

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

BACKGROUND GUIDE



TECMUN
Morelia, Mich.



GENERAL ASSEMBLY: DAIS TECMUN MORELIA 2017



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TOPICS

TOPIC A: MEASURES TO ADDRESS HUMAN TRAFFICKING

TOPIC B: CYBERSPACE REGULATION FOR AVOIDING THE PROPAGATION OF TERRORIST IDEOLOGIES.





WELCOME TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

The General Assembly is the main organ of the United Nations. With 193 members, it oversees policy making and it is the chief deliberative and representative of the United Nations. The General Assembly holds sessions all year round, those sessions are to discuss problems that are of the United Nations interest. The Committee also holds meetings for issues of critical importance to the international community, and covers a wide range of topics.

The main functions of the General Assembly, according to the Charter of the United Nations, are:

- Approve the United Nations' budget, as well as authorizing financial assessments to the member countries.
- Elect the non-permanent members of the security council.
- Make recommendations in order to maintain world peace and disarmament campaigns.
- Promote international political cooperation.
- Consider reports from the other United Nations organs.

The General Assembly was established in 1945, right after the United Nations Charter was created, the current President of this committee is Peter Thomson.

The committee has subsidiary organs, which are:

- Boards (7)
- Commissions (6)
- Committees (30)
- Councils and panels (5)
- Working Groups



TOPIC A: MEASURES TO ADDRESS HUMAN TRAFFICKING

The United Nations was created right after the Second World War, to protect and create the term “human right”, and to avoid the development of armed-conflicts or the continuous violations of rights. The first legal and international agreement to protect victims in human trafficking and to address the issue was the “United Nations Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others” signed and approved by the General Assembly December 2nd, 1949. The Convention is currently signed by 66 countries inside de UN.

The first article in the convention addresses the prohibition and punishment of individuals that perform specific actions directly:

“The Parties to the present Convention agree to punish any person who, to gratify the passions of another, exploits the prostitution of another person, even with the consent of that person. [...]”

-United Nations Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others, 1949.

When forces entered the issue by 1951, the definition of human trafficking expanded and included several other terms such as organ harvesting, slavery, and forced labor migration.

Trafficking of individuals is a serious crime and a serious violation of human rights. Every year, thousands of men, women, and children fall into the hands of traffickers, in their own countries and abroad. Almost every country in the world is affected by trafficking, whether it is as a country of origin, transit or destination for victims. GA, as guardian of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and the Protocols thereto and UNODC, assists States in their efforts to implement the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking of Persons.

Human Trafficking involves any person, at any gender and age, that is



brought somewhere without full information or against his or her will. In addition, if a person is coerced by a superior, someone in power over them or a tutor to become a victim, it can later develop into human trafficking.

According to the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons accepted and signed in 2000. The UN is entitled to divide the term and performance of Human Trafficking into three main elements.

The Act (What is done)

Recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons

The Means (How it is done)

Threat or use of force, coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or vulnerability, or giving payments or benefits to a person in control of the victim

The Purpose (Why it is done)

For the purpose of exploitation, which includes exploiting the prostitution of others, sexual exploitation, forced labor, slavery or similar practices and the removal of organs.

To determine whether a particular circumstance constitutes trafficking in persons, we should consider the definition of trafficking in the Trafficking in Persons Protocol and the constituent elements of the offense, as defined by relevant domestic legislation. Nowadays human trafficking is one of the most criminalized actions but also a very difficult one to track.

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROBLEM**A) Recent History of the Topic**

"It is slavery in the modern age," Mr. Ban Ki-moon, former UN Secretary-General, said. "Every year thousands of people, mainly women and children, are exploited by criminals who use them for forced labour or sex trade. No country is immune. Almost all play a part, either as a source of trafficked people, transit point or destination."



The article 3, paragraph (a) of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons defines Trafficking in Persons as *“the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.”*

In addition to the criminalization of trafficking, the “Trafficking in Persons Protocol” requires criminalization also of:

- Attempts to commit a trafficking offence.
- Participation as an accomplice.
- Organizing or directing others to commit trafficking.
- The crime occurs both across borders and within a country.
- Victimizes children, women and men, not just women, or adults, but also men and children.
- Takes place with or without the involvement of organized crime groups.

Human Trafficking has a range of exploitative purposes:

- a. *Domestic Sex Trafficking of Adults*: When persons are compelled to engage in commercial sex acts through means of force, fraud, and/or coercion.
- b. *Sex Trafficking of International Adults and Children*: When foreign nationals, both adult and juveniles, are compelled to engage in commercial sex acts with a nexus a country through force, fraud, and/or coercion.
- c. *Forced Labor*: When persons, domestic or foreign nationals, are compelled to work in some service or industry through force or coercion.
- d. *Domestic Servitude*: When persons, domestic or foreign nationals, are compelled to engage in domestic work for families or households,



through means of force or coercion.

The International Labor Organization (ILO) has confirmed that in the last decade, 2.4 million persons were trafficked somewhere, and the profits for the groups of organized crime were about \$32 billion per year (UNODC).

Human trafficking is today the third-largest criminal activity and has always been present in every society since the beginning of the XV century. Although forms of slavery existed before the 1400, the 1400s marked the start of European slave trading by transporting people from Africa to Portugal and using them as slaves. Then in 1562, Great Britain joined the campaign and began to develop colonies in the African territory. By the end of 1600s, Spain, North America, Holland, France, Sweden, and Denmark joined the slavery European campaign.

After the First World War, the League of Nations was created. The League reviewed the agreement on human trafficking signed in 1904, and rename it “The Suppression of Traffic in Women and Children”, where women and children race and gender were not limited to one.

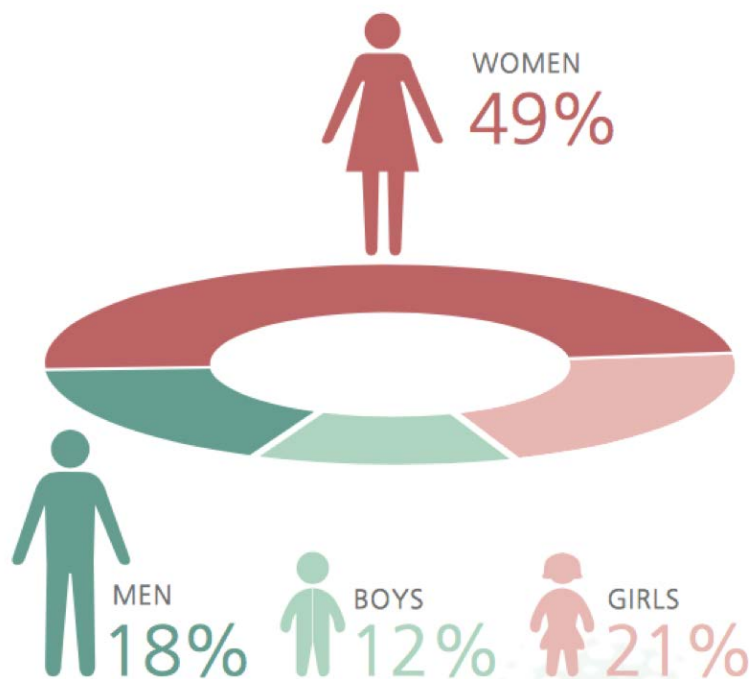
In 1932, the Japanese government, imposed a system of prostitution and sexual slavery to Asian women, where women were captured and forced to serve Japanese soldiers sexually. Two decades later, India joined this initiative with the creation of brothels. The Indian government created the “Immoral Traffic Prevention Act” to counter them, but it was unsuccessful.

At the beginning of the 1990’s, after human trafficking reached a global concern, during the fourth World Conference in 1995, the United Nations spoke about the women trafficked for sexual labor for the first time. The Polaris Project in 2002, the case in of the suffocated migrants in Thailand in 2008, the production of fake U.S. passports to promote women trafficking in 2009 and the declaration of “Human Trafficking Awareness Day” by Barack Obama on January 11th, 2011

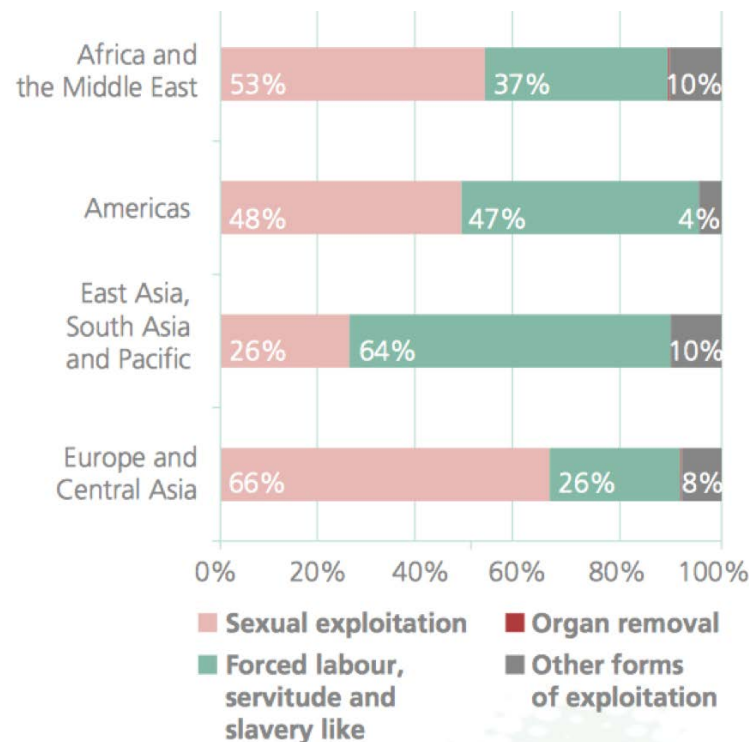


are events that called for attention at the beginning of the XXI century.

On 20 July 2010, the United Nations' Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons was adopted by the General Assembly to urge Governments worldwide to take coordinated and consistent measures to try to defeat the scourge with broader programs to boost development and strengthen security around the world. The victims of Human Trafficking from 2010 to 2012 hold citizenship from 152 different countries and were found in 124 countries, at the same time, the United Nations has estimated that more than 2.4 million people are currently being exploited as victims.



Source: UNODC elaboration on national data.



Source: UNODC elaboration on national data.



3. Perspectives in the solution

Some of the main countries that are involved in this issue are Russia, China, Iran, Belarus and Venezuela because they are the countries with the highest rate of human trafficking.

- Russia: about 20, 000 workers from North Korea are sent every year to work for labor camps in slave like condition.
- China: Chinese men, women and children are commanded to forced labor in factories and coal mines from which most are illegal and also, they are leaded to sex trafficking, especially Chinese women and girls.
- Iran: Iranian women, boys and girls are taken for sex trafficking inside the country and in Afghanistan, Pakistan, United Arab Emirates, and Europe.
- Belarus: Belarusian men, women, boys and girls are mainly trafficked in Russia, Poland and Turkey for sexual activities and labor forced jobs.
- Venezuela: Venezuelan women and girls are sexually trafficked and also inside the country there is child sex tourism. Also children are exploited in domestic servitude.



Key Questions for Reaching a Resolution

- What would be an adequate solution to stop human trafficking?
- What are solutions that countries can do to lower the human trafficking index in their countries?
- Should prostitution by choice be allowed in all countries?
- Should the Model Law against trafficking in Persons become mandatory?
- What measures can take place to bring awareness to the world's population against human trafficking?
- Is there a direct relation between the Human Development Index and the increase of human trafficking?
- What are some actions that countries can do to avoid illegal organ harvesting in their population?
- How can countries ensure that prostitution is by choice and not forced?
- What measures had already been taken in the countries with higher index of human trafficking?
- Given that this is a problem that has been present for a long time, what measures had already been taken?

**LINKS FOR DELEGATES:**

<https://www.state.gov/j/tip/id/help/>

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2010/September/un-launches-global-plan-of-action-against-human-trafficking.html>

<https://www.unodc.org/pdf/gift%20brochure.pdf>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U_kXuQHZmWs

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rMIC2CDqqCo>

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/what-is-human-trafficking.html>

<https://www.fbi.gov/investigate/civil-rights/human-trafficking>

<https://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/countries/2016/index.htm>

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/what-is-human-trafficking.html>

<http://dga.rutgers.edu/sites/default/files/uploads/2012/10/The-Quest-for-Root-Causes-of-Human-Trafficking-A-Study-on-the-Experience-of-Marginalized-Groups-with-a-Focus-on-the-Republic-of-Serbia.pdf>

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/TrafficInPersons.aspx>

https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/glotip/GLOTIP_2014_full_report.pdf

<https://www.nytimes.com/topic/subject/human-trafficking?mcubz=0>



TOPIC B: CYBERSPACE REGULATION FOR AVOIDING THE PROPAGATION OF TERRORIST IDEOLOGIES.

According to the last UNODC report,

“Technology is one of the strategic factors driving the increasing use of the Internet by terrorist organizations and their supporters for a wide range of purposes, including recruitment, financing, propaganda, training, incitement to commit acts of terrorism, and the gathering and dissemination of information for terrorist purposes. While the many benefits of the Internet are self-evident, it may also be used to facilitate communication within terrorist organizations and to transmit information on, as well as material support for, planned acts of terrorism, all of which require specific technical knowledge for the effective investigation of these offences.” [...] UNODOC 2016

Social media is one of the strongest communication panels. The use of the Internet for terrorist purposes is a rapidly growing phenomenon, requiring a proactive and coordinated response from Member States. Throughout the last 30 years, the use of internet gave place of free speech to the masses. Despite increasing international recognition of the threat posed by terrorists’ use of the Internet in recent years, there is currently no universal instrument specifically addressing this pervasive facet of terrorist activity.

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROBLEM

A) Recent History of the Topic (20 and 21st Century)

“The Internet is a prime example of how terrorists can behave in a truly transnational way; in response, States need to think and function in an equally transnational manner.”

-Ban Ki-moon, Former Secretary-General of the United Nations



The information with terrorist content is distributed to a relatively limited audience, in person or via physical media such as compact discs and digital video discs. This issue became huge when the extremists groups decided to take advantage of the relatively low barriers of the internet to enter the cyberspace in the late 1990s.

The terrorist attack on September 11th, 2001 and The War of Terror by the United States led to increase the media coverage between the society and the impact of the internet reached the top. Another example of the huge influence of media was the Arab Spring, it facilitated the communication and interaction among participants of political protests. The internet is a very attractive distribution method for terrorism, because it allows anonymity plus sharing the information quickly and effectively without having the language as an obstacle.

The manifestations of Terrorism in the Cyberspace in the 20th and 21st century are:

1. **PROPAGANDA:** *multimedia communications that provide ideological or practical instructions, explanations, justifications or promotion of terrorist activities.*

Examples: virtual messages, presentations, magazines, treatises, audio files, video files and video games.

Types of Propaganda:

- *Promotion of violence:* video footage that simulate acts of terrorism and encourage the user to engage in role-play, by acting the part of a virtual terrorist.
- *Recruitment:* to develop relationships with and solicit support from the most targeted audience. The chat groups and to appeal to vulnerable groups in



society are the tools used to attract adults. Cartoons, popular music videos or computer games based on terrorist topics allow to have bounding with minors.

- *Incitement to terrorism:* to incite acts of terrorism by glorifying the terrorism. “Glorifying” is a basis for criminal sanctions according to the permissible limitations of the right to freedom of expression, as enshrined in articles 15 and 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
- *Radicalization:* process of indoctrination that often accompanies the transformation of recruits into individuals, determined to act with violence based on extremist ideologies.

2. FINANCING: *use of the Internet to raise and collect funds and resources for terrorist interventions.*

Examples: direct solicitation, e-commerce, exploitation of online payment tools and charitable organizations.

- The websites, chat groups, mass mailings and the targeted communications are used to request donations from supporters.
- Online payment make it easy to transfer funds electronically between parties.
- Terrorists claim to support humanitarian goals, while in fact donations are used to fund acts of terrorism.

3. TRAINING: *growing range of media that provides platforms for the dissemination of practical guides in the form of online manuals, audio and video clips, information and advice that express detailed instructions.*

- How to join terrorist organizations.



- How to construct explosives, firearms or other weapons or hazardous materials.
- How to plan and execute terrorist attacks.

4. PLANNING: every case of terrorism involved the use of Internet technology by facilitating the communication among several parties.

- *Secret communication:* anonymous communication by the creation of draft unsent emails, which may be accessed from any Internet terminal worldwide with the password of the email account or the use of anonymizing software that hides the device, its navigation on the Internet and its location.
- *Open-source information:* publishes information on the Internet as a desire to promote their activities with the public. The social networking media, such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and other blogging platforms are fundamental to provide news or other updates to their audience.

5. EXECUTION: *the elements described above may be employed for the execution of terrorist acts.*

- Introduce anxiety, fear or panic in a population.
- Internet offers logistical advantages
- Internet facilitate the acquisition of items necessary for the attacks by the electronic commerce.

6. CYBERATTACKS: *exploitation of computer networks to disrupt the proper functioning of targets, such as computer systems, through the use of hacking or implementing viruses.*

Example: Israel in January 2012, involving the targeting of multiple symbolic Israeli websites, such as the websites of the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange and the



national airline, and the unauthorized disclosure of the credit card and account details of thousands of Israeli nationals.

The use of the Internet for terrorist purposes creates both challenges and opportunities in the fight against terrorism.

3. Perspectives in the solution

ISIS has found a way to expand itself in terms of contagion of ideologies and the “familiarization” with violence and extremism, and the best way to do it has been the internet and social networks. ISIS has developed very strong encryption systems that help them to be all over the network without international community being able to shut them down. Countries like the U.S., Germany, France and Spain have been involved in several cases in which ISIS and extremist groups broadcast and share content in which some of their soldiers or men are being executed by ISIS, this with the intention to show the world what extremism can do and even to “infect” some minds and invite people to join them. This actually happens, as there are many registered cases; for example, in Germany, a teenager had disappeared without any track from her normal life, and some months later she was found as part of ISIS in Iraq. She had been contacted by ISIS, seduced and she bought herself a plane ticket to go and join them. Countries under the control of ISIS or that host some terrorist groups in their territories (such as Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria, Chechnya, Bosnia and others) are the main actors who are involved in spreading terrorist propaganda and cyberterrorism.

The perspectives in this conflict are mainly the block of countries which are constantly fighting against the spread of terrorist ideas among their population (such as Germany, U.S. and the rest of the International Community and also middle-eastern countries which still have some of their population under non-extremist ideologies) and the ones that are involved in the spreading of these violent acts to promote themselves and persuade the people to get into their caliphate



(such as some groups in Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, etc.). The European Union has become one of the main targets of ISIS, because of their strong and well-established network of technology in which anyone can access anything with “just a click”, and even more if every day more and more youngsters get to know the things that are happening around the world, some of them don’t know what is right and what is wrong and many of them are being tricked to be part of these atrocities.

Questions:

- How can internet be limited in order to avoid the propagation of terrorist ideologies?
- Should the international agenda include specific measures to attack this problems?
- Is the propagation of radical extremism blocking the development of the Human Development Program?
- What are the principal internet regulations?
- What guarantees exist in the legitimacy of organizations that share websites?

**LINKS FOR DELEGATES:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9GL1mV2VhcQ>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XSkMyK71I8M>

<https://2009-2017.state.gov/r/cscs/releases/243877.htm>

[https://www.unodc.org/documents/frontpage/
Use of Internet for Terrorist Purposes.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/frontpage/Use_of_Internet_for_Terrorist_Purposes.pdf)

[http://money.cnn.com/2017/06/04/technology/social-media-terrorism-extremism-
london/index.html](http://money.cnn.com/2017/06/04/technology/social-media-terrorism-extremism-london/index.html)

[http://assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/XRef/X2H-Xref-ViewHTML.asp?
FileID=10914&lang=EN](http://assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/XRef/X2H-Xref-ViewHTML.asp?FileID=10914&lang=EN)

<https://qrius.com/terrorism-social-media/>



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- *United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (2010). United Nations launches global plan of action against human trafficking. September 7th, 2017, from United Nations web: <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2010/September/un-launches-global-plan-of-action-against-human-trafficking.html>*
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- *Patricia Yong. (2011). Timeline of Human Trafficking. September 7th, 2017, from Rutgers University web: <http://www.eden.rutgers.edu/~yongpatr/425/final/timeline.htm>*