BUAMUN

International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) Specialized Committee

Background Guide

A welcome from the chair

Hello Delegates,

My name is Orly Lipset. I'm a senior here at Boston University Academy, and this year will be my second year of involvement in BUAMUN. Last year, I vice chaired in the Roman Senate Committee. This year, I am chairing the INTERPOL Committee along with Kyle Zschokke. I look forward to a weekend of exciting debate! Please feel free to email me with any questions at interpol@buamun.org.

Happy researching,

Orly Lipset

interpol@buamun.org

Position Paper Information

This committee will require a formal position paper for each of its topics. Chairs will review position papers, and well-written and well-researched papers are eligible for the committee's Best Position Paper Award, as well as influencing other award determinations. Position papers are 1-2 pages in length, double-spaced, and should follow a 3-paragraph scheme: 1) Introduction to the topic, 2) delegate's stance on the topic, and 3) delegate's proposed action on the topic. Position papers should follow the following conventions on headers:

Delegate: Evelyn Huang
School: Boston University Academy
Committee: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
Country: Belgium
Topic: Refugees due to Syrian Civil War

Topic 1: Cybercrime

Working Definition:

The field of cyber crime can be divided into three general areas of specialized crime: attacks against computers, abuse --whether of a sexual or otherwise malicious nature-- and financial crimes.[1] These are all crimes which, in some form, predated the invention of the internet, but which the internet has allowed to grow exponentially in scope.

History:

As the internet becomes an increasingly ubiquitous vehicle for mundane transactions, so too has it become a vehicle for organized crime. Once the field of tech-savvy individuals, the cybercrime scene is now dominated by large terrorist. Specialists hypothesize that there up to 30 groups whose connections rival those of a country.[2] These groups include the likes of Cryptolocker, which has generated millions of dollars by hacking hundreds of thousands of computers. They use weapons like the Gameover Zeus Botnet, which has hacked upwards of half a million computers for banking account information.

Cyber crime has been on the legislative radar since the 1970s, when the United States Senate Government Operations Committee first conducted a study on computer crime. In 1977, this study prompted Senator Abe Ribicoff to propose a bill aimed to minimize cyber exploitation. Although the bill did not pass, it marked the beginning of the ongoing battle between governments and cyber terrorists.[3] In 1979, INTERPOL became the first international organization to address the growing threat posed by computers when it addressed the need for more stringent laws surrounding computer activity. [4] The Millennium bug (also known as Y2K), which concerned the way computers would process the change of millennium, inspired greater fear of cyber terrorist attacks, as did the 9/11 attacks. These events consequently prompted

---

[1] "Cybercrime." *// Crime Areas / Internet / Home*. INTERPOL, n.d. Web. 05 Nov. 2014. <http://www.interpol.int/Crime-areas/Cybercrime/Cybercrime>.

[2] Ranger, Steve. "Organised Cybercrime Groups Are Now as Powerful as Nations | ZDNet." *ZDNet*. N.p., n.d. Web. 06 Nov. 2014. <http://www.zdnet.com/organised-cybercrime-groups-are-now-as-powerful-as-nations-7000030323/>.

[3] Schjolberg, Stein. "Computer Related Offenses." *COMPUTER-RELATED OFFENCES* (2004): n. pag. *Cyber Crime Law*. Web. <http://cybercrimelaw.net/documents/Strasbourg.pdf>.

[4] Schjolberg, Stein. "Computer Related Offenses." *COMPUTER-RELATED OFFENCES* (2004): n. pag. *Cyber Crime Law*. Web. <http://cybercrimelaw.net/documents/Strasbourg.pdf>.

governments around the world to pay greater attention to the threats posed by cybercrime.[5] Since then, cybercrime has only become an increasingly pressing issue facing individuals, large corporations, and entire countries. Whether in the form of a massive security breach at dating site eHarmony, wherein millions of passwords were leaked,[6] in the form of an estimated third of all teenagers who have experienced cyber bullying,[7] or in the form of the WikiLeaks and other "hacktivists," cyber crime plays a major role in our increasingly technological world.

INTERPOL and Cybercrime:

INTERPOL's attack on cybercrime is focused in its INTERPOL Complex for Innovation (IGCI) in Singapore.[8] There, primary tactics include harmonization, capacity building, and operational and forensic support.[9] Harmonization refers to facilitation of the collaboration of cybercrime-oriented sectors, whether or not they are involved with INTERPOL, in order to directly and efficiently attack the issue. Through a national cyber review, an audit of legislation involving cyber crime, the ongoing development of cyber security strategy, international advocacy the importance of cyber legislation, and continued research and innovation, INTERPOL harmonizes relevant sectors to fight crime.[10] In capacity building, INTERPOL provides police forces and other organizations with educational training in the latest methods of eliminating cybercrime.[11] INTERPOL allies with 190 countries to foster cooperation and learning through means of training sessions that are attended by thousands of officials. Their specific training programs include:

---

[5] White House shifts Y2K focus to states, CNN (Feb. 23, 1999)". CNN. 23 February 1999. Retrieved 25 September 2011.f

[6] Salvador Rodriguez (June 6, 2012). "Like LinkedIn, eHarmony is hacked; 1.5 million passwords stolen". Los Angeles Times.

[7] "Cyber Bullying Statistics." - *Bullying Statistics*. N.p., n.d. Web. 14 Nov. 2014. <http://www.bullyingstatistics.org/content/cyber-bullying-statistics.html>.

[8] "The INTERPOL Global Complex for Innovation." */ About INTERPOL / Internet / Home*. N.p., n.d. Web. 06 Nov. 2014. <http://www.interpol.int/About-INTERPOL/The-INTERPOL-Global-Complex-for-Innovation>.

[9] "Cybercrime." */ / Crime Areas / Internet / Home*. INTERPOL, n.d. Web. 05 Nov. 2014. <http://www.interpol.int/Crime-areas/Cybercrime/Cybercrime>.

[10] "Activities." *Harmonization / / Cybercrime / Crime Areas / Internet / Home*. INTERPOL, n.d. Web. 06 Nov. 2014. <http://www.interpol.int/Crime-areas/Cybercrime/Activities/Harmonization>.

[11] "Activities." *Capacity Building / / Cybercrime / Crime Areas / Internet / Home*. INTERPOL, n.d. Web. 06 Nov. 2014. <http://www.interpol.int/Crime-areas/Cybercrime/Activities/Capacity-building>.

- INTERPOL Capacity Building Programme on Organized Crime for the Americas
- INTERPOL Capacity Building Programme on the Prevention of Migrant Smuggling and Illegal Migration in South East Asia
- International Threat Assessment and Intelligence Workshop
- INTERPOL Capacity Building Programme on Counter-Terrorism for the Horn of Africa
- INTERPOL Capacity Building Programme on Counter-Terrorism for Asia
- INTERPOL Capacity Building Programme on Counter-Terrorism for Sahel
- INTERPOL Training Seminar on United Nations Security Council Sanctions and their Implementation at the National and International Level
- Complementary Training Initiative on the Enhancement of INTERPOL Notices

These programs are widely successful.[12] Operational and forensic efforts against cybercrime include the establishment of the Cyber Fusion Center, which reports cybercrime to countries of concern in real time. The Digital Forensic Library, which houses documents related to cybercrime and its history, trains and supports countries in their fight against cybercrime through four-day training courses.[13] In all continents but Australia and Antarctica, there are regional groups called "working groups," which work under INTERPOL to strategize about issues related to cybersecurity on a more local level.[14]

Focus Questions

- How can INTERPOL continue to strengthen its training programs?
- Should INTERPOL seek to train not only policemen, but also the general public on cyber security issues?
- Does cybercrime pose a major threat to your country? What has been done to combat it, and what should be done in future years?

---

[12] "Training and Capacity Building." *Training Activities / / INTERPOL Expertise / Internet / Home*. N.p., n.d. Web. 26 Nov. 2014. <http://www.interpol.int/INTERPOL-expertise/Training-and-capacity-building/Training-activities>.

[13] "INTERPOL Cybercrime Investigations and Digital Forensics Training for Americas Region." */ / 2014 / Events / News and Media / Internet / Home*. N.p., n.d. Web. 26 Nov. 2014. <http://www.interpol.int/News-and-media/Events/2014/INTERPOL-Cybercrime-Investigations-and-Digital-Forensics-Training-for-Americas-Region/INTERPOL-Cybercrime-Investigations-and-Digital-Forensics-Training-for-Americas-Region>.

[14] "Activities." *Operational and Forensic Support / / Cybercrime / Crime Areas / Internet / Home*. INTERPOL, n.d. Web. 06 Nov. 2014. <http://www.interpol.int/Crime-areas/Cybercrime/Activities/Operational-and-forensic-support>.

Bloc Positions

Western Countries:

These countries recognize the immense threat posed by cyber terrorism, especially as manifested in attacks against governmental systems. They aim to combat it through various organizations at both national and international levels. Especially given that these countries represent some of the biggest producers of malware, their governments are especially passionate in their crusade against cybercrime. Be mindful of the fact that these countries are some of the most technologically advanced; cyber crimes have the potential to devastate the economies of countries so heavily reliant on them.

African and Middle Eastern Countries:

These countries, by and large, do not have the same access to technology as western countries do. As such, cyber crime does not pose a significant threat much like other forms of terrorism might. Looking to the future, these countries should plan in anticipation of eventual widespread access to computers (and consequently, vulnerability to cyber crime).

Asian Countries:

These countries represent a combination of nations with major access to technology, and consequentially, major vulnerability to cyber crime, and nations for which cybercrime is largely irrelevant given its scarcity in comparison to other national issues. Significantly technological countries ought to be mindful of the potential of cyber crime to devastate their economies, while those without ought to act in anticipation of the future.

Topic 2: Drug Trafficking

Drug trafficking today is considered a violation of the laws set forth in the 1988 Convention on Drugs. This convention brought the attention of the world to the major problem of drug trafficking, stating that it "undermines the legitimate economies and threatens the stability, security and sovereignty of States." When drug lords profit, they can influence significant parts of small countries because of corruption and threats to the government. Not only does this undermine the countries' social structure, it draws children into the drug trade, from which it is very hard for them to escape.

Drug trafficking remains a key issue despite international focus on countering it. It can destabilize entire regions and lead to an increase in gang violence and government corruption. As modern technologies make it easier than ever to transport drugs illegally, people seeking easy ways to make money have surged into the field. Since drug traffickers do not have to waste money on packaging and distribution in the same way many major companies do, they are able to generate huge profits while remaining discreet. Unfortunately, the drug trafficking industry is hugely successful: drug trafficking accounted for a staggering $320 billion in 2011.[15] 47% of this $320 billion is from markets in the Americas.

Many seafaring traffickers have been dodging authorities for years.[16] Most recently, however drug traffickers have been moving towards new drugs and methods of distributing them. For example, mobile communications allow many criminal organizations to coordinate

---

[15] http://www.cicad.oas.org/drogas/elinforme/informeDrogas2013/laEconomicaNarcotrafico_ENG.pdf
[16] http://mscconference.wordpress.com/2012/06/22/the-evolution-of-maritime-drug-trafficking-technology/

more effectively with each other.[17] As the world's technology advances to more mobile devices, so too must law enforcement agencies such as INTERPOL.

The threat posed by new drugs and distribution methods is bigger than ever, and the only effective solution is a multilateral one. One proposed solution focuses on disrupting the drug traders' communication: now that the drug traffickers are using mobile devices, it is much harder for them to secure their communications. Countries like the United States have also reaffirmed that they want to continue "joint efforts to disrupt the world drug trade through support for drug crop reduction, promotion of alternative livelihoods, and partner nation capacity building."[18] However, the world is split on the "right" way to combat the drug trade, with many nations demanding that the international community reconsider the current drug laws.[19]

History:

Anti-drug laws have existed for many years, dating back to the Opium Wars of the 1870s. These first anti-drug laws, which outlawed only opium, were targeted at Chinese immigrants in the United States and Western Europe because of the large amount of untaxed opium flowing in and out of China. These laws were designed to preserve the profits generated by the British opium trade, rather than improve the safety of the people. Opium also led to one of the first international commitments regarding the drug trade, the International Opium Commission of 1909. [20] Similar economic factors led to the adoption of anti-cocaine laws.

As the 20th century went on, countries started to view drugs as increasingly socially and medically dangerous. Britain and the United States were the chief proponents of this new stance

[17] https://oag.ca.gov/transnational-organized-crime/ch4
[18] http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/nsc/transnational-crime/drug-trafficking
[19] http://fas.org/sgp/crs/row/RL34543.pdf
[20] http://fas.org/sgp/crs/row/RL34543.pdf

against drugs. However, their policies against drugs were sometimes ill-advised. In the US, for example, the 18th Amendment (Prohibition) prohibited the sale and consumption of alcohol, and had negative consequences. It was difficult to enforce the law and "bootlegging," or the sale of black-market alcohol, became more common, allowing criminals like Al Capone (who collected $60 million from illegal holdings in Chicago) to prosper. This increased criminality is one of the main reasons people fear the drug trade. In 1929, the U.S. Congress passed the 21st Amendment, repealing the 18th.[21]

The UN has a multilateral convention against drugs, which was ratified in 1988, and became effective in 1990. It provides support for two previous UN drug statements, the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs and the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances. [22] Later in the 20th century, when the drug trade started to take a more modern form, the United Nations took this into account in their research; they found that the money spent on drugs is second only to the arms trade. This brought awareness to the world, and leaders started to take action, but the only successful operations were multilateral. One example of a successful partnership is the recent partnership between the US and Colombia, which has contributed to a 40% drop in cocaine production since 2006.

Types of Drugs Commonly Trafficked:

Cocaine: Cocaine is the most widely used and most profitable illicit drug in the Americas. The industry is worth approximately $80 billion. While the sale

[21] http://www.history.com/topics/prohibition
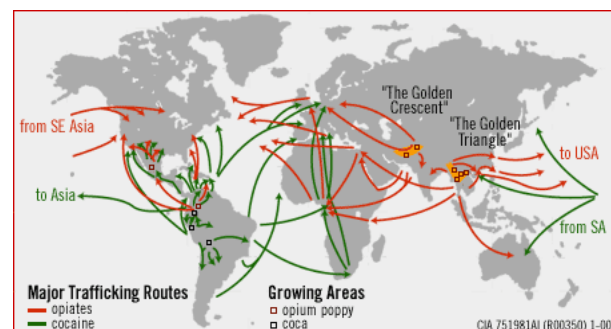
[22] http://web.archive.org/web/20071107135518/http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/treaty_adherence.html

and distribution of cocaine is widespread in America, Oceania, and Europe, the majority of the world's cocaine is **produced** in three countries: Bolivia, Colombia and Peru. While the rest of the drug trade is thriving, cocaine is on a decline. Fueled by a 25% decrease in drug cultivation in Columbia, the total production of cocaine is down by 14% from 2011.[23]

Heroin and Other Opiates: Opiate production, on the other hand, has sharply increased in recent years. Afghanistan produced nearly 30% more heroin in 2012 than they did in 2011. Not only has the production of Afghan heroin increased, there is some evidence to suggest that the markets have expanded to Oceania and Southeast Asia. With this large increase in production, heroin has become readily more available in the United States, causing a shift away from illegally obtained pharmaceutical drugs and cocaine. [24]

Pharmaceutical Crime: Pharmaceutical crime is the counterfeit of any medicines or medical devices. With the rise of the internet, pharmaceutical crime is at an all time high. In Asia, Africa, and Latin America, counterfeit medical supplies, such as fake anti-malarial medications, make up nearly 30% of stockpiles. Much of this falsified medical equipment is faulty, and accidents can have terrible consequences. INTERPOL has combated this with three methods: Making partnerships with medical centers to ensure safety, training operatives to have the knowledge to fight pharmaceutical crime, and coordinating operations in the field.[25] Pharmaceutical crime also has a strong link with organized crime, as detailed in INTERPOL's report on pharmaceutical fraud. [26]

---

[23] http://www.unodc.org/documents/wdr2014/Cocaine_2014_web.pdf
[24] http://www.unodc.org/wdr2014/en/opiates.html
[25] http://www.interpol.int/Crime-areas/Pharmaceutical-crime/Pharmaceutical-crime
[26]http://www.interpol.int/Media/Files/Crime-areas/Pharmaceutical-crime/Pharmaceutical-Crime-and-Organized-Criminal-Groups

INTERPOL and Drug Trafficking:

INTERPOL is an international police force whose stated goal is "to ensure and promote the widest possible mutual assistance between all criminal police authorities within the limits of the laws existing in the different countries." This means it cannot launch its own independent operations to punish illegal actions. However, what it can do is assist and coordinate operations against criminals who violate national or international laws.[27]

Reducing the drug trade is a key goal of INTERPOL. The organization's main goal related to drug trafficking is to "identify new drug trafficking trends and criminal organizations operating at the international level and to assist all national and international law enforcement bodies concerned with countering the illicit production, trafficking and abuse of drugs."[28] INTERPOL uses five different methods to accomplish this objective: awareness campaigns, isolated drug operations, legal assistance, capacity building, and legal verification of drugs. These five methods all support INTERPOL's effort to create a central reference point or standard that countries can use in their own anti-drug efforts, effectively allowing the global war on drugs to be waged in a unified manner.[29]

Focus Questions
- What constitutes a good vs. bad drug policy internationally?
- How does this tie in with economic issues?
- Is this a national problem, or should it be dealt with on an international level?

---

[27] http://www.interpol.int/Media/Files/Legal-material/Reference-Documents/Constitution
[28] http://www.interpol.int/Crime-areas/Drugs/Drugs
[29] http://www.interpol.int/Crime-areas/Trafficking-in-illicit-goods-and-counterfeiting/Trafficking-in-illicit-goods-and-counterfeiting

Bloc Positions

Central America:

These countries believe that the drug trade has a negative influence on their economy, but is so prominent that the economy has become reliant on it. This corruption is undermining these nations, many of which have admitted their faults.

Europe/North America:

These countries take the position of the "drug warriors." They will be the most strongly advocating for international involvement. These countries also aim to protect the sovereignty of smaller nations; there should be no conflict. These countries also tend to focus on issues close to home – for example the US's main focus is in Mexico, while European countries are more worried about the Central Asian drug trade.

Central Asia/Southeast Asia:

These countries take a different position than Central American drug-producing countries because the drug trade is on the decline in Central Asia. Central and Southeast Asia are closely linked to each other by trade.