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# **Disarmament & International Security Committee**

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**Topic A:** Protection of children in military forces

**Topic B:** Arms trafficking

### **Committee Overview**

The General Assembly was established in 1945 under the Charter of the United Nations. The General Assembly is one of the six main organs from the United Nations, and it has representation from all 193 members. The Assembly meets from September to December every year. It breaks into six Main Committees; the Disarmament and International Security Committee is also known as the First Committee.

“The First Committee deals with disarmament, global challenges and threats to peace that affect the international community and seeks out solutions to the challenges in the international security regime.” (United Nations, n.d.) This Committee works closely with the Conference on Disarmament and the United Nations Disarmament Commission in order to recommend more effective options and resolutions, so that problems can be properly resolved in the General Assembly by means of a final vote, either to approve or disapprove the proposal made by the First Committee.

The First Committee sessions are structured into three distinctive stages: General debate, thematic discussions and action on drafts. It is the only Main Committee of the General Assembly entitled to verbatim records coverage. According to the UN Charter, the purpose of DISEC in the General Assembly is to establish ‘general principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security, including the principles governing disarmament and the regulation of armaments’ and also to give ‘recommendations with regard to such principles to the Members or to the Security Council.’

The work of the Committee falls under seven thematic clusters: nuclear weapons, other weapons of mass destruction, disarmament on outer space, conventional weapons, regional disarmament and security, other disarmament measures, and the disarmament machinery.



## Quorum

1. Arab Republic of Egypt
2. Argentine Republic
3. Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela
4. Canada
5. Central African Republic
6. Commonwealth of Australia
7. Democratic People's Republic of Korea
8. Democratic Republic of the Congo
9. Federal Republic of Germany
10. Federal Republic of Nigeria
11. Federative Republic of Brazil
12. French Republic
13. Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
14. Islamic Republic of Iran
15. Islamic Republic of Pakistan
16. Italian Republic
17. Kingdom of Belgium
18. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
19. Kingdom of Spain
20. People's Republic of China
21. Republic of Austria
22. Republic of Colombia
23. Republic of India
24. Republic of Iraq



25. Republic of Korea
26. Republic of Lebanon
27. Republic of Liberia
28. Republic of Mali
29. Republic of the Philippines
30. Republic of the Union of Myanmar
31. Republic of Turkey
32. Republic of South Sudan
33. Republic of Sudan
34. Republic of Uganda
35. Republic of Yemen
36. Russian Federation
37. Somali Republic
38. State of Israel
39. State of Libya
40. Swiss Confederation
41. Syrian Arab Republic
42. United Arab Emirates
43. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
44. United Mexican States
45. United States of America



## Topic A: Protection of children in military forces

### A. Brief Information on the Topic

The recruitment and use of children during conflict is one of the six grave violations of international law identified by the UN Security Council.

Within 5 years, the number of child soldiers has increased globally by 159 percent, with almost 30,000 verified recruitments since 2012. Ongoing conflicts in places such as the Middle East and Africa are leaving children increasingly exposed to recruitment. Exploitation of girls has also been on the rise, with 893 cases in 2017, compared to 216 cases the year before. (Child Soldiers International, 2019) The UN has identified 14 countries, (Afghanistan, Colombia, the Central African Republic, the DR of Congo, Iraq, Mali, Myanmar, Nigeria, the Philippines, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria and Yemen) where it happens the most. Many of these locations being where the world's superpowers have deployed their military forces.

The definition of child soldiers according to the Paris Principles is the following:

A child associated with an armed force or armed group refers to any person below 18 years of age who is, or who has been, recruited or used by an armed force or armed group in any capacity, including but not limiting to children, boys and girls, used as fighters, cooks, porters, spies or for sexual purposes.

Sometimes these children may not engage in direct combat, but may as well be used as sex slaves and, in an emerging phenomenon, as suicide bombers.

There are many reasons as for why children become associated with armed forces and groups. The most common method of recruitment is abduction, or through coercion and threats; however, children also join armed groups and forces voluntarily. Poverty, lack of education, unemployment, abuse at home, no family or community, repression and discrimination, are 'push' factors that influence the child's decision. Seeking security, food, a sense of belonging



and ideology or group identity, as well as economic profit are considered ‘pull’ factors.

(Dudenhoefer, A.L., 2016) Another reason for why children are recruited is that they are more psychologically vulnerable, and can be more easily influenced and manipulated. Recruiters have also an easy access to refugee camps, in which large groups of children are recruited.

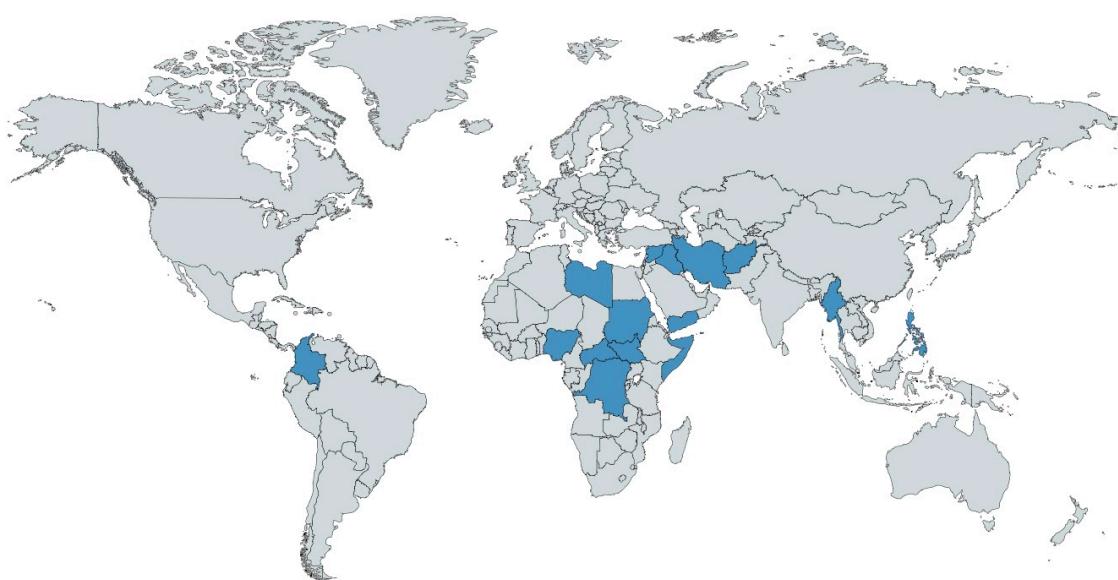
Regardless of their roles, child soldiers are considered victims, whose involvement in armed conflict brings serious implications for their physical, emotional and psychological well-being. The reintegration of these children into civilian life, by providing them psychological support and education, is an essential part to avoid further recruitment. Within the UN, UNICEF is in charge of this task.

## **B. Guiding Questions**

- What obstacles is the delegation facing that keep them from achieving the Sustainable Development Goals concerning children?
- What kind of civil conflicts has the delegation had or how has it been involved in one, regardless if it occurred within its territory, in which child soldiers are or have been used?
- To which organizations or alliances that fight the use of child soldiers is the delegation affiliated?
- What actions has the delegation taken in recent years in order to prevent the recruitment or use of child soldiers in its armed forces?
- Why have the actions previously taken by the delegation haven’t efficiently worked and how does it plan on improving them?



### C. Geographical and Time Frame



Around tens of thousands of children have been forced to become soldiers. 12 years ago, world leaders agreed to work together to stop the use of child soldiers, however, there are many countries where child soldiers are still used; some of these countries are Afghanistan, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Iraq, Libya, Myanmar, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, the Philippines, Syria and Yemen. They have recruited and abducted children as young as seven years old to force them to become soldiers.

In Syria, a total of 362 cases of recruitment and use of children were verified. More than half of the children they recruited were under 15 years old. In Yemen, there have been nearly 1500 cases of child recruitment since 2015. In South Sudan 17,000 children have been recruited since 2013. But in 2016, 145 child soldiers were released according to the UNICEF. An estimated 30,000 child soldiers have been released in China since 2003. UNICEF and more than 190 countries are working to free child soldiers.



## D. Historical Framework

Children soldiers is not a recent problematic, unfortunately, it is a conflict that has been around for centuries.

In the tenth century b. C., the spartan army was used to select their soldiers since birth, and when they reached the seven years old, they were enlisted to militar lessons, but as kids they never touched the battlefield. It was in the Ottoman Turkish empire from 1470 to 1566, where the kids did go to the armed conflicts, as they formed part of the special army of the sultan in that period. (Universidad de Navarra, 2016).

Later, as time passed, seeing children soldiers in armed conflicts became more and more common.

- During the American Civil War in the Battle of New Market, the General Breckinridge ordered to a group of around 250 cadets of the Virginia Military School, with an age range from 12 to 17 years, to jump onto the battlefield.
- When the Second World War was coming to an end, the German army ordered a group of teens called the Hitler Youth to take part in the armed conflict when the allies invaded Germany.
- When the Kosovo War was taking place, the Kosovo Liberation Army had teenagers as soldiers, and made them fight in some armed conflicts against the Serbian forces.
- It is thought that during the conflict between Hutus and Tutsis in Rwanda in 1994, thousands of children were involved, not only as civilians, but also as soldiers.
- In the 1980's during the Iran-Iraq war, there was also presence of children soldiers. Ali-Akbar Rafsanjani, the Iranian President, made a declaration in 1984 saying that Iranians between 12 and 72 years old should take a role during the conflict. This caused that lots of children were pulled out from schools and sent onto the battlefields.



## **E. Power Relations and Strategic Alliance**

One hundred and five United Nations Members have committed to stop child soldiers. Even though their efforts haven't always been successful, their collective failure has helped to confront problems that cause suffering around the world.

Many tools created by the UN and the Security Council have been used to protect children. The Security Council has to ensure that the tasks are completed and deliver the results for children affected by this issue. Since 2000, over 115,000 children have been released from armed forces and groups because of the power of the UN and other states working together.

## **F. Economic Aspects**

Nowadays kids have passed from being victims of armed conflicts to becoming part of those conflicts. When an armed conflict takes place, even if it is between paramilitary groups or between States, in some cases these groups make use of children to keep their own economic stability.

Military groups see children soldiers as an opportunity to make money, sometimes they are sold or traded as objects. Also, these groups need to give incentives to their soldiers in order to make them stay into the group, but if children are forced to stay, then their only concern is to keep them alive and ready for a warfare. In short, these groups are always willing to make income winning their fights, but using the less resources as possible as can be, this means that with children soldiers in armed conflicts, starting a warfare can be even more profitable, as it is cheaper to train, recruit, and prepare kids for an armed conflict.



## G. Legal Aspects

- Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict. (OPAC)

The Optional Protocol was adopted by the General Assembly on May 25, 2000 and entered into force on February 12, 2002. It is a commitment that States will not recruit children under the age of 18 to send them to the battlefield and should take all possible measures to prevent such recruitment, including the legislation to prohibit and criminalize such recruitment. States shall also provide physical, psychological recovery services to help with their social reintegration. As of July 2020, 170 countries have ratified the Protocol, 10 have signed but are yet to ratify, and 17 have neither signed nor ratified. (Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, n.d.)

- African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC)

The African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child was adopted on July 9, 1990 and entered into force on November 29, 1999. As of June of 2019, the Charter has been ratified by 49 African Union Member States. Article 1 of the Charter establishes that States Parties shall undertake the necessary steps, in accordance with their Constitutional processes, to adopt legislative or other measures to give effect to the provisions of the Charter. The Charter considers every human being a child as long as they are under the age of 18, and prohibits state armed forces from recruiting any child.

- Child Soldier Prevention Act of 2017

The bill amends the Child Soldier Prevention Act of 2008, which was signed into law on December 23, 2008 by former President George W. Bush, to prohibit the United States from sending military aid to countries identified as actively recruiting and using child soldiers in their official militaries or government supported armed forces, and to hold governments accountable



for involving children in armed conflict. The bill also authorizes a waiver for the President to fully or partially waive these restrictions if doing so serves the U.S. national interest.

- Paris Principles and Paris Commitments

They were adopted in 2007 at the “Free Children from War” conference organized by France and UNICEF. These texts set out guidelines to protect children from use and recruitment in armed groups, and to facilitate their release and reintegration into their communities. Following the “Protecting Children From War” conference in 2017 in France, 108 have now endorsed these principles. Although these texts are not legally binding, they have significant political importance, as they reflect the international commitment to eradicate the use and recruitment of child soldiers.

## **H. Sociocultural Aspects**

Even though in most cases children are forced to be part of military groups by being kidnapped or threatened, children also accept joining voluntarily as a result of different situations.

Sometimes orphan children, or those who live on difficult familiar environments, become vulnerable and turn into possible objectives for these groups, as kids can see them like a possible solution for their problems. In other cases, there can also be related local ideologies, as can be nationalism or religion, feelings of revenge, or the lack of a good education. Because of these ideologies, a child can develop a sense of belonging that forces him to feel committed to defending his ideas or the groups’. By being easily influenced, it becomes easier to convince them on joining an army or military group.

## **I. Quorum General Positions**

Non-state armed groups are responsible for most of the child recruitments around the world, however, government armed forces can also contribute. In some of these countries, the



enlisting of children in armed forces is not legal, nevertheless, they have continued to collaborate with proxy militias that use children in armed conflict. Some of these countries have even signed treaties or protocols, but have deliberately decided not to follow them. The following countries have been identified for years as the ones where it happens the most: Afghanistan, Central African Republic, Colombia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Myanmar, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen.

Even though there are still about 46 countries around the world in which the minimum age for enlisting in the army is under 18, the ones mentioned before are where children are at the most at danger, as armed conflict is very present.

There are 17 UN Member States that have neither signed nor ratified the Optional Protocol: Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Comoros, DPR Korea, Equatorial Guinea, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Sao Tome and Principe, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, and the United Arab Emirates.

As for the ones that have signed but are yet to ratify, there are 10: Fiji, Haiti, Iran, Lebanon, Nauru, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Suriname, and Zambia.

#### **J. Sustainable Development Goals**

- **Education (4)** Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

Due to ongoing conflict in certain areas or poverty, many children lose the opportunity of a quality education. The interruption of their education as a result of armed conflict may force them to engage in them as child soldiers and approach a different lifestyle. This goal seeks to provide a safe, non violent environment for children to continue learning.

- **Gender Equality (5)** Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

Girls, as well as boys, are recruited by armed groups; but unlike them, they face gender related pressure. Girls are more likely to face sexual violence. Target 5.2 seeks to “eliminate all



forms of violence against all women in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.” By

- **Decent Work and Economic Growth (8)** Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

Violations against children are addressed in the target 8.7, which seeks to “eradicate force labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition of the worst forms of child labor, such as the recruitment and use of child soldiers.” Due to the nature of the environment these children live in, they may be forced to engage in these practices as a result of a lack of decent work, poverty and unemployment.

- **Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions (16)** Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all, and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

Law and accountability are vital to ensure violations against children are not repeated. States must adopt clear legislation and establish clear measures to avoid harm to children. Target 16.2 seeks to “end abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children.”



## Topic B: Arms Trafficking

### A. Brief Information on the Topic

The global arms trade is a thriving industry. According to Sipri, the international trade in arms is worth about \$100 billion per year, with the United States at the lead, followed by Russia, France, Germany and China. In the last five years, Middle Eastern countries have been buying more weapons than before, with Saudi Arabia being the biggest importer worldwide. Civil wars in places such as Syria and Yemen have also created an increasing demand.

Most illicit firearms are originally legally manufactured and transferred, but at some point they are diverted into the illicit market. By being an illegal market on its own, the prices may raise for certain types of contraband. Black market trafficking usually takes place on a regional or local level by mercenaries and criminal traffickers, for whom economic profit is the main motivation.

The Firearms Protocol- Article 3: Use of terms, defines illicit trafficking as:

the import, export, acquisition, sale, delivery, movement or transfer of firearms, their parts and components and ammunition from or across the territory of one State Party to that of another State Party if any one of the States Parties concerned does not authorize it or if the firearms are not marked in accordance with this Protocol.

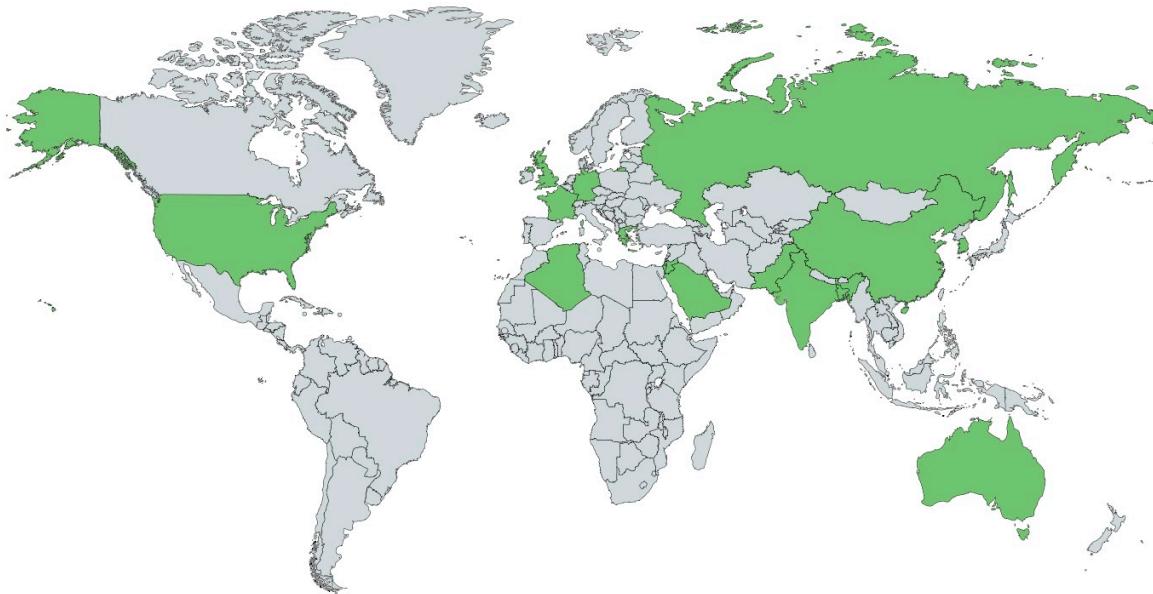
The illicit trade of small arms and light weapons is concentrated in areas affected by violence, armed conflict and organized crime, where the demand is high. It fuels civil wars, regional conflicts, and violent crime. High levels of crime, weak security forces unable to provide security to its citizens, human rights violations, limited civilian participation, gang culture, racial and ethnic tensions, civil conflict, terrorist radicalization and loopholes in firearms control regimes, are also among the factors that contribute to a high demand of illegal firearms.



## B. Guiding Questions

- What is the delegation's approach towards legal arm trade within its territory?
- What security measures does the delegation take to ensure the export and import of private or government weapons is made safely?
- How has the delegation been directly affected by the illicit trade of arms?
- How is the delegation involved in a treaty and/or alliance with the purpose of regulating the arms trade?
- What laws or policies has the delegation recently approved to prevent the illicit arms trade?

## C. Geographical and Time Frame



“The five largest arms exporters are the United States, Russia, France, Germany and China. Together they accounted for 75% of global exports. The United States is by far the world’s biggest exporter of arms, its top clients are Saudi Arabia with 22% of total exports, Australia with 7.7% and UAS with 6.7%. Russia’s top clients are India with 27%, China with 14% and Algeria with 14%. France’s top clients are Egypt with 28%, India with 9.8% and Saudi Arabia with 7.4%. Germany’s top clients are South Korea with 19%, Greece with 10% and Israel



with 8.3%. And China's top clients are Pakistan with 37%, Bangladesh with 16% and Algeria with 11%" (Amnesty International, 2019l).

"The flow of arms to the Middle East grew by 87% between 2009- 2018. More than half of the US and British arms exports went to the Middle East. The five largest arms importers were Saudi Arabia, India, Egypt, Australia and Algeria. Together they accounted for 35% of total arms imports. During 2014- 2018, Saudi Arabia became the world's largest arms importer with the US and the UK as their largest suppliers" (Amnesty International, 2019).

#### **D. Historical Framework**

Arms trafficking is a problem that has spread throughout the world. There are many reasons that can cause people getting more and more involved, such as the ambition of making money, or gaining other type of things, as can be any kind of political affinity, influence or power. Also, one study made by Yuliya Zabyelina, assistant professor in the John Jay College of Criminal Justice, and Jana Arsovská, associate professor of the same College, suggest that gunrunning can be caused by mental conflicts such as feelings of stress, insecurity or fear.

Gunrunning has been presented for a long time in the history of the human being. Some examples will be mentioned below.

- During the sixteenth century, West European countries were considered the main source of arms of all the world, as they had significant advances in gunpowder and firearms technologies. Among these countries, Portugal acted as one of the biggest traders of illicit arms, especially with Africa and Asia, and thanks to its trade routes, this became a profitable business for the country.
- Before the eighteenth century began, by the late 1690's, West Africa started acquiring arms from England, who had gun-making centers located at Birmingham and London, but instead of trading for money, England traded for slaves. The first such transaction was completed in 1698.



- Arms trafficking had presence in South and Central Asia at the beginning of the second half of the nineteenth century. Oman and Muscat were the main receivers of illicit arms from European countries such as Belgium and France. Then, from Oman and Muscat weapons flowed freely into the rest of South and Central Asia, regions that despite the arms trade prohibitions were in high demand.
- After the American withdrawal and the Communist victory in the Southeast Asian region armed conflict, lots of american firearms were left, and the Vietnamese took advantage of this, exchanging them with Cuba for foodstuffs in the 1980's. Then, Cuba started trafficking this guns with Nicaragua and El Salvador in order to encourage their revolution.
- West Africa had starred some devastating armed conflicts since 1990's. For 2012, it was estimated by the United Nations Development Program that about 8 million light weapons and small arms were present in West Africa.
- One of the most means arms dealer of history, Viktor Bout, nicknamed "Merchant of dead", was sentenced to 25 year in jail in 2012. He is recognized as one of the most important firearms trafficker. He had so much influence globally that he armed some of the most violent conflicts around the world.

#### **E. Power Relations and Strategic Alliance**

“The five largest arms exporters are the United States, Russia, France, Germany and China” (BBC News). They all are big influencers in arms trafficking and also have several alliances between them and other countries.

“The biggest influence in arms trafficking is the United States” (BBC News); it is the biggest exporter of arms worldwide and its availability of buying arms has driven to the misuse of them. In the United States, one of the most common methods of trafficking is that someone



legit buys from someone who is not. “80% of the illegal firearms in Mexico are brought from the United States” (BBC News).

National and international laws govern the legal arms trade but many legal dealers can exit the legal circuit and enter the illegal one with help of other legal actors. Many licensed firearms dealers foster illicit trafficking like the United Kingdom, which was caught selling arms to criminal groups after manufacturing ammunition for them.

#### **F. Economic Aspects**

Most of the time, arm trafficking is run by criminal associations that take advantage of products with high demand, selling them illegally. Transnational organized crime is one of the most profitable businesses nowadays due to the great variety of illegal markets that exist. “It was estimated in 2009 that organized crime generated the 1.5% of the global GDP, that can be traduced to 870 billions of dollars yearly” (UNODC).

“Specifically talking about arms trafficking, this type of illicit trade generates between 170 and 320 millions of dollars every year” (UNODC). Unfortunately even though this business generates a lot of income for organized crime, it also brings insecurity to communities and is highly related with the yearly homicides.

#### **G. Legal Aspects**

- Arms Trade Treaty (ATT)

The Treaty came into force on December 24, 2014. It has a total of 107 States Parties and 130 Signatory States. The object of the Arms Trade Treaty is to establish common standards for regulating the international trade in conventional arms and to prevent and eradicate the illicit trade. It seeks to reduce human suffering by contributing to international and regional peace, as well as to promote the cooperation and transparency by the States Parties. It requires each State Party to adopt basic regulations and approval processes for the flow of weapons across



international borders, and to establish and maintain a national control system. Each State Party shall also submit annually a report.

- Firearms Protocol

The Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition (Firearms Protocol) provides a framework for States to control and regulate licit arms and arms flow, prevent their diversion into the illegal circuit, facilitate the investigation and prosecution of related offenses without hampering legitimate transfers. Parties undertake to cooperate at a bilateral, regional and international level, also providing training and technical assistance to other Parties. The Firearms Protocol supplements the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Organized Crime Convention, COP). It entered into force on July 3, 2005. It has 117 Parties and 52 Signatories. (UNODC, 2020)

- Programme of Action (PoA)

Under the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (PoA) governments agreed to improve national small arms laws, import/export controls, and stockpile management. It was adopted in 2001. In 2005 they also adopted the International Tracing Instrument (ITI), which requires states to ensure weapons are properly marked and records are kept. (United Nations, n.d.)

- Kinshasa Convention

The Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition, All Parts and Components that can be used for their Manufacture, Repair and Assembly. It was adopted in 2010 by 11 signatories, and entered into force on March 8, 2017. It complements and reinforces existing regional and global frameworks such as the Arms Trade



Treaty and the Firearms Protocol.

## H. Sociocultural Aspects

As it is a conflict that is strongly united with the human history, there is a big variety of ideological, social, and cultural aspects that are involved with this topic. When the Cold War was taking place, the main reason why arms trafficking spread was the constant fight between capitalist and communist ideologies, since both sides needed to have allies and be prepared in case an armed conflict exploded. Later, during the two World Wars, illicit and legal arms trading was encouraged because of the nationalist idea of defending national pride, power, and territory.

In a more recent context, weapons nowadays can still be illegally bought with the intention of making some recreational activities, or in some cases with self-defense intentions. This can be a result of hate crimes and discrimination. There are certainly more reasons why illegal firearms are bought, such as internal political problems within a country, or if a community feels scared that authorities are unable to protect and help them.

## I. Quorum General Positions

Arms trafficking is a very controversial topic. Many countries have formed alliances and treaties to deal with this problem but other countries haven't take action to stop arms trafficking.

A. **Countries that have been taking action:** Argentine Republic, Canada, Central African Republic, Australia, Germany, Nigeria, Brazil, France, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Italian Republic, Belgium, Spain, China, Austria, Colombia, Lebanon, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Panama, Philippines, Turkey, Israel, Libya, Swiss Confederation, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Mexican States and the United States of America.



B. **Countries that haven't taken action:** Egypt, Venezuela, Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iran, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Ghana, India, Iraq, Kenya, Republic of Korea, Nicaragua, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda, Yemen, Russian Federation, Somali Republic, Syria and the United Republic of Tanzania.

#### **J. Sustainable Development Goals**

- **Sustainable Cities and Communities (11)** Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

Increasing urbanization and investment in the security sector reform will improve the states' capacities to provide peaceful and secure urban environments for their citizens, and will reduce the risk of arms reaching the illicit market.

- **Peace Justice and Strong Institutions (16)** Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

Millions of people are denied of their security, human rights and access to justice. In 2018, the number of people fleeing war, persecution and conflict exceeded 70 million. Target 16.4 seeks to "significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime." The indicators for this target are the "total value of inward and outward illicit financial flows" and the "proportion of seized, found or surrendered arms whose illicit origin or context has been traced or established by a component authority in line with international instruments." (Sustainable Development Goals, 2020)



- **Partnerships for the Goals (17)** Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.

Strengthening global partnerships and establishing policies to help countries manage their debt, and promoting the investment in the least developed, will help with the sustainable growth and development of these. The goal is for countries to share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, as well as the goal to increase the availability of reliable data and the development of processes for accurate reporting in developing countries.



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