



*Boston University Academy Model United Nations Conference VII*

*Saturday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> to Sunday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019*

*Boston University Academy*

*Boston, MA*



***DISEC***

Hello, Delegates!

My name is Kasia Perks, I am a sophomore at Boston University Academy, and I will be your chair this year along with your vice-chair, Jenny Wang '21. I am incredibly excited for the opportunity to chair BUAMUN 2019's Disarmament and International Security Committee.

I hope you are all ready for this amazing conference! I attended BUAMUN myself when I was in middle school and I am eager to be able to give back to this experience and chair for you all. I know it will be a fantastic weekend full of brilliant new ideas to solve important global issues. Each and every one of you should prepare your arguments with loads of research and creative solutions.

My only advice is to prepare yourself for anything. You never really know how the conference is going to go so you need to be prepared thoroughly for both topics. The conference is most fun when you know what's going on so write your position papers and bring enthusiasm to the room.

Sincerely,  
Kasia Perks  
BUA '21  
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### **Committee Information**

DISEC stands for Disarmament and International Security. This committee is the first committee of the General Assembly. It deals with disarmament and global issues of peace. This is the only Main Committee of the General Assembly that must record, word for word, everything that happens. The meetings are open to all members of the United Nations. This committee passed the first ever General Assembly resolution in 1946 titled: “Establishment of a Commission to Deal with the Problems Raised by the Discovery of Atomic Energy.” Since then, the committee has been meeting annually in October.<sup>1</sup>

### **Position Paper Guidelines**

This committee requires *two* position papers. One on the topic of cybersecurity, and one on the topic of piracy. The absence of at least one of these papers will disqualify you from awards. The quality and depth of these papers will influence award decisions. Each of these position papers should be 1-2 pages in length and double-spaced. They should follow a general outline with three paragraphs: 1) introduction to the topic as a whole, 2) the delegation’s opinions on the topic, and 3) proposed solutions. Paper headings should follow this outline:

**Delegate(s):** Kasia Perks and Jenny Wang

**School:** Boston University Academy

**Committee:** DISEC

**Position:** Brazil

**Topic:** Cybersecurity

BUAMUN

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.un.org/en/ga/first/>

## **Topic: Cybersecurity**

Cybersecurity is a growing issue in today's climate. Ever since the creation of the internet, there have been breaches of security. In the 21st century so far, major companies like Yahoo and Target have experienced huge data breaches. Yahoo's breach alone released the data of 3 billion user accounts.<sup>2</sup> Cybercrime has become a thriving industry. The sale of data from identity theft and the revenue from fraud only grows. Both isolated and large attacks not only impact individuals, but also the international community as a whole.

Like companies, governments are also susceptible to cyber-breaches. In the United States, a Texas state government security breach released the information of 3.5 million people.<sup>3</sup> South Korea's armed forces were hacked in September 2017 by North Korean governmental forces, releasing information about previously secret military bases. This resulted in the leak of plans, including one to "decapitate" Kim Jong Un. It is unknown what other plans were stolen.<sup>4</sup> This issue is global. Cybercrime has become more than an industry; it has become a political tactic. Following the 2016 United States' election, evidence of Russian hacking has been released. The major investigation is drawing attention to the political power of a globalized internet system and pushing experts from around the world to rethink the ways in which people deal with and view their own cybersecurity.

Like normal viruses, the largest issue with computer viruses is that old antivirus software doesn't work on the continually developing bugs. As more and more problems can be prevented, new ones show up. This just enforces communication and collaboration within the community. With constant contact between companies and nations, problems can be solved and prevented as they come instead of being years behind. That is why the global community is so involved in what could be considered individual problems. From one virus sprouts enough to crash an entire governmental system. For example, a bug called NotPetya managed to crash thousands of computers in Ukraine and even entire governmental departments. This bug was a development of the Petya bug which was previously prevented, which came from the WannaCry virus which was also previously patched.<sup>5</sup>

After a large attack in Estonia, the country has been developing an intense cybersecurity program including a security monitoring system, better digital infrastructure, and most importantly, a robust educational program for all organizations and private corporations who

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.csoonline.com/article/2130877/data-breach/the-biggest-data-breaches-of-the-21st-century.html>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.heritage.org/cybersecurity/report/federal-cyber-breaches-2017>

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia\\_pacific/north-korean-hackers-stole-us-and-south-korean-wartime-plans-seoul-lawmaker-says/2017/10/10/036fb82c-adc6-11e7-99c6-46bdf7f6f8ba\\_story.html?noredirect=on&utm\\_term=.b509e3c8734d](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia_pacific/north-korean-hackers-stole-us-and-south-korean-wartime-plans-seoul-lawmaker-says/2017/10/10/036fb82c-adc6-11e7-99c6-46bdf7f6f8ba_story.html?noredirect=on&utm_term=.b509e3c8734d)

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.wired.com/story/notpetya-cyberattack-ukraine-russia-code-crashed-the-world/>

would face these problems.<sup>6</sup> Israel is using policy to promote newer cybersecurity measures and encourage companies to work with the government and with individuals to find a collaborative solution to specific problems as they come.<sup>7</sup> Both of these countries are organizing workshops for other countries, especially less wealthy countries who are most often targeted by attackers, to develop their own cybersecurity systems.

The United Nations launched a global cybersecurity index in 2014 to rank the strength of different countries' security systems and eventually figure out what kind of policy is needed to have a strong system. The index rankings come out yearly. For example, in 2017 Singapore was first in the world, followed closely by the United States. In 2016, Singapore was sixth but due to policy changes, it managed to get to first. In addition to making an index, it also passed Resolution 2309, which addresses the cyberterrorism and how cybersecurity can be used to combat it. By encouraging the development of cybersecurity standards, the global community is also helping to fight cybercrime and cyberterrorism.<sup>8</sup>

As usage of technology in governments and companies grows, the issue of cybersecurity will only become more urgent. Although many nations have been working separately and together to find an ideal form of cybersecurity, work is still needed to perfect it. The world needs more widespread policy and an overarching community to work together to solve cybercrime and hacking as it continues to escalate.

### **Questions To Consider**

1. What role does collaboration have in a world so connected by technology? Does this impact how we need to face technological issues?
2. What difference is there between cybercrime and regular international crimes? In what ways must they be differently approached?
3. How can countries band together to prevent cybercrime internationally?

### **Bloc Positions**

#### **European Union (EU) and the United States**

European Union nations, along with the United States, are working to develop better security systems. As most of the countries are first world countries, they are teaching and aiding smaller nations in the development of their own systems. If you are one of these countries, try exploring newer ideas that may be more efficient.

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<sup>6</sup> <https://e-estonia.com/how-estonia-became-a-global-heavyweight-in-cyber-security/>

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2016/06/22/israel-shares-cybersecurity-expertise-with-world-bank-client-countries>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.un.org/press/en/2016/sc12529.doc.htm>

**Japan/China/South Korea (Asia)**

Many of these countries, particularly China, are using their technology for political gain. As the presence of technology is growing in Asia, cybersecurity will be incredibly important, and many are working constantly to find solutions. If you are one of these countries, you too are working with more creative and new ideas in your countries.

**South Africa/Nigeria/Morocco (Africa)**

Most of these regions do not have very developed cybersecurity approaches and are often targeted by large attacks not only on businesses but also on the government. They are learning how to develop their systems from other countries and are making large strides forwards. These countries should look into infrastructure and more advanced prevention.

**Syria/ Saudi Arabia/ United Arab Emirates (Middle East)**

These countries have been working hard to develop their own systems, but the problem is only getting worse. Their current systems are not able to sustain the rate of technology growth. The current laws and policies are not sufficient and the infrastructure is desperately needed. These countries should look into founding policies to fight cybercrime.



### **Topic: Piracy**

Ever since the 1990s, the increasing frequency of piracy, combined with the raiding of vessels carrying humanitarian aid to countries under the threat of piracy, has been causing alarm and violence globally. In the 21st century, piracy occurs mainly in Somalia, the Gulf of Guinea, Strait of Malacca, Indian Ocean, and Falcon Lake. Theft and kidnapping is a growing business that not only threatens the lives of civilians but also imposes threats on the global economy. Nowadays, piracy has evolved and is often involved with international criminal organizations and the drug trade.

Maritime law enforcement is more difficult than normal law enforcement because most waters are considered international territory. That means that no one country is held responsible for the activities in those waters. Governing coastlines requires a developed maritime structure separate from the ones within a state. It requires working with surrounding countries and also having enough technology to properly maintain the police force. Not only is it hard to govern, but illegal activities from smuggling and trafficking to piracy are also considered to be normal. Because of the lack of governing and the normalcy of maritime crime, piracy is a more difficult issue to fight than normal theft.<sup>9</sup>

Many times, pirates target trade routes. The Gulf of Aden, a small gulf off the coast of Somalia, is a major trade route of crude oil. Nearly 20,000 ships sail through it each year.<sup>10</sup> This makes it a prime target for pirates because not only can they take hostages and slow ships, they can also steal the commercial items that are being shipped. Crude oil is one of the biggest businesses today and by tapping into that, pirates can make money faster than they could by taking hostages. This makes trading more difficult for already struggling countries.

Between 2005 and 2012, around 339 to 413 million dollars was paid in ransoms off the Somali coast.<sup>11</sup> Pirates around the Nigerian coast have been stealing around \$2 billion annually.<sup>12</sup> Around the Gulf of Guinea, pirates are getting increasingly violent and taking hostages for ransom. Around the Indian Ocean, piracy impeded the delivery of ships, costing countries an estimated \$6.6 to \$6.9 billion a year in defense.<sup>13</sup> The significant increase in cost and trouble caused by piracy should signify the growing importance of this issue.

Countries have been employing different methods to improve their ability to fight off pirates. France directly combatted piracy in 2008 as they captured the pirates hijacking the yacht

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<sup>9</sup> <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/23340460.2015.960170>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/23340460.2015.960170>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.economist.com/middle-east-and-africa/2013/10/31/more-sophisticated-than-you-thought>

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/modern-day-pirates-countries-with-the-most-maritime-piracy-today.html>

<sup>13</sup> <http://oceansbeyondpiracy.org/reports/sop/summary>

*Le Ponant*. The pirates were put in jail and the hostages were successfully released. This sent a message that the international community noticed the crimes.<sup>14</sup> The United Kingdom also negotiated a treaty with Kenya that lays rules on how suspected or caught pirates should be prosecuted, namely by handing them over to their home country. The United States and some European countries also followed the United Kingdom's example with the Kenyan treaty. The United States also announced their naval contributions to the Gulf of Aden to aid their fight against the local pirates.

The United Nations allowed their members to intervene with the pirate attacks, taking action to protect the ships, especially vessels carrying humanitarian aid. They also called upon countries to determine the proper jurisdiction and persecution for the criminals. Resolution 1838 called upon nations to participate in the fight by deploying vessels and aircraft to the Gulf of Aden<sup>15</sup> and surrounding waters.<sup>16</sup>

The issues of piracy will only become more significant in the future. Even though many nations have been working on combating piracy, more work and effort is needed. Creative solutions along with policy changes are needed to efficiently battle the constant threat of pirates.

### **Bloc Positions**

#### **European Union/United States**

These countries have been donating naval supplies and aiding coastal nations in the fight against pirates. They do not face these problems themselves, so they work with other countries to develop better policy and better defense tactics. They work closely with the United Nations to respond to current threats. If you are one of these countries, you should be focusing on defense mechanisms.

#### **Middle East/Africa**

These nations are the main targets for pirates, especially around the Persian Gulf, Malaysia, and Somalia. A lot of the main targets are coastal countries, including Egypt, Nigeria, Indonesia, and India. They are receiving aid from northern countries and had lost millions of dollars due to piracy. Even though they have different mechanisms of how they wish to combat piracy, but they do not have the political stability or economic capabilities to do so due to their developing status. They are most desperate for working solutions.

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<sup>14</sup> <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/france-pirates-captured-hostages-freed/>

<sup>15</sup> <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp->

[dyn/content/article/2008/12/16/AR2008121602848.html?hpid=sec-world](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/12/16/AR2008121602848.html?hpid=sec-world)

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2015/sc12113.doc.htm>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.opendemocracy.net/article/piracy-challenges-global-governance>

**South America/the Caribbean:**

Nations in South America and the Caribbean have been under the threat of piracy for a long time. Unfortunately, the geography of the coastline is advantageous to the pirates. Pirates in these areas are becoming more and more violent and cruel. These countries are still fighting piracy on the western hemisphere. They are not getting much support but are working with Northern Africa and the Middle East to fight pirates directly.

**Asia:**

Asian nations are also facing issues of piracy. There have been many territorial disputes between the nations which affected their cooperation. Most of the nations are in the process of improving and strengthening their coastal defenses and political stability. Most of them are open to regional and international cooperation.

**Questions to consider:**

- 1- What mechanisms does your country believe to ensure the protection of ships against piracy?
- 2- What can the international communities consider to ensure the communication between countries with speed and efficiency for the support to fight against pirates?
- 3- What are some ways that countries can ensure protection for not only the ships but also the citizens in coastal towns?
- 4- What kind of pre-existing ways would you include or reject in your resolution?
- 5- Is violence the only solution to combat pirates?

## **Resources**

<http://www.un.org/en/ga/first/>

<https://www.csoonline.com/article/2130877/data-breach/the-biggest-data-breaches-of-the-21st-century.html>

<http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/news/ecosoc/cybersecurity-demands-global-approach.html>

<https://www.heritage.org/cybersecurity/report/federal-cyber-breaches-2017>

<https://e-estonia.com/how-estonia-became-a-global-heavyweight-in-cyber-security/>

<http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2016/06/22/israel-shares-cybersecurity-expertise-with-world-bank-client-countries>

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2016/sc12529.doc.htm> <https://www.zdnet.com/article/cybercrime-why-cant-the-middle-east-get-to-grips-with-the-threats>

<http://oceansbeyondpiracy.org/reports/sop/summary>

<https://www.economist.com/middle-east-and-africa/2013/10/31/more-sophisticated-than-you-thought>

<https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/modern-day-pirates-countries-with-the-most-maritime-piracy-today.html>

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<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/12/16/AR2008121602848.html?hpid=sec-world>

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<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/france-pirates-captured-hostages-freed/>