singh, and I am looking forward to being your head chair for UNODC. As a senior, I've been in MUN for around six years, since middle school, and it has shaped my life in drastic ways. In my personal experience, MUN has pushed me by broadening my world view and pushing me to work collaboratively with many, even those whom I don't agree with, along with making my life more interesting with conferences like Nationals at New York and DMUNC at UC Davis. On campus, I'm involved in the Journalism Club and CPU Club, and I spend my time outside of school relaxing with my dog, reading books, and napping after major tests. Even with COVID-19 making this conference an online one, I genuinely hope that you all still put effort into preparing for the conference and stay active during committee because the skills made during MUN, like collaboration, leadership and great research skills, while not tangible, are essential throughout life. I understand that these times are difficult for many of you, so please feel free to contact me to ask about any questions or concerns you have. I can't wait to see you all in committee!

Sincerely,

Karina Singh

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Director, UNODC

Committee Introduction

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) was established in 1997 by merging the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the United Nations Centre for International Crime Prevention. The UNODC primarily focuses on terrorism, criminal justice systems, corruption, drugs, transnational organized crime, human trafficking, migrant smuggling, violent crimes, and wildlife trafficking. The office launches campaigns to raise awareness on the issues it tackles to raise awareness about these problems, guides international action against its primary issues, holds international conferences on prevalent problems, and collects data on its issues. As an international organization, UNODC particularly helps with facilitating cooperation between states as well on its primary issues of drugs and crime by establishing suggestions like the UNODC Model Law against Trafficking in Persons. The UNODC has helped States Parties in implementing the obligations they had taken under the UN Convention Against Corruption, anti-terrorism instruments, the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols, and international drug controls (the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1954 (as amended in 1972), the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988). Also, the UNODC Regional Programmes assist countries in specific regions, like the Regional Programme for South Eastern Europe (2016-2019) in which the UNODC helped the region in implementing the treaties and instruments.

Topic A: Drug Trafficking

Background:

The global illicit drug industry's turnover is estimated to be equivalent to about 8 percent of total international trade, and, as the important link between the production of drugs and their consumers, drug trafficking plays an imperative role in this industry. Simply put, drug trafficking is the global illicit trading and transportation of substances. Drug cartels move drugs in a variety of methods, from simply hiding drugs in car seats to using self-propelled semi-submersibles that cost up to \$1m. In Guatemala, some traffickers are even using jets, loading them with cocaine and landing them in the dead of night without lights, guided by drones. The jets land by Guatemala's northern border in a wildlife preserve, with each jet carrying more than \$100 million worth of cocaine that will then be ferried out of the jungle and taken through Mexico to the United States. Drug trafficking is driven by the demand for illicit drugs, just like any other industry, which is why many countries have looked towards lessening the demand for illicit drugs to shut down the whole network, including drug trafficking. This demand allows for high profits, so many organized crime groups that traffick drugs are also involved in financing terrorism, money laundering, and the buying of illegal firearms. Vulnerable people are often recruited as mules for the chance to pay off debts or even just make enough money to provide for themselves and their families since they often don't have many options for legal, decently-paid employment. The 4.5 million farmers who depend on profits from illicit drug crops often have similar circumstances as well. Others depend on the money coming from the industry include corrupt employees at ports and borders from those at the top to those at the bottom of the chain of command who allow the trafficking to continue. Corruption can even reach the legal system, with criminals being able to escape proper prosecution and punishments through their connections made from their drug money. The consequences of drug trafficking are immense. The literal economic cost of drug trafficking and abuse has been estimated at nearly \$215 billion within the United States. Based on studies in the mid-1990s, the United States Department of Labor estimated \$75 - \$100 billion is lost by American business annually because workers use drugs at the job, showing drugs' effects on productivity. The unquantifiable effects drugs have on communities can't be understated, shown by how, according to a country study by UNRISD and the United Nations University on Mexico, illicit drug abuse correlates more with the break up of a family than poverty. Drugs have also been shown to hurt school children's cognitive efficiency by impairing short-term memory, for example, resulting in poor academic performance that causes the individual to lose confidence in themselves and turn back to drugs. In terms of health for individual drug users, as of 2019, 35 million people worldwide have drug use disorders. Despite these large numbers, only one in seven people who suffer from these disorders receive treatment, which reflects the significant lack of treatment when it comes to these types of disorders. The U.S. and Canada have experienced huge upticks in opioid overdose deaths, with the U.S. going up 13% from 2018 and Canada going up 33% from 2016, which also shows the result of countries failing to provide treatment for those with drug disorders. Drug users aren't the only ones dying because of the illicit drug industry since drug cartels are often

involved in other activities funded by the drugs they sell that lead to many deaths, like terrorism, while cartels themselves are deadly. After all, according to the Mexican government, drug-related violence resulted in the deaths of 12,903 in 2011's first nine months. Looking past the human impact, drug trafficking even hurts the environment because the production of drugs has hurt many habitats. Some suspect cocoa cultivation could have caused 700,000 hectares in the Amazon region in Peru to be cleared of the tropical rainforest. Ever since the Silk Road in 2011, the first large-scale dark web drug market, drug trafficking has been expanded even more because of the dark web which gives individuals the ability to obtain many illegal substances including drugs. Rather than traditional search engines, access to the dark web can be gained by people through specialized software (ex. Tor) that routes user data through servers and nodes globally to disguise IP addresses to make users harder to trace. The level of anonymity that the dark web gives buyers is unmatched which is why it is especially enticing to buyers. Online, drugs are sold in exchange for cryptocurrencies like bitcoin, which are hard to track. This selling of drugs through the Internet poses great difficulties to law enforcement agencies that can take out one market just for more markets to pop up. In fact, rather than slowing down, drug trafficking through the dark web is expected to grow due to its anonymity and ease of use. As the largest darknet market prior to being shut down, AlphaBay's drug sales were worth about \$94 million US from 2015 to 2016. Another factor to the issue is money laundering. Money laundering is the disguising of the origin of money earned illegally. To be able to use the money they make from selling drugs, drug trafficking organizations need to employ money laundering tactics to make their money seem like it comes from a legitimate source. If a citizen of the United States, for example, is suddenly able to buy real estate, but they have no company or job on record that would allow for them to afford that real estate, the government will be suspicious, so criminals often create companies to make their earnings seem like they come from a legitimate source. Synthetic opioids and natural opiates are remarkable different types of drugs in terms of manufacturing and production because opiates are from an opium poppy while opioids are at least in part synthetic. Therefore, when looking at opiates, farming is an essential part of the process, and there is more information on opiates. On the other hand, different types of synthetic drugs (opioids) are made quite often after the government finds out about and cracks down on synthetic drugs on the market. Opioids also don't require cultivation as they are made in labs.

United Nations Involvement:

The United Nations has been very proactive in dealing with drug trafficking, with there being three major international drug control treaties. The Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 (amended in 1972) and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, the first two treaties, had general suggestions regarding illicit drug trafficking and drug abuse. Becoming more specific and targeted, the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances put into place measures to not only prevent illegal drug trafficking but also tackle related money laundering. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs deals primarily in making policies regarding drugs after close analysis of global illicit drug trafficking and abuse trends to adopt said policies or recommend them for adoption. The

International Narcotics Control Board collects data and information on illicit drug trafficking, along with observing and giving recommendations about the implementation of conventions. Along with the resolutions, commissions, and boards mentioned, the UN takes other actions regarding drug trafficking. The UNODC publishes data and trends on the production, trafficking, and consumption of illicit drugs annually, along with suggestions on global policies, through the World Drug Report. The cultivation of illicit crops for drugs has been understood by the UN to be a problem because, for as long as their production is feasible and profitable and demand is high, drug trafficking will continue. Therefore, in attempts to lower production and break drug trafficking as well, the UNODC implements alternative development projects to help small rural farmers who could be at risk or are involved in growing illicit crops in Afghanistan, Bolivia, Colombia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, and Peru. The UNODC has especially recognized the role of organized crime in drug trafficking and how drug trafficking, along with any illegal sources of money, are inextricably linked to money laundering since money laundering makes money from illegal sources seem legitimate, making it so criminals can spend their money. Therefore, the UN has launched the Global Programme against Money Laundering, Proceeds of Crime, and the Financing of Terrorism which assists governments in prosecuting criminals who launder money internationally, along with providing strategies to counter money-laundering. The UN has seen the importance of fair, effective criminal justice systems in preventing drug trafficking and has addressed this issue by launching the CRIMJUST global program. CRIMJUST's goal is to deal with drug trafficking and transnational organized crime cases along drug trafficking routes in Latin America, West Africa, and the Caribbean through enhancing cooperation between countries involved and improving the capacities, along with the integrity, of these criminal justice institutions. Acknowledging that planes are also used for drug trafficking, the UNODC has made the project AIRCOP, from 2010 to 2022, with the World Customs Organization, INTERPOL, and UNODC being the implementing partners. AIRCOP strengthens the ability of international airports to detect illicit drugs, along with other illicit goods and high-risk passengers, with the goals of the project being global real-time information exchange, cooperation between agencies through Joint Airport Interdiction Task Forces, and activities to improve detection of illicit items. AIRCOP has led to the training of 6,050 people, 32 international joint operations, and the interception of 9 potential Foreign Terrorist Fighters. Also, Joint Airport Interdiction Task Forces have had 2,400 arrests and 3,100 seizures since 2012, with the seizures including over 19 tons of illicit drugs.

Case Study: Bolivia

As the third-largest cocoa bush grower in the world, Bolivia is highly affected by drug trafficking, and corruption is a major part of why drug trafficking thrives in Bolivia. This can be seen by how the official government of Bolivia pulled out of the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, only agreeing to rejoin if it was exempt from the treaty's ban on coca chewing. Despite this concession, 43% of coca grown for the legal market disappeared" in transit, with 90% of the coca grown in the country going to the drug trade. 60 police officers were investigated by authorities in 2015 for drug-related corruption, and the U.S. State department's 2017 money laundering report states specifically that the "The Bolivian justice system is hindered by corruption and political interference, which impedes the fight against

narcotics-related money laundering.” There has been progress however, with the country going from 30,500 hectares of coca produced in 2008 to 23,100 hectares of coca in 2016. Bolivia’s government states that this is because of a system in Bolivia where if one coca farmer does something illegal like selling their coca to drug labs, the licenses of everyone in the region would be jeopardized. Coca production is tracked through digital scanning of coca plantations, helicopter flyovers, and in-person measurements, but even here, corruption allows for the system to be evaded. Also recognizing that poverty and social marginalization pushes individuals to be involved in drug trafficking, the UN has started a project called the Vocational training and promotion of micro-enterprise in the Yungas of La Paz which provides legal economic alternatives to improve the living conditions of people in the region of Yungas of la Paz, along with providing vocational training in areas like tourism and agriculture, which are defined by market demand. The program has resulted in the training of 7,500 people, and it supports 90 microenterprises, with the micro-enterprise sector being one of the major sources of employment in the country. Recently, however, there are concerns of Bolivia’s legal coca industry being shut down, which could result in the return of drug wars into a country that is currently relatively peaceful, with one of the lowest homicide rates unlike other major drug cultivation countries like Mexico and Colombia.

Bloc Positions:

Western: The western region serves mostly as a consumer base for drugs, meaning that, for most drug trafficking routes, the countries in this region are usually the destination for the drugs. Therefore, the primary issues present in this region are drug users and preventing drugs from coming into these countries, along with a focus on rehabilitation, prevention, and treatment. In Europe, for instance, over 17 million people have used cocaine, around 12 million have used amphetamines, and 1.3 million are problem opioid users. However, different countries in the bloc have taken on vastly different approaches. Countries like the United States (with exemptions for specific states, in the United States’ case) focus heavily on a stricter drug policy, using severe border control and strict laws, whereas, on the other side of the spectrum, several countries in Europe, like Portugal, have been experimenting with decriminalization of all drugs entirely.

Latin America and the Caribbean: This region has been one of - if not the hardest - harder hit by drug trafficking because it is used frequently for both production and trafficking, leaving countries in this region vulnerable to drug trafficking organizations. For example, Colombia, Peru, and Bolivia produce most of the world’s cocaine, which is then transported through Central America, Mexico, and the Caribbean to send the drugs to the United States and Europe. The main problems for Latin America currently lie in the power the organized crime groups have within the region because these groups cause much violence within Latin America, along with corrupting the government. From 2006 to 2018, about 150,000 people have been intentionally killed because of drug cartels in Mexico. Pushed by the United States, Mexico specifically has used overly militarized counter-drug effort.

African: The African region primarily has worries in regards to the transportation of drugs, with 87% of pharmaceutical opioids seized globally coming from this region. Two-thirds of the cocaine transported between South America and Europe are moved through West Africa, especially Benin, Cape Verde, and Guinea-Bissau. There are plenty of users too though, as there are 1.8 million cocaine users and 34 million cannabis users in West and Central Africa. Drug trafficking in the region has given terrorist organizations options for revenue, shown by how Al Qaeda, the Movement for Oneness, and Jihad in West Africa deal with cannabis and cocaine trafficking in the Sahel, while Boko Haram has been involved in cocaine and heroin smuggling in West Africa. To counter drug trafficking, the West African Coast Initiative was established in 2009, and WACI strengthens law enforcement, enhances justice institutions, and controls transnational crime units for cases at borders. WACI resulted in large seizures of cocaine dropping, going from 18 tons of cocaine being moved in 2010 to 47 tons in 2007.

Asian-Pacific: This region deals in both production and trafficking, with the primary issues shifting in different areas of the region. Afghanistan, for example, made up about two-thirds of the area used for illicit opium poppy cultivation in 2015, with the Balkan route through Iran, Turkey, and South-Eastern Europe being used to supply most of Europe. Due to the prevalence of drug trafficking, South-West Asia in particular has many opiate users and many people with HIV due to them injecting drugs, as shown by Afghanistan having 2-2.5 million people using drugs. Meanwhile, the South Pacific islands have been more and more frequently used as a narcotics hub, with cocaine and methamphetamines that are packed into sailing boats in the US and Latin America being moved through the South Pacific Islands to Australia. As a result, many of the larger Pacific nations are having to deal with gang violence, crime, police corruption, and much of their population being addicted to cocaine and methamphetamine. To counter this, the region has the Triangular Initiative which allows for cooperation between Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iran; the Afghanistan-Kyrgyzstan-Tajikistan Initiative to focus on another route coming from Afghanistan; and the Regional Working Groups, which involves law enforcement training, forensics, and precursors.

Basic Solutions:

Rather than focusing on treatment and therapy to drugs, delegates should be sure to focus on drug trafficking itself. One essential problem involving drug trafficking, for example, is corruption. Delegates should focus on looking towards anti-corruption methods and measures, along with ways to ensure elections are fair, so the local government can't be controlled by the drug trafficking organizations, especially in blocs like Latin America and Africa. Perhaps delegates could look at previous examples, like the Participatory Anti-Corruption Initiative made by the Dominican Republic which gave public officials, civil society, private sector leaders, and other committed citizens the ability to take on powerful interest groups. By 2014, reforms in this area had lowered drug prices, improved medication quality and reduced public spending by 64 percent, so a similar, yet modified initiative could be possibly used to fight back against corruption by drug cartels. Border monitoring should also be considered, but not a focus. As mentioned prior, money laundering is an essential aspect of drug trafficking. Improving anti-money laundering efforts, then, could help with tracking down drug trafficking

organizations by finding out which individuals are using money that doesn't seem to come from legitimate sources. The growing dark web that facilitates drug trafficking should also be a consideration for delegates, as the dark web will likely continue to be the future of drug trafficking and only accelerate drug trafficking because the anonymity provided by it and the ease to use the dark web to get drugs are unmatched. Therefore, delegates should look into mechanisms to increase and better the provision of technical assistance and capacity-building for countries to collect and use digital evidence. Thought should also be given to the criminal justice aspect of the issue, and finding methods to prosecute drug traffickers. The corruption, as mentioned, sometimes makes it very hard for criminals to be held accountable, while the power some drug trafficking organizations have made it so civilians feel too threatened to speak out against criminals. Another aspect to consider in criminal justice is how best to deal with those who are lower down in the drug trafficking organizations because, while they are the most vulnerable and easy to be caught, they are also the most expendable in the drug trafficking chain, so the use in prosecuting drug mules seems minimal. In fact, those who transport drugs at the lowest level are often victims of drug trafficking schemes as well. Many of these "mules" are impoverished people who simply need a way to provide for their families. For example, hundreds of destitute, debt-ridden women have been targeted to be mules by drug traffickers to transport drugs from Bolivia to Chile's growing market. However, this does depend on delegates' country policies. Delegates should try to explore the different aspects and subtopics to the main overall topic that are mentioned and not mentioned to present a variety of solutions, tackling the issue from different sides.

Questions to Consider:

1. How does drug trafficking affect your country? Are there many powerful drug trafficking organizations that deal with transporting? Is your country a major market for drugs? What has your country done to counter drug trafficking?
2. What type of border security can actually reduce trafficking rather than just make traffickers find another route that works just as fine as previous ones?
3. In what ways can countries cooperate on this issue effectively? What has worked in the past in terms of partnerships?
4. How can countries make the drug trafficking business less profitable to disincentivize traffickers?
5. What can be done to ensure solutions are implemented properly without the solutions being corrupted and allowing drug trafficking to thrive?

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Topic B: Terrorist Recruitment

Background:

Since 2008, total deaths from terrorism in Afghanistan have increased by 631%. As terrorism's impact increases exponentially year by year, it's important to not only look at how to prevent acts of terror but also to look at what allows for terrorism to thrive: recruitment. After all, between 25,000 and 30,000 foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs) have gone from their native countries to Syria and Iraq to help and fight with terrorist organizations since 2011, and FTFs only constitute a portion of terrorist recruitment. Regarding terrorist recruitment, the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) has noted down two types of recruitment: active and passive. Active recruitment involves direct contact between the recruiter and a targeted individual, with recruiters for organizations like Euskadi Ta Askatasuna sending recruiters to specific areas where they will likely have sympathizers. This type of recruitment requires minimal funding since all that needs to be paid for is the recruiter's living expenses, meeting places, the making of and giving of literature and other materials for the terrorist organization, and doing things such as making fake identification documents or flight tickets to allow for the individual to participate. Passive recruitment deals with the recruitment of individuals through indirect means like media campaigns and recruitment materials. Social media, in particular, has become a commonly used tool to recruit members and supporters for terrorist organizations, along with allowing terrorist groups to be able to spread their propaganda and ideology, for both homegrown terrorists and foreign terrorist fighters. This, also, is low-cost for terrorist organizations. An example of this is the ISIL-monthly magazine, Dabiq, which has been online since 2014. Those who are most vulnerable to being recruited are often the youth, but how they are recruited vary, with factors such as how close they are to the terrorist group, both geographically and socially; economic status; propaganda exposure; and marginalization. Youth are used for combat, support, and recruitment, and while male youths tend to be used most for combat, terrorist groups like Boko Haram use girls as suicide bombers. Some are trafficked, kidnapped, tricked, forcibly recruited, recruited through sympathizers in their family, and told that the terrorists defend their community. The Lord's Resistance Army serves as an example of forced recruitment since they have kidnapped more than 20,000 children, while threats against individual's families are often used to essentially force children to become terrorists. While these specific cases are perpetrated in conflict-ridden areas, children are also traveling from their native country to areas controlled by terrorists to join, as shown by how 89 children from other countries died for ISIL between 2015 and 2016. Children recruited by terrorist organizations are often subjected to extreme violence, enslavement, sexual exploitation, constant fear, and psychological manipulation, with many of them ending up dead or injured in battle. Although children are one of the primary focuses of this subject, online recruitment is another important aspect of the issue. For this type of recruitment, targets who later become foreign terrorist fighters (FTF) tend to come from South-Eastern Europe, along with Western Europe and the Middle East, and these FTFs often share the common thread of already having been criminals in some regard, being unemployed, having mental health issues, being born to broken families, and only having been given access to poor education. Methodology-wise, online, recruiters first have to gain a following, particularly a

following that they know would be easy to persuade into joining their cause, so to do this, they spread simple, violent solutions for complex social, economic, and political issues. Extremists use pop culture media like rap (fusion 'Dirty Kuffar' by Sheikh Terra praised 9/11 attack on twin towers), video games ('Night of Bush Capturing' where players try to kill former US President George W. Bush), and comics (cartoon movie called 'al-Qaeda in the Arabian peninsula, meant to boost recruitment) to show terrorist groups positively, with this method being called 'Jihadi Cool'. This use of pop culture media is especially meant to target young people. At the same time, extremists continue to use religious texts, speeches, and videos of terrorist activities. Once potential future terrorists have identified with the Islamic fundamentalist thought, forums, blogs, and social media allow for the individual's beliefs to be reinforced by other like-minded individuals worldwide, which function as virtual echo chambers. The final part of conversion involves the terrorist organization helping the now recruited terrorist commit an act of terror or join the organization by giving them online materials (how to make a bomb, destroy buildings, fire an AK-47, make the highly explosive Acetone Peroxide) meant to help the newly recruited extremists with harming those in their native country.

United Nations Involvement:

The UN has taken note of the importance of combating the recruitment of terrorists. Specifically, in regards to the recruitment of children to terrorist organizations, the General Assembly adopted the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (resolution 69/194, annex). Said resolution gives the UNODC the mandate to help Member States, in criminal justice and crime prevention, by putting into place methods and laws to deal with and prevent violent actions towards children. Specifically, the resolution states that prevention measures should be implemented to protect children from being recruited and used by criminal groups, violent extremist groups, and terrorist organizations. In regards to criminal justice systems, the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy Review stated that all children accused of or convicted of crimes should be treated in a way which allows them their rights and needs, particularly those under the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and children formerly part of armed groups should be reintegrated back into society in resolution 70/291. The Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism hits similar notes in that it also focuses on protecting children and young people from radicalization and recruitment by violent extremist groups, with the Secretary-General recommending, within the Plan of Action, for nations to distribute some of the funds meant to fight against violent extremism to projects specifically for the youth's needs. In the 72nd session of the General Assembly, 101st & 102nd meetings, among many other messages, the GA adopts a resolution (GA/12035) that calls for countries to focus on using women to prevent terrorism and address the narratives used by terrorists to recruit others by understanding how terrorist motivate others to commit terrorist acts or how terrorists are recruited. Worries about terrorists increasingly using the internet and media for information and communication (recruit for, incite, fund, plan terrorist acts) and the need for cooperating was stressed in the sixth review of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/RES/72/284). The Madrid guiding principles (Security Council S/2015/939) that were meant to prevent foreign terrorist fighters' included guiding principle 26, which suggested for nations to build information

and communication technologies along with forensic capacities so that law-enforcement could monitor social media content related to terrorism to prevent foreign terrorist fighters. Besides resolutions, the international community has taken actual actions to prevent recruitment. For instance, INTERPOL analyzes terrorists' use of social media to better their identification and detection efforts to prevent terrorism in investigations. With the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT), Interpol ran workshops for investigators to teach them in collecting electronic records, working with the private sector to advance investigations, detect terrorist activities online, and ask for e-evidence from different countries. To deal with foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs), under the United Nations Security Council resolution 1244, the UNODC took on a project in South-Eastern Europe with Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, and Serbia to address the threat of FTFs, resulting in an FTF training module used by judges and prosecutors. The focus was on South-Eastern Europe because that is where the majority of FTFs originate from. Regarding FTFs, the United Nations Security Council adopted resolution 2178, under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter. The resolution requires countries to ensure that they have laws that allow them to prosecute FTF, those who fund or get money to pay for FTF's travel, and those who help the FTF in traveling. Enhancing international cooperation to deal with FTFs with a focus being on the prevention of the travel of the FTF was another aspect of said resolution. In this way, the UNODC specifically focused on the criminal justice aspect of terrorist recruitment in regards to FTFs.

Case Study: Nigeria

Since 2002, Boko Haram has taken root within Nigeria, Africa's most populous country. Boko Haram, which pushes forward a version Islam that forbids Muslims from being involved in "Western" political or social activity like elections, shirts and rousers, and a secular education. Seeing the current Nigerian state as being run by non-believers, Boko Haram seeks to overthrow the Nigerian government through bombings, assassinations, and abductions. Western education has been viewed with skepticism by some Muslims ever since northern Nigeria, Nigr, and southern Cameroon were lost of British control after the Sokoto caliphate fell, so many poor Muslim families in Nigeria and other countries enrolled their children at an Islamic school set up by Mohammed Yusuf, Boko Haram's founding leader, that was made as part of religious complex which also had a mosque. However, Yusuf used the school to recruit jihadists. The group also attacks villages and towns, forcing men and boys into their army and abducted women and children in the villages, along with killing and looting many. 2,000 children are still in captivity to Boko Haram, and the terrorist organization extensively uses young women and girls as suicide bombers, recognizing that they are traditionally seen as less of a threat and are scrutinized less. In fact, one in five suicide bombers in Boko Haram are children. As mentioned early, education plays a large role in the recruitment for Boko Haram, since it was initially allowed to sprout because of higher-ups in the government considering education as not necessary, which resulted in a poor education system that allows civilians to consider Boko Haram. Also, the region has chronic poverty which has also supported the recruitment of youth into Boko Haram, with studies showing that most individuals say that poverty and lack of economic opportunities were why they joined Boko Haram, with the terrorist group promising financial incentives since the terrorist organizations knows that the Nigerian government is

unable to help their civilians financially. The government's negligence towards issues like unemployment, radicalization, illiteracy, and the provision of basic social services contributes heavily to why Boko Haram is able to thrive, while other strategies include cash loans traps, the use of social media, and instrumentalizing religion negatively. As a response, religious bodies and civil society organizations have implemented initiatives like the Our Unity, Our Strength and the Face to Face project organized by International Alert Nigeria and communities both of which worked on countering radical ideologies, which resulted in raising awareness on extremism's danger and promoting social cohesion and trust among communities and groups affected by terrorism. The Nigerian government has adopted the multitrack approach which dealt with persuasion, dialogue, and consultation with communities' leaders, both politically and religiously, to counter radicalization narratives. The Nigerian government has also become a member of the Intergovernmental Action Group against Money Laundering in West Africa, recognizing that funding is a necessity in recruiting in some cases. These approaches are expected to have good effects on combatting terrorism recruitment in the region.

Bloc Positions:

Western: In the western bloc, terrorist recruitment mostly comes in the form of passive recruitment, often through social media and the Internet. The west has been producing foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs). Five American men born middle class in northern Virginia were arrested in Pakistan over terrorism charges, as they were traveling to Pakistan to join the organization Jaihs-e- Mohammad which trains terrorists and undertakes actions to get rid of foreign troops in Afghanistan in 2009. Also, as stated previously, the majority of FTFs come from South-Eastern Europe, another part of this bloc. Besides FTFs, recruiters can also incite their targets to commit acts of terror within their native country. For example, Anwar al-Awlaki (born in America, based in Yemen as cleric) has given speeches regarding violent extremism that have been seen to have caused terrorist attacks like the Fort Hood shootings and the attempt at assassinating British MP Stephen Timms. Another example is Faisal Shahzad who was recruited to violent extremism through online forums and tried to detonate a car bomb in Times Square. The United States has funded the UN Security Council resolution 2178 that ensures criminal prosecution of FTFs, yet it, and the rest of the bloc, has struggled with preventing recruitment. For the most part, these countries seem to focus on social media monitoring to catch those who plan to commit terrorist acts after being recruited, but to be able to maintain free speech, it has been difficult for this bloc to prevent online recruitment. Small steps have been taken, like how Youtube, a major online website, provides links to reputable news outlets when a video talks about events like 9/11 to combat conspiracy theories, as many of these conspiracy theories are used to justify terrorist organizations. American correctional institutions are even being suspected of being used to recruit terrorists.

Latin America and the Caribbean: Although this bloc has not had as much coverage as others in regards to terrorist recruitment and the region has a low terrorist threat in most countries, there are exceptions to the rule. The Andean region of South America deals with most terrorist acts, and they are mostly done by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), the National Liberation Army (ELN), and the Shining Path (FL). At the same time, FARC has been in peace

negotiations with the Columbian government and signed a peace accord in November 2016. The Columbian government and the ELN have been having false starts to their negotiations, while the Shining Path has been reduced significantly. Therefore, Latin America and the Caribbean deal with a similar case to the Western bloc, as South America and the Caribbean for Islamic State have given financial support for ISIS, along with people leaving as FTFs for ISIS. To help, the United States has used sanctions, law enforcement cooperation, multilateral cooperation through the Organization of American States, and anti-terrorism training.

African: Terrorist recruitment has been especially bad in this region because of the power many terrorist organizations have in this region that aren't present in other regions besides the Middle East. For one, the power of terrorist organizations in this bloc makes it so that active recruitment is quite common, and due to how weak or corrupt many of the governments are in this region, there may be many sympathizers. What is particularly worrying is the recruitment of children. As mentioned already, Boko Haram, for example, which is centered in Nigeria uses boys and girls as suicide bombers, and three-quarters of the suicide attacks between 2014 and 2016 have been done by girls because the group has recognized that they are traditionally seen as less of a threat as they are not only young but also females. Ranging from economic incentives, threats against family, social pressure, marginalization, and kidnapping, children are used to an alarming degree in this bloc for terrorism. This bloc is also struggling with preventing terrorist recruitment as they mostly focus on actively fighting terrorist groups with outside help. For example, the Sahel region, which deals with much terrorism, has focused on using the G5 joint task force that has been made with the help of countries like France and the United States to fight against terrorists militarily. There hasn't been much of a focus on looking at individual communities and restoring their trust in their government so that they don't join terrorist organizations.

Asian-Pacific: In regards to specifically the Middle East, it should be of no surprise to anyone that there are many cases of terrorist recruitment locally, with much of the recruitment being similar to what was described in the African bloc, as countries with much terrorism in the Middle East tend to have weak governments that aren't able to completely get rid of the power of terrorist organizations. Children are also recruited in this region. Here, there have been many proxy civil wars involving the United States and Russia which terrorists are also involved in them, and countries struggle with terrorism. Pakistan and India, although not part of the Middle East, also deal with high threats of terrorism. In Southeast Asia, there has been a decline in extremist violence because of more vigilance and effective law enforcement, but countries like Indonesia still have jihadist ideology being distributed within it. In addition to civilians within countries with a large terrorist influence being recruited, this bloc also deals with FTFs from Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, and other nations.

Basic Solutions:

To prevent terrorist recruitment, deradicalization is an important part of the answer. Those who become radicalized often do so because of the conditions they face in their day to day lives that make them vulnerable to radical ideology. Those who buy into radical ideology often have had their original morals completely torn down because of discrimination, political repression, and

socioeconomic crisis, making it so that they are more willing to buy into absolutist ideas. Perhaps one way, then, of preventing the recruitment of terrorism is using counseling and psychotherapy into education initiative in schools, mass-media, churches, and community. A suggested specific initiative is rational emotive behavioral education (REBE) as an extension of REBT (rational emotive behavioral psychotherapy), which focuses on teaching students, teachers, and parents mental health skills to use to face life events. Studies have shown that REBE works well in decreasing irrational beliefs and dysfunctional behavior, while REBT has been seen as an intervention that works well whether individuals are dealing with great changes in their life or stability. Specifically, REBE can do this as it assists people in looking at the situations in their life with more tolerance, even if these situations are uncertain), so these situations seem less threatening, and the people react in less drastic ways due to reduced anxiety. In this way, REBE can push individuals to find ways to peacefully be involved in civic engagement for political decisions to better their situations since they can use problem-solving when their perceived situation does not match what they want, rather than turning to extreme measures. Looking at more general attitudes, delegates may want to focus on community-based approaches in which families, local communities, and local institutions make partnerships with local government, law enforcement, academia, the private sector, and others to spread information and combat radical ideas. The community can also focus on looking at the specific causes within their community, recommend the right responses, and figure out how to implement these actions locally. Also, as terrorists often distress the government and law enforcement, operatives to increase trust among the police and the communities they serve can help greatly, while programs that work in schools to identify and help those with mental health issues, trauma, and difficult home lives. Regarding online recruitment, there have been suggestions at trying to engage with and disprove radical ideas, but these must not come from the government because these efforts would go to no use since those vulnerable to radical ideas already don't trust the government in many cases. Also, as is the case with the EU's new laws that force social media platforms to take down terrorism-related content within an hour of a notice being given or face fine of 4% of global annual revenue, consideration must be given to whether this affects the principles of the free and open internet. The monitoring of social media is another thought that needs to be considered. At the same time, efforts at protecting children, such as securing schools better, must also be put into place to protect against forcible recruitment, and the prevention of a community trusting a terrorist organization must also be of high importance, possibly through psychotherapy and education as mentioned above. Overall, delegates must ensure that they tackle all parts of the issue and come up with unique solutions that fit their country policy.

Questions to Consider:

1. Have civilians in your country been recruited for terrorist organizations? How has this recruitment been done (online, forcibly, economic incentive, etc.)?
2. Has your country taken any efforts to prevent this? What have they done?
3. To what extent should countries be able to control social media to prevent radicalization?
4. How can countries protect children from being used by terrorist organizations, both forcibly (kidnapping) and "voluntarily"?

5. What could be done to restore faith in local government or other organizations to prevent radicalization?

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