



**MBMUN 2020**

**MODEL UNITED NATIONS BANK**

4th Session | 2020 Summer Session

**DISEC**

**Eliminating the threat posed to international peace  
and security by violent non state actors**



## Contents of the Guide

S.No	Contents	Page No.
1	Foreword	2
2	Introduction to the Committee	3
3	Background Information	4
4	Key Terms	4
5	Major Stakeholders	5
6	Scope of Debate	5
7	Proposed solutions	6
8	Timeline	7
9	Questions a Resolution must Answer (QARMA)	8
10	Relevant Documents	10
11	Further Reading	11
12	Conclusion	12

Welcome,

1. United States of America
2. Russian Federation
3. People's Republic of China
4. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
5. French Republic
6. Syrian Arab Republic
7. State of Israel
8. Republic of Iraq
9. State of Palestine
10. Islamic Republic of Pakistan
11. Republic of India
12. Democratic People's Republic of Korea
13. Islamic Republic of Iran
14. Federal Republic of Germany
15. Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
16. State of Kuwait
17. People's Republic of Bangladesh
18. Republic of Azerbaijan
19. Republic of South Africa
20. Republic of Turkey



## **Foreword**

### **Head Chair:** Sourish Reddy

Sourish Reddy is currently a high school student living in India. He is very passionate about MUNs and He believes that MUNs are an exercise in research, diplomacy and public speaking and that even one MUN can and will change your life or at the very least contribute to shaping it. Apart from MUNs he has taken an interest in international law and in his free time he likes to read and write poetry. He Hopes to provide a platform where delegates can discuss, deliberate and act upon issues of international importance and where delegates can come together to form solutions which uphold the values and principles of the united nations.

If you are new to model united nations there's nothing to be afraid of. This is a learning experience and a MUN is a place of learning. If you struggle with research with country representation, don't forget that MUN is about learning, negotiation and solution finding. Remember that you're here to make peace. He hopes that after an enriching experience that DIMUN'20 is sure to provide, you all will develop the same profound love for MUNs that he has. It is an absolute pleasure for him to serve as the vice chair at a conference as prestigious as DIMUN'2020 and cannot wait to meet you all and looks forward to fruitful debate that this conference is sure to provide. All the very best!

### **Vice Chair:** Vedang Dubey

Vedang is an IB Year 1 student at GIIS who is usually found playing tennis or glaring at his laptop. When he is not busy finding solutions to bad Wi-Fi, he is usually involved in running after his teachers. He began his MUN journey in the UNSC, where he was dumbfounded. Now, having done a few of such conferences he finds it hard to complete a semester without going for a few MUNs himself. He believes that the Model UN is a learning experience if utilised properly can entirely change someone's personality. Having a pleasant and approachable nature, he will be the happiest to clarify doubts regarding the topics and the conference as a whole. He hopes to inculcate effective debating skills in delegates and will try his best to ensure he can make this DISEC the best he has seen till date. He advises delegates to devote sufficient time for research and actively participate in the debate.



## Introduction to Committee

The Disarmament and International Security Committee is the first of the six main committees of the General Assembly. Its primary concern relates to Disarmament and International Peace and Security.

The Committee meets every year in October for a 4 to 5-week session, after the General Assembly General Debate. All 193 member states of the UN can attend. It is the only Main Committee of the General Assembly entitled to verbatim records.<sup>1</sup>

It considers all disarmament and international security matters within the scope of the Charter or relating to the powers and functions of any other organ of the United Nations; the general principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security, as well as principles governing disarmament and the regulation of armaments; promotion of cooperative arrangements and measures aimed at strengthening stability through lower levels of armaments.<sup>2</sup>

In this year's DISEC you are encountering one of the planet's pertinent issues relating and directly addressing threats posed to various nations by Non-State Actors. This issue concerns almost every nation affected by non-state actors be it in the form of Armoured Warfare or sudden uprisings of insurgencies.

The topic has been well thought out and the dais hopes that delegates are prepared to discuss them in committee.

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<sup>1</sup> "United Nations General Assembly First Committee - Wikipedia." [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United\\_Nations\\_General\\_Assembly\\_First\\_Committee](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Nations_General_Assembly_First_Committee). Accessed 2 Mar. 2020.

<sup>2</sup> "First Committee - the United Nations." <https://www.un.org/en/ga/first/>. Accessed 2 Mar. 2020.



## Background Information

The long history of the planet has witnessed numerous violent actions by Non-State Actors leading to collateral damage. As these groups do not fall under the jurisdiction of any nation, they take advantage of the ability to invade another nation with heavy artillery due to illegal funding. This causes the violation of numerous peace treaties and from the fact that these organizations are not belonging to any nation, there is no proof as to why they function and where they reside.

VNSAs are becoming increasingly powerful due to globalisation as well as the rise in social media - both concepts which do not respect national boundaries, allowing NSAs to promote their messages to a much wider audience. A paper published by The Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces highlights that “In spite of some similarities among them, NSAs represent a great deal of heterogeneity. Some may have clearly defined political objectives, while this may be less clear-cut in other cases. Some may control territory and have established administrative structures parallel to or instead of those of the state, while others have loose command structures and weak control over members. Some operate in rural areas conducting guerrilla type warfare, while others are mainly urban phenomena. Some concentrate on attacking military targets, while others attack civilians as a matter of strategy.

## Key Terms

- 1) *Non-State Actors*: An individual or organization that has significant political influence but is not allied to any particular country or state.<sup>3</sup>
- 2) *VNSA*: Violent Non-State Actor
- 3) *Foreign terrorist fighters (FTF)*: FTFs are defined as “individuals who travel to a State other than their State of residence or nationality for the purpose of the perpetration, planning or preparation of, or participation in, terrorist acts or the providing or receiving of terrorist training, including in connection with armed conflict.”
- 4) *Counter terrorism measures*: Counter terrorism measures can be defined as effective measures which combines the use of military use, Law enforcement and other such tactics in order to combat terrorism.

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<sup>3</sup> "Non-State Actors | ESCR-Net." <https://www.escr-net.org/resources/non-state-actors>. Accessed 21 May. 2020.



- 5) **Terrorism:** There is a lack of agreement on the definition of the term terrorism and the international community has yet to adopt a comprehensive definition of terrorism which is universally agreed to. In a Report by the OHCHR it is stated that “Terrorism is commonly understood to refer to acts of violence that target civilians in the pursuit of political or ideological aims.” In 1994, the General Assembly’s Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, set out in its resolution 49/60, stated 6 that terrorism includes “criminal acts intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public, a group of persons or particular persons for political purposes” and that such acts “are in any circumstances unjustifiable, whatever the considerations of a political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic, religious or other nature that may be invoked to justify them.”

## **Major Stakeholders:**

- 1) **United States of America, Republic of India, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, State of Israel:** These nations are widely regarded for their strict foreign policies and military actions against VNSAs such as terrorist organisations. These countries have done major and crucial surgical strikes, air strikes as well as insurgencies against such organisations.
- 2) **Syrian Arab Republic, Republic of Iraq, Islamic Republic of Pakistan:** these are the nations which knowingly/ unknowingly provide shelter to such Non-State actors and hence such uprisings are often evident in these nations.
- 3) **Democratic People’s Republic of Korea:** this nation has never been involved in actions involving Non-State Actors but has been violating the NPT for the last few years by testing Nuclear missiles, that could have caused potential damage to surrounding nations.

## **Scope of Debate**

- 1) The operations conducted by a number of states in the context of the war on terrorism in recent years, mass surveillance, has shown that a wide range of human rights are affected by counter terrorism measures. Forfeiting human rights in the fight against terrorism is a grave mistake and an ineffective measure that may help the cause of the terrorists. Policies which are human rights compliant preserve the values the terrorists are trying to destroy, weaken support for radicalism among potential adherents, and



- 2) strengthen public confidence in the rule of law. The international community should ensure that Every decision made against terrorism should be made with respect to human rights. Human rights play a crucial role in the functioning of the world and within the committee. it should not be disregarded and states cannot ignore the importance of human rights.
- 3) Nations hone these terrorist organizations are not willing to accept it during discussions and thus resulting in lack of world cooperation to eradicate such organisations.
- 4) Not every nation will be willing for overall transparency as there are always underlying motives and Intelligence Information that many nations are not willing to disclose.
- 5) Military action should be taken against such terrorist organization but this should not compromise the safety and well-being of hostages and/or civilians.

## Proposed Solutions

### 1) Financing of terrorism:

There are countries in this room which do not have the same sensitivities, which have different geopolitical interests, which are often divided, which sometimes financed opposing groups States should be fully transparent in the sharing of genuine information and should have a desire to join forces, because these acts of aggression committed by VNSAa have claimed many innocent lives on every continent and these acts clearly do not defend any interest, country or religion. It is a states' responsibility to put in place effective law enforcement and sanctions instruments at national level. Terrorist groups come in many forms but have one thing in common: the use of violence to achieve their political objectives, whether their cause is driven by religious, ethnic, or ideological motivations.

### 2) Cyber Space:

Criminal and terrorist groups frequently use similar means of communication to carry out their activities, in particular by using the Internet to access the Dark Web. Cyberspace which has been over-exploited by terrorist groups whether it be the use of the worldwide web to spread terrorist propaganda, proselytism fuelled by exclusion and hatred, or the terrorists' use of the net to talk, recruit and claim responsibility, cyberspace is a key background. The indispensable recommendation and adoption of Confidence-Building Measures (CBMs), such as communication during crises and exchange of data and information through computer



exchange response teams (CERTs) and direct communication between the parties of a bilateral or multilateral agreement, are vital in ensuring common grounds and sustainability in terms of safety of personal and confidential data. Furthermore, in order to preclude destabilization of national, regional and international relations in cyberspace, it is pivotally important for member states to continue to submit reports regarding their views and measures primarily aimed at augmenting cyber security assets.

3) Territorial Localisation and Criminalization of Terrorism related activities:

In order to criminalize acts such as undertaking training or travelling for terrorist purposes, as well as organizing or facilitating such travel, states should put in place wide legislation on terrorism that, together with new controls at external borders, will help to tackle the foreign fighter phenomenon.

4) Context of Human rights within counter terrorism measures:

Terrorism constitutes a serious threat to human rights and democracy. While action by states is necessary to prevent and effectively sanction terrorist acts, states must ensure that means are justifiable. There is a compelling duty for states to protect the general interest of public security and the rule of law without jeopardizing the core of human rights.

5) Taking determined military action:

In recent years, several terrorist groups have sought to broaden their regional hold. Terrorist safe havens are a threat to the international community. They lead to terror and oppression for local populations and centres for disseminating murderous ideology. The international community must therefore consider taking military action in destabilized regions where violent non state actors are very evident.

## Timeline of Events

1963: The Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft was adopted in 1963.

1997: The 1997 International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings was adopted.



December 1979–February 1989: The origins of al-Qaeda can be traced to the Soviet War in Afghanistan. The United States viewed the conflict in Afghanistan in terms of the Cold War, with Marxists on one side and the native Afghan mujahideen on the other. This view led to a

CIA program called Operation Cyclone, which channelled funds through Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence agency to the Afghan Mujahideen. The US government provided substantial financial support to the Afghan Islamic militants.

1988: Research suggests that al-Qaeda was formed on August 11, 1988, when a meeting between leaders of Egyptian Islamic Jihad, Abdullah Azzam, and bin Laden took place. Notes indicate al-Qaeda was a formal group by August 20, 1988. A list of requirements for membership itemized the following: listening ability, good manners, obedience, and making a pledge (bayat) to follow one's superiors.

2002: Mohammed Yusuf founded the sect that became known as Boko Haram in 2002 in Maiduguri, the capital of the north-eastern state of Borno. He established a religious complex and school that attracted poor Muslim families from across Nigeria and 16 neighbouring countries. The centre had the political goal of creating an Islamic state, and became a recruiting ground for jihadis. Boko Haram is now regarded as a violent non-state actor that has a destabilizing effect.

1999: The 1999 International Convention for the Suppression of Financing of Terrorism was adopted.

2005: The International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, adopted by the UN General Assembly on 13 April 2005.

## **Questions a Resolution must Answer**

1) Is it possible to tackle all the violent non state actors in the same way, or is the current approach of case by case basis the best way to deal with violent non state actors?



- 2) Are the current methods of military use of force against non-state military actors being effective? Should they continue to be used this way or should this be changed or even thought of together with some other strategy?
- 3) What measures and steps can be taken to ensure effective border security and management so as to prevent and counter the flow of suspected extremists across borders and to curb the illicit cross-border movement of arms, ammunition, explosives etc. that may be used by violent non state?
- 4) Which measures can be taken after a successful operation against a violent non state actor to ensure that they do not rise up again/another group takes their place?
- 5) How can the broader problem of emerging violent non state actors be solved in the long term?
- 6) How can the flow of arms be effectively controlled by the international community with special regards to violent non state actors?
- 7) What measures can be taken in order to stop the funding of violent non state actors?

## Nature and proof of evidence

Documents from the following sources will be considered as credible proof for any allegations made in committee or statements that require verification:

- Reuters: Appropriate Documents and articles from Reuters News agency will be used to corroborate or refute controversial statements made in committee.
- UN Documents: Documents by all UN agencies will be considered sufficient proof. Reports from all UN bodies including treaty-based bodies will also be accepted.
- National Government Reports: Government Reports of a given country used to corroborate an allegation on the same aforementioned country will be accepted as proof.



The documents stated above will hold a binding nature of establishment. Other sources like Wikipedia, Amnesty International and so on and so forth will not be accepted as credible proof; but may be used for better understanding of any issue and even be brought up in debate, if the information given in such sources is in line with the beliefs of a government or a delegate.

## Relevant Documents

4 February 2020

S/2020/95

[https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF9F9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s\\_2020\\_95.pdf](https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF9F9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s_2020_95.pdf)

This was the Secretary-General's tenth report on the threat posed by ISIL/Da'esh to international peace and security and the range of UN efforts in support of member states in countering the threat.

31 JULY 2019

S/2019/612

[https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF9F9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s\\_2019\\_612.pdf](https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF9F9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s_2019_612.pdf)

This was the ninth strategic-level report of the Secretary-General on the threat posed by ISIL Daesh to international peace and security and the range of United Nations efforts in countering the threat.

15 JUNE 2017

A/RES/71/291

[http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF9F9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/a\\_res\\_71\\_291.pdf](http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF9F9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/a_res_71_291.pdf)

This was a resolution that established the UN Counter-Terrorism Office headed by a new Under-Secretary-General.



**4 FEBRUARY 2009**

**A/HRC/10/3**

[https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF9F9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/Terrorism%20A\\_HRC\\_10\\_3.pdf](https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF9F9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/Terrorism%20A_HRC_10_3.pdf)

This was the report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism.

## Further Readings

**30 AUGUST 2019**

**S/2019/570**

[https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF9F9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s\\_2019\\_570.pdf](https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF9F9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s_2019_570.pdf)

This was the 24th report of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team submitted pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) concerning ISIL (Da'esh), Al-Qaida, and associated individuals and entities.

**19 JULY 2019**

**S/RES/2482**

[https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF9F9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/S\\_RES\\_2482\(2019\)\\_E.pdf](https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF9F9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/S_RES_2482(2019)_E.pdf)

This was a resolution on taking measures to enhance knowledge of the linkages between extremism and international organized crime.

**28 MARCH 2019**

**S/RES/2462**

[https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF9F9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s\\_res\\_2462.pdf](https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF9F9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s_res_2462.pdf)

This was a resolution on combatting the financing of terrorism.



**21 DECEMBER 2017**

**S/RES/2396**

[http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF96FF9%7D/s\\_res\\_2396.pdf](http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF96FF9%7D/s_res_2396.pdf)

This was a resolution addressing the threat of foreign terrorist fighters.

**17 DECEMBER 2018**

**S/2018/1128**

[https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF96FF9%7D/s\\_2018\\_1128.pdf](https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF96FF9%7D/s_2018_1128.pdf)

This was the report of the 1267/1989/2253 Sanctions Committee concerning Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities.

**28 DECEMBER 2018**

**S/2018/1177**

[https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF96FF9%7D/s\\_2018\\_1177.pdf](https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF96FF9%7D/s_2018_1177.pdf)

This was a letter from the Chair of the Counterterrorism Committee to the President of the Council containing an Addendum to the guiding principles on foreign terrorist fighters, adopted by the committee on 27 December 2018.

## **Conclusion**

It is very clear that violent Non-State Actors are becoming more evident, more frequent, more violent and more dangerous. The UN has struggled to find a way to deal with this increased threat, as the UN does not explain the methods with which states can take action against VNSAs. According to the Global Peace Index of 2015, World Peace has fallen by 2.4%. By analysing the data, we see that in some areas, despite there not being an external war, the country has become less peaceful. This can only mean that for countries such as Syria, Iraq and Mexico the proliferation of arms to NSAs is causing a destabilizing effect. It will be up to the DISEC committee to ascertain how best the UN can deal with NSAs and in particular, the issue of the proliferation of arms to such groups.



VNSAs have for a long time been used, if not fully sanctioned and pardoned, by states for various purposes. In “International Society and Its Critics” by Alex J Bellamy, the author writes that “For a long time, states in fact encouraged ‘private international violence’ because nonstate actors often did the bidding of states”. For many years following, VNSAs were neither influential nor widespread, however during the Cold War era, many wars were fought by ‘proxy, non-state actors’, including such groups as the Viet Cong and Fidel Castro’s guerrillas. When discussing this issue, it is worth bearing in mind that many countries act in a manner of their choosing if threatened by an VNSA, leading to violations of the UN Charter. As such, one issue of discussion is how to allow states the right to self-defence, as seen in Article 51 of the UN Charter, without breaching other rights under the charter. Attempting to cause positive social change is a factor which some of these groups were created to attempt to solve. VNSAs almost always seek to refute and to resist the government, sometimes using violent means.

VNSAs are becoming increasingly powerful due to globalisation as well as the rise in social media - both concepts which do not respect national boundaries, allowing VNSAs to promote their messages to a much wider audience. A paper published by The Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces highlights that

“In spite of some similarities among them, NSAs represent a great deal of heterogeneity. Some may have clearly defined political objectives, while this may be less clear-cut in other cases. Some may control territory and have established administrative structures parallel to or instead of those of the state, while others have loose command structures and weak control over members. Some operate in rural areas conducting guerrilla type warfare, while others are mainly urban phenomena. Some concentrate on attacking military targets, while others attack civilians as a matter of strategy.”

It is therefore of crucial importance that the United Nations takes effective measures to combat Violent non state actors.