

OAKRIDGE



MUN 2023

UNCTC

BACKGROUND GUIDE

**Agenda: Reviewing the United Nations Global
Counter-Terrorism Strategy**

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LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE BOARD

Greetings Delegates!

The Executive Board is pleased to welcome you to the United Nations Counter Terrorism Committee at OakMUN 2023! We would like to present this Background Guide to our delegates as a stepping stone to commence their research, while bearing in mind the fact that this document only serves as an introduction to the vast agenda at hand. We urge delegates to thoroughly examine this Guide before initiating their own research, as a basic understanding of the agenda is crucial for any Model United Nations conference.

We urge delegates to gain an understanding of the Rules of Procedure that is to be followed at the conference and to also be sufficiently researched on the agenda itself in order to enable substantive and solution oriented debate. We wish all the delegates in this committee the best of luck in their preparation and look forward to seeing fruitful discussions at the conference.

In case of any questions or clarifications that you may have, please feel free to contact either of the Executive Board members. Their contact details have been provided below. We can't wait to meet all of you at the conference on September 7th. We hope that you will be just as excited as we are to engage in intense and thought provoking discussions, debates, and negotiations!

Regards,

Rakshak Bharath - Chairperson

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Email ID: IkonikInferno@gmail.com

NOTEWORTHY INFORMATION

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3. Reuters & Al Jazeera
4. State operated News Agencies
5. Multilateral Organizations (EU, ASEAN, NATO etc.)
6. NGOs recognized and collaborated with by the UN

Powers of the Executive Board: The Executive Board has the authority to make changes to the Rules of Procedure in order to ensure the proper flow of debate during committee sessions. The Executive Board also has the authority to use committee time to introduce new elements to debate and also question the stance of a delegate and also seek clarifications.

Diplomacy & Foreign Policy: Delegates are expected to maintain decorum in committee at all times. Diplomacy is a key aspect of MUN conferences and delegates are expected to be aware of this fact. Delegates who are not diplomatic in nature during the proceedings of committee are eligible for a demarcation by the Executive Board on the grounds of demeanor & diplomacy. Delegates are also expected to be aware of the Foreign Policy of their portfolio. Delegates who violate their Foreign Policy are also eligible for a demarcation. It is important to ensure the maintenance of both these attributes throughout the three days of the conference.

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RULES OF PROCEDURE (UNA-USA)

Roll Call: The Executive Board shall commence the Committee with Roll Call. Delegates may respond with either “Present” or “Present and Voting”. Delegates who respond “Present and Voting” lose their right to abstention. Those who answer “Present” may change their stance on the 2nd day, but those who answer “Present and Voting” may not. During the first session, a delegate must raise a motion to set the agenda and establish the General Speakers List. The Quorum is set following the Roll Call.

Formal Debate: General Speakers List

A motion is raised at the beginning of the Committee to establish the General Speakers List in order to discuss the agenda that has been set. It can be set to either 60, 90, or 120 seconds, but can be changed later. Once a motion to establish the General Speakers List is passed, the Executive Board will be looking for speakers for said list. A delegate can be added to the list by raising their placard or sending a note to the dais. A delegate may only appear on the list once at a time. The General Speakers List is inexhaustible. If the list is exhausted and no other delegates wish to be added, the committee immediately moves into voting procedure on any draft resolutions that have been introduced. If there is any time remaining once a delegate concludes their speech, they must yield the remaining time.

Remaining time may be yielded to the following:

1. Yield to the Executive Board (Time is absorbed or used in discretion of the EB)
2. Yield to Points of Information (To entertain questions from other delegates)
3. Yield to another delegate (Allocates time for another delegate to speak)

Points may not be raised upon Yields

Informal Debate: Moderated Caucus

A delegate may raise a motion while the General Speakers List is open to temporarily suspend formal debate and enter a moderated caucus, which is a less formal debate format to discuss a specific subset or subtopic under the agenda. A motion to enter a moderated caucus must include a topic, total duration, and individual speaker time. A delegate may not yield their remaining time when in a moderated caucus.

Informal Debate: Unmoderated Caucus

A delegate may raise a motion while the General Speakers List is open to temporarily suspend formal debate and enter an unmoderated caucus, which is the least formal format of debate. Delegates are not moderated by the Executive Board and may move freely around the committee hall to discuss the flow or direction of committee and work together to draft resolutions.

Motions:

Motions are the tool for delegates to change the happenings of the committee and generally require a vote. The vote may be either substantive or procedural. Motions can be raised to move into different formats of debate. Some motions may require a two-thirds majority to pass, while others require a simple majority. Motions must be raised in a certain verbatim in order to be considered.

Points:

Points are the tools for delegations to ask questions regarding the committee and its proceedings. Points do not require a vote. There are four different Points and only one of them may interrupt a speaker.

1. **Point of Parliamentary Inquiry:** This point is raised by a delegate when they wish to ask a question regarding the procedure or proceedings of the committee. Points of Inquiry may not interrupt a speaker and are answered by the Executive Board.
2. **Point of Order:** This point is raised by a delegate when they believe the dais has made a procedural error. It may also be raised to point out factual inaccuracies in statements made by other delegates.
3. **Point of Personal Privilege:** This point is raised by a delegate to express their personal discomfort. Only this Point can interrupt a speaker. Grievances such as the temperature of the room or the inability to hear a speaker can be brought up using this Point.
4. **Point of Information:** This point is raised when a delegate has a question for a speaker during formal debate. Points of Information can be raised in informal debate through chit.

Chits:

The mode of non-verbal communication used between delegates during formal sessions. Informal chits may be sent to another delegate directly by mentioning the sender and recipient only. Formal chits to be marked upon by the Executive Board may be sent to another delegate via the Executive Board. Chits are passed between delegates and the Executive Board by Organizing Committee members.

Right of Reply:

The Executive Board may recognize a Right of Reply raised by a delegate only in instances of grave personal insult. The Executive Board shall inform the Secretariat of the circumstances surrounding the Right of Reply and rulings on said matter are not subject to appeal.

Appeal to the Executive Board's Decision:

A delegate may appeal a decision made by the Executive Board if they feel an incorrect ruling has been made. The appeal will be taken to the Secretariat, who will rule on the matter.

Working Papers:

The first stage of a resolution is a Working Paper. Working Papers consist of solutions in no particular format. Working Papers require sponsors and signatories, and sponsors must submit Working Papers to the Executive Board for feedback. The committee discusses the Working Papers and subsequently moves to creating Draft Resolutions.

Draft Resolution:

Draft Resolutions are improved and edited versions of Working Papers in a particular format. They are assigned numbers based on the order that they were received in by the dais. If passed during the Voting Procedure, it becomes a Resolution.

Sponsors:

Sponsors are delegates who have contributed to a Working Paper substantively. They are the principal authors of the document and agree with its substance.

Signatories:

Signatories are delegates who may or may not agree with the substance present in a document, but still wish to see it debated and discussed in committee. A certain percentage of the committee must be signatories for a document to be accepted. Signatories may propose amendments for a Draft Resolution.

Preambulatory Clauses:

Preambulatory Clauses highlights past actions taken regarding an issue and the reason for the addressing of the topic. Each clause begins with a Preambulatory Phrase and ends with a comma. Preambulatory Phrases are Italicized. These clauses serve to justify solutions proposed in the resolution and do not call upon or take action themselves.

Operative Clauses:

Operative Clauses are clauses that call for specific action or propose solutions to the agenda at hand. They are the main substance of a resolution. They are numbered and end with semicolons. Only the last operative clause in a Draft Resolution should end with a period. Sub clauses are indicated by a lowercase letter and sub-sub clauses are indicated by roman numerals.

Amendments:

If a delegate wishes to improve a Draft Resolution, they may pass an amendment. An addition, deletion or modification amendment may be passed. There are two types of amendments. **Friendly Amendments** are those that are considered friendly by the Sponsors who agree that the amendment should be made to the document without debate. An **Unfriendly Amendment** is an amendment that is considered unfriendly by even one of the Sponsors as they believe it should not be incorporated into the document. Unfriendly amendments are put to vote and if a majority of the committee is in favor of the amendment, it is incorporated into the document despite the disapproval of the Sponsors.

Voting:

Each present delegate shall have one vote. Observing nations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) cannot vote on substantive matters. Each vote may be a Yes, No, or Abstain. On procedural motions, members may not abstain. Countries who have answered "Present and Voting" may not abstain in Substantive Voting. After the Executive Board has announced the commencement of voting procedure, no representative may enter or leave the room. Communication between delegates is strictly forbidden.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE UNITED NATIONS

The United Nations Charter established six main organs of the United Nations, including the Security Council. It gives primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security to the Security Council, which may meet whenever peace is threatened.

According to the Charter, the United Nations has four purposes:

- to maintain international peace and security;
- to develop friendly relations among nations;
- to cooperate in solving international problems and in promoting respect for human rights;
- and to be a center for harmonizing the actions of nations.

All members of the United Nations agree to accept and carry out the decisions of the Security Council. While other organs of the United Nations make recommendations to Member States, only the Security Council has the power to make decisions that Member States are then obligated to implement under the Charter.

When a complaint concerning a threat to peace is brought before it, the Council's first action is usually to recommend that the parties try to reach agreement by peaceful means. The Council may:

- set forth principles for such an agreement;
- undertake investigation and mediation, in some cases;
- dispatch a mission;
- appoint special envoys; or
- request the Secretary-General to use his good offices to achieve a pacific settlement of the dispute.

When a dispute leads to hostilities, the Council's primary concern is to bring them to an end as soon as possible. In that case, the Council may:

- issue ceasefire directives that can help prevent an escalation of the conflict;
- dispatch military observers or a peacekeeping force to help reduce tensions, separate opposing forces and establish a calm in which peaceful settlements may be sought.

Beyond this, the Council may opt for enforcement measures, including:

- economic sanctions, arms embargoes, financial penalties and restrictions, and travel bans;
- severance of diplomatic relations;
- blockade;
- or even collective military action.

THE MANDATE OF UNSC CTC

The Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) was established by Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), which was adopted unanimously on 28 September 2001 in the wake of the 11 September terrorist attacks in the United States.

The Committee, comprising all 15 Security Council members, was tasked with monitoring implementation of resolution 1373 (2001), which requested countries to implement a number of measures intended to enhance their legal and institutional ability to counter terrorist activities at home, in their regions and around the world, including taking steps to:

Criminalize the financing of terrorism

Freeze without delay any funds related to persons involved in acts of terrorism

Deny all forms of financial support for terrorist groups

Suppress the provision of safe haven, sustenance or support for terrorists

Share information with other governments on any groups practicing or planning terrorist acts

Cooperate with other governments in the investigation, detection, arrest, extradition and prosecution of those involved in such acts; and

Criminalize active and passive assistance for terrorism in domestic law and bring violators to justice.

The resolution also calls on States to become parties, as soon as possible, to the relevant international counter-terrorism legal instruments.

In September 2005, the Security Council adopted resolution 1624 (2005) on incitement to commit acts of terrorism, calling on UN Member States to prohibit it by law, prevent such conduct and deny safe haven to anyone “with respect to whom there is credible and relevant information giving serious reasons for considering that they have been guilty of such conduct.” The resolution also called on States to continue international efforts to enhance dialogue and broaden understanding among civilizations.

The Security Council directed the CTC to include resolution 1624 (2005) in its ongoing dialogue with countries on their efforts to counter terrorism. In January 2023, H.E. Lana Nusseibeh, Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations, was appointed Chair of the CTC.

OVERVIEW OF THE AGENDA

Introduction to the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy:

The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy ([A/RES/60/288](#)) is a unique global instrument to enhance national, regional and international efforts to counter terrorism. Through its adoption by consensus in 2006, all United Nations Member States agreed to a common strategic and operational approach to fighting terrorism.

The Strategy reaffirms that Member States have the primary responsibility to implement the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and in preventing and countering terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism. It sends a clear message that terrorism is unacceptable in all its forms and manifestations, and that Member States have resolved to take practical steps, individually and collectively, to prevent and combat terrorism. Those practical steps include a wide array of measures ranging from strengthening Member States' capacity to counter terrorist threats to better coordinating the United Nations System's counter-terrorism architecture and activities.

The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in the form of a resolution and an annexed Plan of Action ([A/RES/60/288](#)) is composed of four pillars, namely:

1. Measures to address the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism.
2. Measures to prevent and combat terrorism.
3. Measures to build States' capacity to prevent and combat terrorism and to strengthen the role of the United Nations system in that regard.
4. Measures to ensure respect for human rights for all and the rule of law as the fundamental basis of the fight against terrorism.

The Eighth Biennial Review:

Since 2006, the United Nations General Assembly has reviewed the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy every two years, making it a living document attuned to Member States' counter-terrorism priorities. The review of the Strategy represents an opportunity for Member States to renew international commitment to multilateral efforts to counter terrorism, take stock of progress in implementing the Strategy in the past two years and identify further areas requiring attention over the next two years.

In 2023, Member States undertook the eighth review of the Strategy. In anticipation of the review, the Secretary-General submitted a report, as requested by the General Assembly, on the Activities of the United Nations System in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and suggestions for its future implementation ([A/77/718](#)), covering the period of January 2021 to December 2022, and issued in February 2023. This report benefitted from submissions from Member States and international and regional organizations on their efforts, as well as inputs from civil society organizations gathered by UNOCT through public calls for feedback in 2022.

All Member States participated in the review of the Strategy as part of the work of the General Assembly. To assist in the steering of this intergovernmental process, the President of the General Assembly has appointed the Permanent Representatives of Canada and Tunisia to act as co-facilitators, while UNOCT served as substantive secretariat, supporting the co-facilitators, negotiations and consultations from March 2023 until the conclusions of the General Assembly debate.

On 22 June 2023, the General Assembly adopted without a vote resolution [77/298](#) on the eighth review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, thus sustaining consensus behind the strategy.

Resolution [77/298](#) requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its eightieth session a report on progress made in the implementation of the Strategy, containing suggestions for its future implementation by the United Nations system. This marks a departure from the previous biennial timeline. The ninth review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in 2026 will then coincide with the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Strategy.

Key Challenges:

In today's globalized society, no country is immune to terrorism and no country can effectively deal with terrorism alone. Southeast Asia has also been afflicted by the scourge of violence by terrorist and violent extremist groups. These threats intersect with ongoing conflicts and insurgencies, with some countries undergoing post-conflict transitional processes.

Links between groups within the region pose heightened challenges as tactics, materials, and other forms of support can be easily exchanged. Terrorists are adept at exploiting countries with weak counter-terrorism capabilities, and even those countries which do not currently encounter terrorism threats, such as the countries in the Pacific should ensure adequate counter-terrorism preparedness.

National action and international cooperation are key elements for addressing these issues effectively. The ability to successfully address the challenges depends heavily on the capacity of national criminal justice systems to administer fair and effective justice for perpetrators of terrorist crimes, and to undertake effective preventive measures in accordance with the rule of law.

Case Study (Source: https://unrcca.unmissions.org/sites/default/files/concept_note_eng_0.pdf)

“It is with this mandate in mind that the CTITF Working Group on Preventing and Resolving Conflict, in collaboration with Member States in the region, has developed an initiative to assist Central Asian States to devise a regional Plan of Action to implement the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

The project, funded through the support of the European Union and the Government of Norway and launched in New York on 7 September 2010, is being coordinated by the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA) located in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan. The initiative aims at supporting the Governments of Central Asia, as well as regional and international organizations operating in the region, in the implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its four pillars.

This will be achieved through organizing three expert meetings, two to be held in Central Asia and one in the EU during 2010-2011. These meetings, co-sponsored by the UN and the EU, are designed to address experiences and challenges in implementing the different pillars of the Strategy. They will bring together key stakeholders, including the Governments of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, relevant regional and sub-regional organizations (e.g. CIS, CSTO, SCO, OIC, OSCE and NATO), the UN system, representatives of neighboring Governments, civil society, as well as regional and international experts to share experiences and good practices in implementing the Global UN Counter Terrorism Strategy.

The outcome of the project will be a Joint Plan of Action of Central Asian states for the implementation of the UN Global Strategy in Central Asia. This document will be elaborated on the basis of recommendations emerging from the three expert meetings. Its expected adoption during a Ministerial Conference convened to that effect will make the joint Action Plan the first coordinated approach for the implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism strategy.

It will consist of a tangible set of initiatives for governments, regional and sub-regional organizations and the United Nations to pursue jointly in the region in order to implement the Strategy. It is expected that implementation progress updates would be conducted periodically, either through General Assembly reviews or further regional meetings.”

THE EIGHTH BIENNIAL REVIEW (A COMPREHENSIVE REPORT)

On 22 June, Member States prioritized consensus adoption of the United Nations' (UN) eighth biennial Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy review resolution over furthering the promotion of human rights and protection of civic space. The negotiations were heated, with some Member States threatening to revise existing language in an attempt to deprioritize human rights and civil society engagement, while promoting their own interests and agendas. The resulting document is largely a technical roll-over with minimal changes, raising questions about whether international consensus on the counterterrorism agenda has reached its limits. But even after the adoption, one member state spoke scathingly of the process and dissociated itself from its result. With the twentieth anniversary of the Strategy review coming up in 2026, Member States must find ways to demand an approach to UN counterterrorism efforts that is more inclusive, rights-compliant, and gender-responsive.

While many issues at the United Nations are polarizing, the counterterrorism agenda has long benefited from a high degree of consensus among Member States. Although the consensus adoption of the Strategy and all its biennial review resolutions sent an important message of unity, it also forces a more political than strategic process for determining substance and priorities, arriving at the lowest common denominator among states. This has resulted in an extremely broad document covering a variety of different issues, rather than a strategic guide for achieving rights-compliant counterterrorism.

The root of these abuses can partially be explained by the lack of an internationally agreed upon definition of terrorism. As a result, governments handed themselves carte blanche in General Assembly and Security Council resolutions to define terrorism and violent extremism as they wished in their national legislation and corresponding measures. On ostensible national security grounds, governments have applied exceptional powers without sunset clauses, infringed systematically on privacy rights, violated the right to due process, criminalized expression and peaceful assembly and held minority groups in detention facilities en masse. The misuse and abuse of measures to prevent violent extremism, counterterrorism, and address its financing have contributed to these significant human rights abuses. Among the consequences are a severe shrinking of civic space and reprisals directed at human rights defenders, women's organizations, and journalists. But many Member States turn a blind eye to counterterrorism abuses due to a reluctance to constrain their own freedom of action.

In response, there has been growing momentum within civil society to develop and demand more inclusive, rights-based, and gender-responsive global counterterrorism standards. This momentum, championed by the Special Rapporteur on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms while Countering Terrorism helped, secure the first ever references to the negative effects of counterterrorism measures and the promotion and protection of civic space in the Strategy's seventh resolution.

This progress, however, was mostly halted in the Strategy's eighth review. The review, facilitated by the Permanent Representatives of Canada and Tunisia, went through several intense, pendulum-swinging rounds. While earlier versions pressed the proposal to establish an independent human rights oversight mechanism forward (again), others included divisive additions such as criminalizing Koran burning and removing previously-agreed upon gender and human rights language. In the end, consensus was reached on the final eighth review resolution by largely rolling over the text of the seventh review with minimal changes.

One promising advancement is the request to the Secretary-General to report on the United Nations activities based on a "results framework"—a rudimentary, but until now absent, component of UN counterterrorism efforts that should allow Member States to better monitor and evaluate impact of their investments at the UN. The extension of the Strategy review cycle from two to three years should theoretically provide more time to implement activities according to new priorities and to monitor and evaluate progress more thoroughly. This extension must not, however, prevent regular scrutiny of UN counterterrorism entities, activities, and commitments. Persistent engagement and pressure are necessary to advance human rights, gender-responsive approaches, and civil society inclusion at the UN and reinforce these as global norms.

Adopting the eighth review resolution by consensus without significant substantive setbacks was no mean feat in this political climate. The co-facilitators are to be commended for this, as well as for building out a more inclusive approach to civil society engagement in the review process. Nevertheless, the consensus-building process has prevented the kind of structural change needed to promote and protect human rights and the rule of law, meaningfully engage with diverse civil societies, and mainstream gender across UN counterterrorism efforts.

The next Strategy review process will mark its twentieth anniversary. Its original, unanimous adoption in 2006 was in many ways a landmark event. The Strategy outlined a comprehensive approach to preventing and countering terrorism through addressing the conditions conducive to its spread and defining the relationship between counterterrorism and the protection of human rights as “complementary and mutually reinforcing.” Much like the twentieth anniversary of 9/11, the Strategy’s anniversary provides an opportunity to soberly assess the shortcomings of its promise to normatively reset counterterrorism efforts and prevent future abuses. Member States must also seriously analyze and address the size, scope, and focus of UN counterterrorism efforts given other violence prevention and sustainable development priorities.

RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL LEGAL INSTRUMENTS

Since 1963, the international community has elaborated 19 international legal instruments to prevent terrorist acts. Those instruments were developed under the auspices of the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and are open to participation by all Member States.

Here is a summary of the 19 universal legal instruments and additional amendments dealing with terrorism.

1. **1963 Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed On Board**

Aircraft:

- Applies to acts affecting in-flight safety;
- Authorizes the aircraft commander to impose reasonable measures, including restraint, on any person he or she has reason to believe has committed or is about to commit such an act, where necessary to protect the safety of the aircraft; and
- Requires contracting States to take custody of offenders and to return control of the aircraft to the lawful commander.

2. **1970 Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft**

- Makes it an offense for any person on board an aircraft in flight to "unlawfully, by force or threat thereof, or any other form of intimidation, [to] seize or exercise control of that aircraft" or to attempt to do so;
- Requires parties to the convention to make hijackings punishable by "severe penalties"
- Requires parties that have custody of offenders to either extradite the offender or submit the case for prosecution; and
- Requires parties to assist each other in connection with criminal proceedings brought under the Convention.

3. 1971 Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation

- Makes it an offense for any person unlawfully and intentionally to perform an act of violence against a person on board an aircraft in flight, if that act is likely to endanger the safety of the aircraft; to place an explosive device on an aircraft; to attempt such acts; or to be an accomplice of a person who performs or attempts to perform such acts;
- Requires parties to the Convention to make offenses punishable by "severe penalties"; and
- Requires parties that have custody of offenders to either extradite the offender or submit the case for prosecution

4. 1988 Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports Serving International Civil Aviation, supplementary to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation

- Extends the provisions of the Montreal Convention to encompass terrorist acts at airports serving international civil aviation

5. 2010 Convention on the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Relating to International Civil Aviation

- Criminalizes the act of using civil aircraft as a weapon to cause death, injury or damage;
- Criminalizes the act of using civil aircraft to discharge biological, chemical and nuclear (BCN) weapons or similar substances to cause death, injury or damage, or the act of using such substances to attack civil aircraft;
- Criminalizes the act of unlawful transport of BCN weapons or certain related material;
- A cyber attack on air navigation facilities constitutes an offense;
- A threat to commit an offense may be an offense by itself, if the threat is credible.
- Conspiracy to commit an offense, or its equivalence, is punishable.

6. 2010 Protocol Supplementary to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft

- Supplements the *Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft* by expanding its scope to cover different forms of aircraft hijackings, including through modern technological means;
- Incorporates the provisions of Beijing Convention relating to a threat or conspiracy to commit an offense.

7. 2014 Protocol to Amend the Convention on Offences and Certain Acts Committed on Board Aircraft

8. 1973 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes Against Internationally Protected Persons

- Defines an "internationally protected person" as a Head of State, Minister for Foreign Affairs, representative or official of a State or international organization who is entitled to special protection in a foreign State, and his/her family; and
- Requires parties to criminalize and make punishable "by appropriate penalties which take into account their grave nature" the intentional murder, kidnapping or other attack upon the person or liberty of an internationally protected person, a violent attack upon the official premises, the private accommodations, or the means of transport of such person; a threat or attempt to commit such an attack; and an act "constituting participation as an accomplice".

9. 1979 International Convention against the Taking of Hostages

- Provides that "any person who seizes or detains and threatens to kill, to injure, or to continue to detain another person in order to compel a third party, namely, a State, an international intergovernmental organization, a natural or juridical person, or a group of persons, to do or abstain from doing any act as an explicit or implicit condition for the release of the hostage commits the offense of taking of hostage within the meaning of this Convention"

10. 1980 Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material

- Criminalizes the unlawful possession, use, transfer or theft of nuclear material and threats to use nuclear material to cause death, serious injury or substantial property damage.

11. 2005 Amendments to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material

- Makes it legally binding for States Parties to protect nuclear facilities and material in peaceful domestic use, storage as well as transport; and
- Provides for expanded cooperation between and among States regarding rapid measures to locate and recover stolen or smuggled nuclear material, mitigate any radiological consequences or sabotage, and prevent and combat related offenses.

12. 1988 Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation

- Establishes a legal regime applicable to acts against international maritime navigation that is similar to the regimes established for international aviation; and
- Makes it an offense for a person unlawfully and intentionally to seize or exercise control over a ship by force, threat, or intimidation; to perform an act of violence against a person on board a ship if that act is likely to endanger the safe navigation of the ship; to place a destructive device or substance aboard a ship; and other acts against the safety of ships.

13. 2005 Protocol to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation

- Criminalizes the use of a ship as a device to further an act of terrorism;
- Criminalizes the transport on board a ship various materials knowing that they are intended to be used to cause, or in a threat to cause, death or serious injury or damage to further an act of terrorism;
- Criminalizes the transporting on board a ship of persons who have committed an act of terrorism; and
- Introduces procedures for governing the boarding of a ship believed to have committed an offense under the Convention.

14. 1988 Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf

- Establishes a legal regime applicable to acts against fixed platforms on the continental shelf that is similar to the regimes established against international aviation.

15. 2005 Protocol to the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Fixed Platforms located on the Continental Shelf

- Adapts the changes to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation to the context of fixed platforms located on the continental shelf.

16. 1991 Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection

- Designed to control and limit the use of unmarked and undetectable plastic explosives
- Parties are obligated in their respective territories to ensure effective control over "unmarked" plastic explosive, i.e., those that do not contain one of the detection agents described in the Technical Annex to the treaty;
- Each party must, inter alia, take necessary and effective measures to prohibit and prevent the manufacture of unmarked plastic explosives; prevent the movement of unmarked plastic explosives into or out of its territory; exercise strict and effective control over possession and transfer of unmarked explosives made or imported prior to the entry into force of the Convention; ensure that all stocks of unmarked explosives not held by the military or police are destroyed, consumed, marked, or rendered permanently ineffective within three years; take necessary measures to ensure that unmarked plastic explosives held by the military or police are destroyed, consumed, marked or rendered permanently ineffective within fifteen years; and, ensure the destruction, as soon as possible, of any unmarked explosives manufactured after the date of entry into force of the Convention for that State.

17. 1997 International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings

- Creates a regime of universal jurisdiction over the unlawful and intentional use of explosives and other lethal devices in, into, or against various defined public places with intent to kill or cause serious bodily injury, or with intent to cause extensive destruction of the public place.

18. 1999 International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism

- Requires parties to take steps to prevent and counteract the financing of terrorists, whether direct or indirect, through groups claiming to have charitable, social or cultural goals or which also engage in illicit activities such as drug trafficking or gun running;
- Commits States to hold those who finance terrorism criminally, civilly or administratively liable for such acts; and
- Provides for the identification, freezing and seizure of funds allocated for terrorist activities, as well as for the sharing of the forfeited funds with other States on a case-by-case basis. Bank secrecy is no longer adequate justification for refusing to cooperate.

19. 2005 International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism

- Covers a broad range of acts and possible targets, including nuclear power plants and nuclear reactors;
- Covers threats and attempts to commit such crimes or to participate in them, as an accomplice;
- Stipulates that offenders shall be either extradited or prosecuted;
- Encourages States to cooperate in preventing terrorist attacks by sharing information and assisting each other in connection with criminal investigations and extradition proceedings; and
- Deals with both crisis situations (assisting States to solve the situation) and post-crisis situations (rendering nuclear material safe through the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)).

TIPS & TRICKS TO EXCEL IN COMMITTEE

- **Research:** Thoroughly research the topic, the country you're representing, and the position your country holds on the issue. Understand the historical background, current policies, and relevant international treaties or agreements. Knowing your country's stance on the agenda is key to making an impact in committee sessions.
- **Understand the Rules of Procedure:** Familiarize yourself with the rules and procedures of the conference. This includes knowing how to make points of order, motions, and resolutions, as well as understanding the speaking time limits and the structure of debate. Being able to understand the actions taken in committee and even direct the flow of debate yourself is essential to earning recognition.
- **Take Initiative:** Be proactive during the conference. Speak early and frequently to establish yourself as an engaged delegate. Contribute constructively to the debate, propose ideas, and collaborate with other delegates to build consensus. A thorough understanding of the agenda and discussions taking place is crucial to being completely engaged in the committee.
- **Develop Strong Public Speaking Skills:** Practice your public speaking skills to effectively communicate your ideas. Speak clearly, confidently, and concisely. Use persuasive language and logical arguments to convince others of your viewpoint. You can enhance your public speaking skills before the conference by practicing the delivery of your research in the form of timed speeches.
- **Build Coalitions:** Diplomacy and negotiation are crucial in MUN conferences. Seek opportunities to form alliances and build coalitions with like-minded delegates who share similar interests or goals. Together, you can draft resolutions and garner support. Teamwork is one of the most important elements of a MUN conference.
- **Be Diplomatic and Respectful:** Remember that MUN conferences simulate real diplomatic negotiations. Treat other delegates with respect, even if you disagree with their positions. Diplomatic language and behavior will help you build positive relationships and increase your influence.
- **Write Resolutions Effectively:** Master the art of resolution writing. Craft well-structured, clear, and concise resolutions that address the issue at hand. Make sure your resolution is practical and feasible, with specific actions and solutions.
- **Listen and Adapt:** Actively listen to the arguments and perspectives of other delegates. Be open to new ideas and willing to adapt your position if necessary. Showing flexibility and compromise can help you gain support and find common ground.
- **Be Knowledgeable About Current Events:** Stay updated on current global affairs and relevant news. This knowledge can be valuable during informal discussions, lobbying and questioning of other delegates.

- **Practice Time Management:** MUN conferences can be fast-paced, and it's important to manage your time effectively. Use your speaking time wisely, prioritize your interventions, and make strategic decisions about when to negotiate, lobby, or take a more active role.
- **Research Other Countries' Positions:** Understanding the positions of other countries is as important as knowing your own. Research the policies, historical stances, and cultural contexts of other nations in your committee. This knowledge will enable you to anticipate arguments, identify potential allies, and devise effective strategies.
- **Analyze Committee Dynamics:** Observe the dynamics within your committee. Identify influential delegates, power dynamics, and emerging blocs. Understanding these dynamics will allow you to strategically align yourself and build alliances.
- **Utilize Effective Note-Taking:** Take diligent notes during committee sessions. Jot down key arguments, proposals, and relevant information shared by other delegates. Organize your notes in a way that allows you to recall important details when needed. Utilizing chits to question other delegates is another effective way of earning recognition and establishing yourself as a skilled diplomat.
- **Focus on Substance:** While eloquence and public speaking skills are important, substance should be your primary focus. Ensure that your arguments are well-reasoned, backed by evidence, and address the core issues of the topic at hand.
- **Pay Attention to the Chair:** Respect the authority of the committee chair and adhere to their instructions. Observe the chair's cues and adapt your speaking style and approach accordingly. A positive rapport with the chair can positively impact your experience in the conference.
- **Participate in Pre-Conference Training:** Some conferences offer pre-conference training sessions and workshops. Participate in these sessions to gain valuable insights, learn from experienced delegates, and refine your skills.
- **Pay Attention to Detail:** Small details can make a difference in MUN conferences. Ensure your written documents, such as position papers and resolutions, are error-free and well-formatted. Presenting your ideas in a polished and professional manner can help you stand out.
- **Develop a Strong Opening Statement:** Grab the attention of the committee from the start by delivering a powerful opening statement. Clearly state your country's position, highlight key points, and establish your credibility as a delegate.
- **Enhance your Knowledge of International Law:** Familiarize yourself with relevant international treaties, conventions, and legal frameworks related to your committee's topic. Citing legal principles and precedents can strengthen your arguments and lend credibility to your position.
- **Be Prepared for Counterarguments:** Anticipate potential counterarguments and prepare compelling responses. Understand the perspectives of other delegates and be ready to address their concerns and challenges with well-reasoned and persuasive counterpoints.

- **Develop Strong Questioning Skills:** Master the art of asking thought-provoking and insightful questions. Use questions strategically to challenge other delegates' positions, gather information, or redirect the debate towards your preferred direction.
- **Understand the Implications of Economic Factors:** Recognize the economic implications of the topic under discussion. Analyze the financial aspects, economic consequences, and potential incentives for different countries. This will strengthen your arguments and provide a holistic perspective.
- **Develop Expertise in Committee-Specific Knowledge:** If you are participating in a specialized committee (such as the Security Council or the World Health Organization), familiarize yourself with the committee's mandates, procedures, and specific challenges. Tailor your approach accordingly.
- **Take Advantage of Unmoderated Caucuses:** Unmoderated caucuses provide an opportunity for informal discussions and negotiations. Utilize this time to build relationships, form alliances, and draft resolutions collaboratively with like-minded delegates.
- **Develop Persuasive Lobbying Skills:** Lobbying plays a significant role in MUN conferences. Engage in one-on-one or small group discussions with other delegates to present your arguments, address concerns, and seek support for your ideas or resolutions.
- **Analyze Voting Blocs and Strategies:** Observe the voting patterns and alliances within the committee. Identify voting blocs, influential countries, and potential swing votes. Strategize your approach to gain support for your resolutions and secure favorable outcomes during voting sessions.
- **Be Solution-Oriented:** Instead of solely focusing on criticizing or pointing out flaws in others' proposals, offer constructive solutions. Present well-thought-out alternatives and emphasize the feasibility and effectiveness of your suggestions.
- **Seek Compromise without Compromising Principles:** Negotiation often involves finding common ground and reaching compromises. However, ensure that your core principles and objectives are not compromised in the process. Strike a balance between flexibility and maintaining your country's stance.
- **Utilize Technology for Communication:** Take advantage of technology to communicate and coordinate with fellow delegates. Use email, messaging apps, or collaborative platforms to share ideas, discuss strategies, and work on resolutions together.
- **Showcase Leadership Qualities:** Demonstrate leadership qualities by taking initiatives, proposing innovative ideas, and guiding the committee towards productive outcomes. Lead by example and inspire other delegates through your actions and diplomacy. Directing the flow of debate is a crucial element in the awards selection process and making sure that your moderated caucus topics are the ones that pass is essential.

QUESTIONS A RESOLUTION MUST ANSWER (QARMA)

1. How effectively has the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy contributed to global counter-terrorism efforts since its adoption?
2. To what extent has the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy facilitated international collaboration and coordination among Member States and relevant international organizations in countering terrorism?
3. How has the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy promoted the implementation of comprehensive and holistic preventive measures, including addressing root causes of terrorism and promoting social inclusion to mitigate radicalization?
4. What progress has been made in enhancing the capacities of Member States, particularly in developing regions, to effectively combat terrorism, both in terms of technical assistance and resource allocation?
5. How has the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy ensured that counter-terrorism measures taken by Member States adhere to international human rights standards and do not result in undue restrictions on civil liberties?
6. How has the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy adapted to the growing role of technology and the internet in terrorist activities, and what strategies are in place to counter online radicalization and recruitment?
7. What mechanisms and initiatives have been established to effectively track and disrupt the financial networks supporting terrorist activities, and how successful have they been?
8. In light of the rise of lone actor attacks, how has the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy addressed the challenges posed by self-radicalized individuals and small-scale, unaffiliated terrorist actors?
9. How has the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy integrated the needs and rights of victims of terrorism, including their access to justice, support, and reintegration into society?
10. Given the dynamic nature of terrorism, how has the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy demonstrated adaptability and flexibility to respond to emerging threats, and what are the proposed strategies for the next phase of its implementation?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES & REFERENCES

- <https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/international-legal-instruments>
<https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/ctc/>
- <https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/global-ct-compact/partnership-CTED>
- <https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/>
- <https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/>
- <https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/what-security-council>
<https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/un-global-counter-terrorism-strategy#:~:text=The%20United%20Nations%20Global%20Counter,international%20efforts%20to%20counter%20terrorism.>
- <https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-terrorism/un-global-counter-terrorism-strategy>
- <https://disarmament.unoda.org/counter-terrorism/united-nations-counter-terrorism-strategy/>
- <https://www.unodc.org/e4j/en/terrorism/module-3/key-issues/un-global-ct-strategy.html>
- <https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/cct/countering-the-financing-of-terrorism>
- <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2023/05/23/pr23174-imf-joins-the-united-nations-global-counter-terrorism-coordination-compact>

RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS

United Nations Security Council (UNSC):

- UNSCR 1373 (2001): *Established the Counter-Terrorism Committee*
- UNSCR 1624 (2005)
- UNSCR 2178 (2014)
- UNSCR 2396 (2017)
- UNSCR 2535 (2020)

United Nations General Assembly (UNGA):

- A/RES/60/288 (2006): *Adopted the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*
- A/RES/64/297 (2010): *Established the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre*
- A/RES/66/282 (2012)
- A/RES/72/284 (2018)

United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC):

- A/HRC/RES/13/16 (2010)
- A/HRC/RES/16/18 (2011)

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC):

- E/CN.15/2020/L.5 (2020)
- E/CN.15/2021/L.4 (2021)