



Committee: Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC)

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I. Crisis Committee

a) What is a crisis committee?

A crisis committee differs greatly from traditional MUN committees; they follow different protocol and participants have no previous knowledge of the topics being discussed. Typically, a crisis committee consists of 15 participants and is lead by three Chairs who are responsible for monitoring the flow of the debate.

Unlike traditional committees, crisis committees are affected by real-time decisions and events that take place in the outside world. While in session, the debate may be interrupted by breaking news bulletins, special guests or the introduction of new evidence. Participants must be able to utilize their critical thinking, leadership and speaking skills because a decision made during one session could alter the course of the debate and create new problems.

During ISRMUN, participants in crisis committees are referred to as representatives. These participants represent their nation and take into consideration the country's culture, economy, religion and foreign policy.

b) How does a crisis committee work?

A crisis committee is divided into two types of sessions: moderated and unmoderated. Crisis topics are introduced and built upon during the moderated caucus. Representatives have the opportunity to view and question evidence and resources during this time. This part of the committee is moderated by the Chair and representatives must raise their placards to speak. Proposals to solve a crisis are negotiated during the unmoderated caucus. This section of the debate is timed but allows representatives to speak freely amongst themselves to reach a consensus.

II. History of the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee

a) What is the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee?

The United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) was established by the United Nations Security Council on September 28th, 2001. It was created in the wake of the September 11th, 2001 terrorist attacks in the United States of America. The CTC is headquartered in New York City and consists of the Security Council's 15 member states. The committee's goal is the implementation of resolutions in order to fight against terrorism and its effects. The CTC is aided in its work by the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), which helps by facilitating technical assistance and monitoring the implementation of resolutions. Right now, the committee is working on "denying all forms of financial support for terrorist groups, and the sharing of information between governments and countries about the planning and practicing terrorist acts". Moreover, the committee aims to receive the "support of other governments in the investigation and arrest process of individuals involved and

criminalizing the passive and active reinforcement for terrorism in domestic law” (About the Counter-Terrorism Committee, UN, 2019).

b) The Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee’s current issues

The CTC is currently focused on combating the use of the internet for terrorist purposes. Since 2018, the committee has hosted several meetings and conferences to discuss the challenges countries and companies around the world face due to this issue. Since many terrorist groups post propaganda on social media, the CTC has begun to work closely with platforms such as Facebook and Twitter in order to create effective methods in which algorithms can detect, report and remove images, videos and hashtags related to terrorism. In addition, it is also working in connection with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in order to help countries foster cooperation and information sharing related to this issue (#UNitetoCounterTerrorism, UN, 2018).

Moreover, the CTC is also involved in countering threats posed by foreign fighters in terrorist organizations. For instance, many of the members of the Islamic State (IS) are not from Iraq and Syria, but from diverse nations such as Canada, Belgium, France, Indonesia and the United States. The CTC is working with UN member countries in order to increase international cooperation in preventing the movement of these fighters. It has also started educational and social programs that target the reasons why many foreign fighters join terrorist organizations. These reasons include: socio-economic issues, marginalization, discrimination, lack of opportunities and inequality. The CTC hopes that these programs will decrease the number of people leaving their countries to fight abroad (Foreign Terrorist Fighters, UN, 2018).

Currently, the CTC is focused on integrating gender into strategies and discussions related to counter-terrorism. Working closely with the United Nations Security Council and the Commission on the Status of Women, the committee has hosted multiple open briefings that aim to eliminate the gender bias that exists in counter-terrorism around the world. Right now, women are primarily treated as passive individuals forced to participate in terrorist activities. The plans do not take into consideration the role women play within terrorist organizations or in countering them at the grassroots level. Thus far, the briefings have addressed gender-sensitive prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration for former female members of the Islamic State group (CTC Holds Open Briefing, UN, 2019).

III. Quorum

- Australia
- Bolivia
- Canada
- China
- Equatorial Guinea
- Ethiopia
- France
- Germany
- Iran
- Iraq
- Israel
- Ivory Coast
- Kazakhstan

- Kuwait
- Lebanon
- Morocco
- Netherlands
- Peru
- Poland
- Russia
- Syria
- Turkey
- United Arab Emirates
- United Kingdom
- United States

IV. Topics of Interest

Formal position papers are not required of crisis committee participants. However, in order to prepare for the simulation, representatives are encouraged to research the following topics:

- Chemical terrorism
- Terrorism in Somalia
- Separatist and nationalist movements in Russia
- Al-Qaeda activities in Europe

V. Resources

"#UNitetoCounterTerrorism side event: International cooperation to combat the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes: Opportunities and challenges." United Nations (UN). United Nations, 27 Jun. 2018. Web. 20 Nov. 2018. <<https://www.un.org/sc/ctc/news/event/unitetocounterterrorism-side-event-international-cooperation-combat-use-internet-terrorist-purposes-opportunities-challenges/>>.

"About the Counter-Terrorism Committee." United Nations (UN). United Nations, 2019. Web. 19 Feb. 2019. <<https://www.un.org/sc/ctc/about-us/>>.

"CTC holds open briefing on gender and counter-terrorism." United Nations (UN). United Nations, 04 Nov. 2019. Web. 29 Nov. 2019. <<https://www.un.org/sc/ctc/news/2019/11/04/ctc-holds-open-briefing-gender-counter-terrorism/>>.

"Foreign Terrorist Fighters." United Nations (UN). United Nations, 27 Jun. 2018. Web. 22 Nov. 2018. <<https://www.un.org/sc/ctc/focus-areas/foreign-terrorist-fighters/>>.