

Forum: The United Nations Security Council

Issue: “Limiting the trafficking of weapons and implementing strict measures on illegal transactions made on the Dark net”

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Letter from the student officer

Greetings to everyone, realising that the topic at hand is both vast and complex and it's an advice for all of you to look at the agenda with a multi-dimensional approach in order to allow the debate to be more holistic and substantially fulfilling. With few days left for the conference, I really hopeful that you have already begun with your research and are leaving no stone unturned in contributing to the committee to the best of your ability. While this report seeks to analyse certain issues which you could use as a medium of directing your research, we would appreciate you to go beyond this piece of work and come up with innovate discussions in committee. I firmly believe that together we could make this conference a memorable experience which shall prove to be highly enriching in terms of your intellectual and spiritual enlightenment.

Mandate

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations, charged with the maintenance of international peace and security as well as accepting new members to the United Nations and approving any changes to its United Nations Charter. Its powers include the establishment of peacekeeping operations, the establishment of international sanctions, and the authorization of military action through Security Council resolutions; it is the only UN body with the authority to issue binding resolutions to member states. The Security Council held its first session on 17 January 1946.

FUNCTIONS AND POWERS:

1. To recommend the admission of new members;
2. To maintain International peace and security in accordance with the charter;
3. To make recommendations to the General assembly or any other UN affiliated body to carry out required operations;
4. To investigate any dispute or situation which might lead to international friction;
5. To determine threat or breach to international peace and security and act of aggression and to decide action on the same;
6. To formulate plans for the establishment of a system to regulate armaments, formation of a military staff committee under article 47 of the charter;
7. To call on other members to apply economic sanctions and other measures not involving the use of force to prevent or stop aggression;
8. To take military action if the enlisted measure does not seem adequate;
9. To recommend the general assembly the appointment of the secretary

general of the UN.

Introduction

Illicit arms trade refers to illegal actions in which weapons are trafficked. It is also known as the international weapons black market. Hand guns, pistols, sub-machine guns, mortars, landmines, grenades, light missiles and such small weapons are unlawfully sold to unintended and unlicensed recipients. Insurgents, armed gang members, pirates, terrorists and other illegal forms of armed groups practice illicit arms trade. The illicit channeling of small arms/light weapons and their ammunition to recipients threatens communities with overgrowing security and developmental problems.

The illegal small arms trade is a hazardous issue that impacts every nation in the world. Whether developing or developed, every country is subjected to harm as the market for illicit arms is prominent and thriving. The United Nations Office for Disarmament claims the problem is a “worldwide scourge”. The illegal armament trade is prevalent in neighborhoods that are periled by mobsters and gangs, where rebels assault civilians and peacemakers. Drug lords label their territories and take full authority of their surroundings killing those who try to disrupt their illegal business. Although there is no official definition for small arms, they are generally considered to include weapons ranging from small revolvers and pistols to assault rifles and submachine guns. Small arms can also be discussed alongside “light weapons” (sometimes abbreviated together as SALW), which include individually wielded anti-aircraft and anti-tank weapons. The unauthorized action of obtaining small arms is a universal concern due to the low cost and lightweight nature of these weapons, making them easier to smuggle. The broad introduction of these weapons contribute to making peaceful areas and conflict zones far more dangerous, and the resulting instability creates a cycle of high demand for weapons from both sides of the party. The total value of the global market for arms is estimated to be \$60 billion per year, with 10-20% of that being illicit trade. Various regions of the world face different impacts of the illicit arms trade.

Past Actions:

When domestic unrest and careless law enforcement combine in these regions, governments of these member states are faced with armed non-state actors, who elevate terrorist activity, armed political group threats and militia related difficulties. Due to this unregulated weaponry trade (illegal purchase and sale) amplifies national unrest and fires conflicts in neighboring regions—likewise in the Middle East and North Africa. The

International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) summarizes the devastating effects of the continuation of illicit arms trade by its five points on illicit trade of arms

The international community, especially the United Nations Security Council, has shown efforts in innumerable ways and angles to stop the flow of illicit trade within the context of black markets, armed-conflict regions and post-conflict nations. Because the trade is often made between unscrupulous officials and terrorist groups, it often leads the way to armed conflicts and general unrest in given regions, and causing to unstoppable violations of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights; the Security Council has held innumerable sessions on the issue of illegal arms trade and has recognized the issue.

Based on Article 26 of the UN Charter, the UNSC is responsible “for the establishment of a system for the regulation of armaments,” which has not only focused on disarmament efforts, but also on arms control negotiations. This was reinforced with the request made by the UNGA to the UNSC, while acting under Article 11 of the UN Charter, to consider negotiations to “formulate... practical measures to provide for the general regulation and reduction of armaments.”

Article 47 of the UN Charter also establishes “a Military Staff Committee to advise and assist the Security Council on... the regulation of armaments, and possible disarmament.”

Nevertheless, this body has been qualified as having “little relevance” within the structure of the UNSC, especially because it does not have an agenda of items to discuss.

Regarding the scope of arms embargoes, it is first worth mentioning that the council focuses on two types of weapons at the moment of implementing different disarmament and arms control measures. This Committee is responsible for reporting on the implementation of this resolution, which calls states, *inter alia*, to refrain from helping non-State actors to develop, acquire, manufacture, possess, transport, transfer, or use nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their delivery systems.

This body established four working groups to review the implementation of this resolution, which also requires all member states to establish domestic controls to prevent the proliferation of such weapons.

Aside from weapons of mass destruction, not a single body specifically covers only small arms and light weapons proliferation, even though the UNSC acknowledged in resolution 1373 (2001) the threat to international security that the illicit transfer of small arms and light weapons represents. In that ruling, the UNSC adopted the following paragraph:

Notes with concern the close connection between international terrorism and transnational organized crime... illegal arms trafficking... and in this regard emphasizes the need to enhance coordination of efforts on national, sub-regional, regional and international levels in order to strengthen a global response to this serious challenge and threat to international security;

The UNSC under the Presidency of the Netherlands held its first open debate about “small arms” in 1999. In the end, the UNSC did not adopt a resolution but agreed to a so called “Presidential Statement” a non-legally binding declaration made by the current UNSC President; thus the UNSC could have further committed by seeking a legally binding resolution or at least a request to the Secretary-General to report on the issue. That said, important steps were taken to prevent non-state actors from acquiring illegal arms, in particular terrorists “The Security Council emphasizes that the prevention of illicit trafficking is of immediate concern in the global search for ways and means to curb the wrongful use of small arms, including their use by terrorists.”

Despite this first effort, the UNSC remained silent and failed to consider an open debate on this issue until August 2001, under the Presidency of Colombia, which had chaired the PoA meeting the year before. Since 2010, the UNSC has held yearly open debates on small arms, excluding 2007; these have resulted in the adoption of Presidential Statements. And since 2007 it has requested a biennial report from the Secretary-General. It is also important to mention that the only regional debate on this issue was held in 2010, when the UNSC discussed the illicit trade of small arms and light weapons in Africa.

Definition of Key Terms

Armed Conflict:

An armed conflict is defined as a contested incompatibility that concerns government and/or territory where the use of armed force between two parties, of which at least one is the government of a state, results in at least 25 battle related deaths in one calendar year.

Asymmetric Warfare:

Asymmetric warfare refers to a war in which the opposing sides have vastly differing military power, or use radically different strategies or tactics. Asymmetric warfare often involves unconventional warfare, in an attempt for each side to offset its weaknesses or deficiencies. Asymmetric warfare is also used to describe guerrilla warfare, insurgency, terrorism, counterinsurgency or counterterrorism.

Arms broker:

An arms broker is named for an individual or an organized group of individuals that assists the allocation of weapons from manufacturers to purchasers. Arms brokers tend to dodge law by taking advantage from ambiguity in certain legislative matters in international law. The arms broker, in the aim to facilitate the weaponry sale to unauthorized recipients, carries this act.

Arms Control:

Arms control is a term for international sanctions put upon the development, production, stockpiling, proliferation and usage of weapons. The term is predominantly used for weapons of mass destruction. Arms control is basically exercised through diplomacy, and it shows itself through the construction of international treaties and agreements, “although it may also comprise efforts by a nation or group of nations to enforce limitations upon a non-consenting country.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights:

The UN General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) in 1948. The Declaration serves as an expression of rights held by humans internationally, and rose in response to the cruelties of World War II. The Declaration consists of 30 articles outlining the rights to which every human is entitled.

Open Border/Free Trade:

An open border is defined as a border which enables free, mostly unregulated movement of individuals amongst two separate jurisdictions. This arrangement can be intentional, made possible by legislations and intergovernmental treaties, however it can also happen due to lack of adequate enforcement and regulation, mostly in conflict zones. An example of open border is structured between European Union (EU) states, where individuals with an EU passport can travel between member states with almost no regulation. An equivalent concept to open border for the free flow of goods and services is free trade. Free trade is the policy in international markets where goods are imported/exported without the (or with a slight care) regulation of the government. Free trade is exemplified by the European Union / European Economic Area.

Small arms and light weapons:

Both small arms and light weapons are weapons that can be carried because of their easy logistics. “Small arms include revolvers and self-loading pistols, rifles and carbines,

assault rifles, submachine guns and light machine guns. Light weapons include heavy machine guns, hand-held grenade launchers, portable anti-aircraft and anti-tank guns, recoilless rifles, portable launchers of anti-aircraft and anti-tank missile, systems, and mortars of calibers of less than 100 mm.” xxxiv Together they comprise the Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) protocol. According to the United Nations: "Since weapons in this class are capable of being carried, if a small arm, by one person or, if a light arm, by two or more people, a pack animal or a light vehicle, they allow for mobile operations where heavy mechanized and air forces are not available or are restricted in their capabilities owing to difficult mountain, jungle or urban terrain." – Throughout this study guide, the term conventional arms will be used as an umbrella concept, comprising of small arms and light weapons.

Stockpiling and Stockpile Management:

“A stockpile is a pile or storage location for bulk materials, forming part of the bulk material handling process.” Stockpiling is also used for stocking weaponry that is in excess at the time of a given countries military activity. These weapons are carefully managed and can act as a danger for they can be relocated by illegitimate means. “Stockpile management and control is one of the most acute small arms problems. "Leaking" Government stockpiles are prominent sources of illegal small arms in circulation. Generally, surplus and obsolete weapons are better destroyed than stored. In post conflict settings, the immediate destruction of surplus weapons and ammunition removes possible fuel for new instability.

Key Issues

- In Africa, the illicit trade of small arms is a staggering issue for many developing nation governments. In Somalia, Ethiopian cortèges deliver illegally obtained weapons which in turn violate the UN embargo. Charles Taylor, the president of Liberia during the Liberian civil war, ordered weapons across the border into Sierra Leone supplying the rebel group called the Revolutionary United Front. For these and other crimes, Taylor was convicted of war crimes and sentenced to 50 years in prison
- In Latin America, controlling large accumulations of weapons proves to be a major concern. In the year 2007, Venezuela had purchased 100,000 AK-103 (a newer model of the AK-47) 39mm assault rifles from Russia in order to replace the weapons that had been brought from Belgium in the 1950s. The particular weapon is favoured by the notorious Colombian guerrilla group, FARC. There is suspicion that any leftover weaponry may be smuggled into Columbia.

- Just an hour outside the city of Peshawar, Pakistan, is Darra Adam Khel, the largest arms market in the world. The weapons there sold are handmade and cheap. An AK-47 in this market costs \$50 dollars in US currency whereas Iranian and Russian weapons cost \$300 dollars in US currency and above that amount. The guns are imitations of those weapons supplied by the US to the Mujahedeen during the 1980s when the USSR invaded Afghanistan. This infamous market is a major choke point for the illicit arms trade globally. After the war had ended, the Pashtuns aided the Taliban through supplying the terrorist group with illegal arm weaponry; they also had covertly supplied the Irish Republican Army, the Middle East, and the Muslims in Kashmir. It should be noted that not all trade of small arms is illegal. Although individual countries may be subject to embargos that include small arms, the vast majority of countries are free to openly trade weapons with each other. Furthermore, each country will have its own laws related to which weapons civilians may legally purchase. The purpose of this committee is not to address the legitimate trade and possession of small arms, but to limit the illicit sale of these weapons, which fuel conflicts around the globe.



Figure 1: facts and figures on weapons

Major Parties Involved

I) **United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA)**

UNODA was established in January 1998 as the Department for Disarmament Affairs which was part of the Secretary-General's program for reform in accordance with his report to the General Assembly (A/51/950). The Office promotes the following assets:

- Nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation
- Strengthening of the disarmament regimes in respect to other weapons of mass destruction, and chemical and biological weapons
- Disarmament efforts in the area of conventional weapons, especially landmines and small arms, which are the weapons of choice in contemporary conflicts. The United Nations Office on Disarmament Affairs has repeatedly pressed for increased legislation to prevent illicit arms trade, where it also examined the weapon stockpiles states have. Its recent moves are according with the ratification & update of the Arms Trade Treaty—common aims being enabling weapon allocation tracking and curbing diversion of weapons

II) **International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)**

The International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) is an intergovernmental organization facilitating international police cooperation. It was established in 1923 and adopted its telegraphic address as its common name in 1956. INTERPOL predominantly focuses on matters of public safety such as: battling terrorism, crimes against humanity, war crimes, organized crime, and illicit drug production, drug trafficking, weapons smuggling and related civic security questions. INTERPOL with its strict working force has aided United Nations member states with access on shared databases regarding illicit arms trade, allowing an international cooperation between states and organizations to prevent arms trafficking. The organization also provided states with the necessary utensils to monitor and track the movement of arms.

III) **United Nations Disarmament Commission (UNDC)**

In 1952, the General Assembly, by its resolution 502 (VI) of January 1952, created the United Nations Disarmament Commission (UNDC) under the Security Council with a general mandate on disarmament questions. In the light of its function, the UNDC focuses on a limited number of agenda items at each session. For instance, for their

annual meeting in 2014, the council discussed specifically the problem of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

IV) African Union

As mentioned above Africa has been suffering from illicit arms trade and trafficking (and the resulting armed violence), the African Union has made countless attempts in eradicating the trade of conventional arms. The intergovernmental organization oversees the functioning of regional economic communities (REC's) and it signed a significant number of treaties controlling and regulating arms, which all are in use at this time in all African Union member states

V) Arab League

The intergovernmental organization constituting of 22 Arab states, the Arab League promotes the overall well-being of its member states and directs them towards a common goal of peace and security. The Arab League is publicly supporting United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Resolutions on arms embargoes, and to further support the prevention of illicit arms trade, it established the League of Arab States (LAS, also known as Arab League) Regional Focal Point on Small Arms in 2004. After the Arms Trade Treaty was put on force, the organization declared international cooperation and information sharing regarding the problem. The following are key articles from the Arab Convention on Terrorism (1999) which reflects the position of Arab League regarding the illicit arms trade.

“To develop and strengthen systems for the detection of the movement, importation, exportation, stockpiling and use of weapons, munitions and explosives and of other means of aggression, murder and destruction as well as procedures for monitoring their passage through customs and across borders in order to prevent their transfer from or Contracting State to another or to third party other than lawful purposes.”

Article 3 on *“Preventive Measures”*

“Lead to the seizure of any weapons, munitions or explosives or any devices or funds used or intended for use to commit a terrorist offence.”

Article 4 on *“Exchanging Information”*

Timeline of Relevant Resolutions, Treaties and Events

Date	Description of Event
July 2001	The UN Conference on Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons
10 January 2002	General and Complete Disarmament (A/RES/56/24)
8 January 2003	Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them. (A/RES/57/70)
17 December 2003	Promotion at the regional level in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe of the United Nations program of action on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects (A/RES/58/55).
6 January 2006	Addressing the negative humanitarian and development impact of the illicit manufacture, transfer and circulation of small arms and light weapons and their excessive accumulation (A/RES/60/68)
6 December 2006	Arms Trade Treaty (A/RES/61/89)
16 December 2008	Promoting development through the reduction and prevention of armed violence (A/RES/63/23)

Previous Attempts to Solve the Issue:

Since the 1990s, many countries have worked hard to develop an international convention on the arms trade. In 2006, over a hundred nations in the UN General Assembly (UNGA) had brought forth their views on creating a possible Arms Trade Treaty (ATT). The negotiations for the treaty took several years, but in 2013, the UNGA passed an ATT, which made it difficult “for human rights abusers, criminals and arms traffickers to obtain weapons.” The resolution passed with 154 nations in favour, 3 against and 23 abstentions. The only

three nations to vote against the treaty were the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), Iran, and the Syrian Arab Republic. The ATT works to create a "uniform framework for the international trade in conventional arms." It also seeks to encourage transparency and accountability to make it easier to track and catch smugglers. It also places some responsibility on the sellers of small arms to know their customers – states cannot transfer conventional weapons to parties they know would take advantage of such weapons in order to create a genocide, crimes against humanity or attacks on civilians such as the grave breaches of the Geneva Conventions of 1949. Other UN organizations such as The United Nations Development Program help nations and civilizations deal with the effects of illegal arms trade through its Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery. The UNDP helps over 80 countries, including many nations that are on the verge of an armed crisis. The UNDP implements new and innovative approaches to help and rebuild nations, and end to conflict. One recent example of their work was the Uwiano Peace Platform, consisting of a toll free SMS service which allowed the people around Kenya to report threats. Before its constitutional referendum in 2010, Kenya was considered an extremely high risk for outbursts of violence, particularly after their political crisis in 2007. However, thanks to the Uwiano Platform, over 200,000 SMS messages were received, analysed and verified causing the referendum to be passed without violence. This system will soon be implemented on a permanent basis in upcoming elections. One NGO that helped combat illicit small arms trade is the United Kingdom-based Campaign against Arms Trade. This nongovernmental organization is not only against the illicit trade of small arms but is a strong advocator of peace wanting to reduce and eradicate conflict. The organization has a commitment to nonviolence and educates the public through campaigns focusing on different methods to propagandize security around the world, abandoning the sale of arms. For example, the Campaign against Arms Trade advises governments to not support arms trade through funds but instead search to create jobs in other areas such as green technology which would increase security and help people stay out of an illegal arms trade.

Possible Solutions:

As we analyse the Arms Trade Treaty and diverse regional agreements that address the problem of illicit transfers of small arms and light weapons, as well as the lack of a universal and legally-binding instrument on this topic. As will be seen, uniform criteria do not yet exist regarding either the definition of "arms transfers" that is also defined as arms trade, for example. Likewise, not all agreements cover the same scope; some only include arms whereas others also cover ammunitions and other related material. In addition, not every

country located in any given region is a party to these agreements. With that being said, I would like to recommend to you all to establish the above stated (i.e. a legal definition of arms transfer, which would be universally binding) in your resolution.

On the other hand, some ideas which could be incorporated in the resolution(s):

- I) **Disarmament of civilians and militias in post-conflict regions** This is a key concept in preventing the illicit trade of small arms, as it ensures the disarmament after times of war, where civilians and militias gained control over a range of small arms and light weapons. This weaponry serves a great risk in entering black market and returning to the hands of nongovernmental armed actors. Because governments become unstable and unbalanced after times of crises and conflict, it is best that an international intervention taking place to start a region-based campaign on collecting weapons. Where civilians and militias refuse to return their weaponry, military intervention can be discussed to take place.
- II) Peacekeeping forces ratification Peacekeeping forces that are being sent to conflict areas also serve a risk in unlawfully acquiring small arms. To prevent this, international cooperation on the ratification of peacekeeping forces sent to armed conflict areas can take place, as well as a close monitoring of which men/women to send to the areas. If this problem is not dealt with, it can result in the eventual recuperation of these weapons.
- III) Ensuring strict border control in regions of armed conflict Lack of border control and checkpoint safety is undoubtedly one of the main reasons why the small arms black market is working in great efficiency today. There must be international collaboration in this concept in order to ensure a strict border control, especially in armed conflicts, to prevent small weapon leakage to black market.
- IV) Illicit weapons trafficking law ratification Another key point to deal with illicit arms trade is the ratification of international law documents, in order to battle this crucial problems legal matter. Especially in conflict areas, where member states continue to suffer from very non-to-little-regulated private sector arms sales—this factor allows corrupt arms brokers to make trade with crooked individuals/criminals.
- V) Ratification of the arms trade treaty The Arms Trade Treaty must be ratified and put into force in order to establish a solid regulation for illicit arms trade.
- VI) Increased transparency on weapons deals The current devastating situation of illicit arms trade depends in huge amount to the lack of transparency of governments and arms brokers. The weapon deals are mostly carried out in disclosed environments and often end up being unrecorded and unregulated.

Increased transparency in an intergovernmental level will harden the trade of small arms, and ensure a significant drop in illicit sales of such arms.

Role of Dark Web

The term deep Web is used to denote a class of content on the Internet that, for various technical reasons, is not indexed by search engines. The dark Web is a part of the deep Web that has been intentionally hidden and is inaccessible through standard Web browsers. A relatively known source for content that resides on the dark Web is found in the Tor network. Tor, and other similar networks, enables users to traverse the Web in near-complete anonymity by encrypting data packets and sending them through several network nodes, called onion routers.

Like any technology, from pencils to cell phones, anonymity can be used for both good and bad. Users who fear economic or political retribution for their actions turn to the dark Web for protection. But there are also those who take advantage of this online anonymity to use the dark Web for illegal activities such as controlled substance trading, illegal financial transactions, identity theft and so on.

And it's not just about guns. On the dark Web it is possible to buy or sell just about anything — including child porn or illegal drugs or stolen social security or credit card numbers.



Figure 2: Approximate values of trade on dark web

Weapons represent a very small portion of the overall trade on anonymous marketplaces, not alarming at all but this has resulted in many feuds with its nature buying weapons from so called “Dark Web” is like buying a bar a chocolate. Dark Web came in the spotlight back in 2013 when the FBI shut down a popular marketplace site called Silk Road.

It became an FBI target when nearly a million people were using it and sales rose to roughly \$1.3 billion over about two years, the agency said. Buying weapons is such an easy that in 2014, a teenager named Liam Lyburd bought a handgun and other weapons materials on a dark website called Evolution and had them delivered to his home in Newcastle, England. Lyburd was plotting a massacre. Online, Lyburd used names such as "The Joker" and "I love my Anger." He posted disturbing messages on Facebook hinting about his terrible plans. A Facebook friend tipped off police about his posts, and authorities then raided Lyburd's home. What police found inside his bedroom was jaw-dropping: a "kill bag" containing a Glock handgun, hollow tipped bullets, pipe bombs, boots, overalls and a mask.

Involvement of the United Nations

The United Nations has showed it's active interest on resolving the illegal transactions and trade on dark web but has never taken a major step to form a binding solution, eventually making the traders to be on their toes. Having all this in mind UN CITO (Chief Information and Technology Officer) recently in her interview revealed her ideas on counter the threat of dark web and its growth, she said that the UN would be establishing an expert group known as "Digital Blue Helmets" that will serve as the peacekeepers of the cyber world. She made this statement about the new group:

"We are establishing a group we call the Digital Blue Helmets because we see the future changing in the cyber world. We do have the peacekeepers on the ground. But if you look at peace in the physical world and peace in the cyber world, those are two different things, and the Digital Blue Helmets will be our experts who can operate in the cyber world protecting the UN from cyber intrusion, and helping our substantive arms in delivering their missions in the cyber world. We need all the technology people in the world who want to do good to join and support us and ensure this group can play a positive role in cybersecurity and [combatting] cybercrime, starting with issues of human trafficking — things that we need to stop."

Riazi's plan with the Digital Blue Helmets is to create the "light web", "to counteract the evil part of the dark web". She also said that they have already started recruiting a small group of experts to get the project started.

The UN CITO also stated that the United Nations is currently investing in security solutions, tools, and they also try to reorganize their logistics department. Riazi's official statement goes by:

"We are also looking at reinventing our logistics operations. Cybersecurity is another area. Many threats in the physical world have moved to the cyber world, to the dark web. So we are investing in security solution products, tools and training for our team, not only on the IT side, but on the operations side."

Illegal Financial Transactions

Websites such as Banker & Co. and InstaCard facilitate untraceable financial transactions through various methods. They either launder bitcoins by disguising the true origin of the transactions or give users an anonymous debit card issued by a bank. Users are also given virtual credit cards issued by trusted operators in the dark Web. Buying stolen credit card information has never been easier. A website called Atlantic Carding offers this service, and the more you pay, the more you get. Up for grabs are business credit card accounts and even infinite credit card accounts associated with ultra-high-net-worth individuals. The user's details — name, address and so on — are available at an additional cost.

Proposed Solutions

Considering that the dark Web differs from the visible Web, it is important to develop tools that can effectively monitor it. Limited monitoring can be achieved today by mapping the hidden services directory, customer data monitoring, social site monitoring, hidden service monitoring and semantic analysis. The deep Web has the potential to host an increasingly high number of malicious services and activities. The global multi-stakeholder community needs to consider its impact while discussing the future of Internet governance. The dark Web, in general, and the Tor network, in particular, offer a secure platform for cybercriminals to support a vast amount of illegal activities — from anonymous marketplaces to secure means of communication, to an untraceable and difficult to shut down infrastructure for deploying malware and botnets. As such, it has become increasingly important for security agencies to track and monitor the activities in the dark Web, focusing today on Tor networks, but possibly extending to other technologies in the near future. Due to its intricate webbing and design, monitoring the dark Web will continue to pose significant challenges. Efforts to address it during debate should be focused on the areas below:

- Customer Data Monitoring
- Establishing a dedicated UN task force focusing on Dark Web in particular
- Social Site monitoring
- Hidden Service monitoring
- Market place profiling (profiling transactions made on dark Web marketplaces to gather information about sellers, users and the kinds of goods exchanged. Individual profiles could be built up over time).

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