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Committee: Youth Delegate Forum on Transnational Conflict Resolution and Peace Building (YDF)

Topic: Fostering International Cooperation to Counteract Cross-Border Terrorism

Student Officer: Nikki Tsachpini

Position: Deputy President

PERSONAL INTRODUCTION

Dear Delegates,

My name is Nikki Tsachpini and I am more than happy to welcome you to the 7th annual session of the Deutsche School of Thessaloniki Model United Nations. I am a 12th grade student in the first Model High School of Thessaloniki, "Manolis Andronikos" and I will be serving as one of the two Deputy Presidents of this year's YDF committee. I have always had a passion for MUN and I am looking forward to the conference! I have been an engaged member of my school's MUN club since the 9th grade as a delegate, and therefore I am delighted to be pursuing this position. My dream is to become a successful lawyer, defending human rights and I really enjoy traveling and making memories.

Whether you have experience as a delegate or this is your first time in a MUN, DSTMUN welcomes you all and brings you all close through your passion in debating and diplomacy. During this session, we will be discussing and debating upon very important topics: the counteraction of Cross-Border Terrorism and about rising polarization and extremization of political ideologies. Thus, we expect you to be well prepared and ready for fruitful debates. This document will provide you with useful information, although it should not be your only piece of research. If you have any questions regarding this study guide, do not hesitate to contact me at nikkitsahpini@gmail.com.

I am looking forward to meeting you all in November,

Nikki Tsahpini

TOPIC INTRODUCTION

Over the past three decades, globalization has necessitated cooperation between countries. During the same time, cross-border terrorism has emerged as a grave threat to global security, demanding collective action. Cross-border terrorism causes significant economic instability, particularly impacting commerce and tourism. Moreover, it strains diplomatic relations between countries and often leads to unwanted tensions between neighbors. Aside from that, cross-border terrorism also has devastating humanitarian impacts. Terrorist actions across borders often result in the displacement of large populations, creating refugee crises. In addition to humanitarian crises, cross-border terrorism can also lead to the destruction of natural resources such as fossil fuels, lumber, coal, forests e.t.c. This impacts local communities and has broad implications on the environment.

To effectively counteract cross-border terrorism, states need to share responsibilities. The geopolitical landscape gets even more complicated when non-state actors, who exploit tensions and destabilize regions, get involved, increasing the need for close collaboration between states. Finally, cross-border terrorism raises numerous legal and ethical issues. It is harder for states to ensure balance between security, human rights, the use of military force and the protection of their sovereignty. As the world becomes more and more interconnected, the challenges posed by cross-border terrorism require a coordinated approach that addresses the immediate impacts and underlying reasons.

DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

Commercial Aircraft

Commercial airplanes are private planes which carry paying passengers. They are usually used by the owner of the jet and invited guests. [1]

Cross-Border Terrorism

The term cross-border terrorism refers to terrorist groups or individuals crossing international borders to conduct terrorist operations, carry out attacks or provide support and resources to other groups in the territory of another country. This does not only include physical border crossings; for example, cross-border terrorism can also include cyber attacks.[2]

Geopolitical Landscape

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[1] Collantes, Carlos. "What Is the True Meaning of Commercial Flights?" *Aeroclass.org*, 9 Nov. 2022, www.aeroclass.org/commercial-flights-meaning/.

[2] "Cross-Border Terrorism." *Drishti IAS*, www.drishtiias.com/to-the-points/paper3/cross-border-terrorism#:~:text=Cross%2DBorder%20Terrorism%20is%20a Accessed 2 Aug. 2024

The term geopolitical landscape refers to the physical features, and the economic, political, strategic, cultural and historical characteristics of the Earth/world that influence global politics and international relations. [3]

Globalization

The term globalization refers to the increasing interconnectedness and interdependence between countries through the exchange of goods, services, information and culture. Advancements in technology, transport and communication enhance this phenomenon.[4]

Humanitarian Crisis

According to the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), a humanitarian crisis is a situation where humanitarian needs are sufficiently large and complex to require external assistance and resources, and where a multi-sectoral response is needed, with the engagement of a wide range of international humanitarian actors.[5]

Proxy groups

Proxy groups are non-state actors or organizations that are used by powerful states to act directly on their behalf or with their financial or other kind of support to conduct operations, destabilize the situation in areas or wage conflicts.[6]

Guerrilla Warfare

'Irregular military actions (such as harassment and sabotage) carried out by small usually independent forces' [7]

Non-Aligned Movement

'The Non-Aligned Movement was formed during the Cold War, largely on the initiative of then-Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito, as an organization of States that did not seek to formally align themselves with either the United States or the Soviet Union, but sought to remain independent or neutral' [8]

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[3] "Geopolitical Landscapes - Vocab, Definition, and Must Know Facts | Fiveable." *Library.fiveable.me*, library.fiveable.me/key-terms/ap-hug/geopolitical-landscapes Accessed 2 Aug. 2024.

[4] Kolb, Melina. "What Is Globalization?" *Peterson Institute for International Economics*, 29 Oct. 2018, www.piie.com/microsites/globalization/what-is-globalization

[5] "CCC | SCOPE." *Humanitarian UNICEF*, www.corecommitments.unicef.org/ccc-1-1

[6] Seth G. Jones. "War by Proxy: Iran's Growing Footprint in the Middle East." Www.csis.org, 11 Mar. 2019, www.csis.org/analysis/war-proxy-irans-growing-footprint-middle-east

[7] "Definition of GUERRILLA WARFARE." *Merriam-Webster.com*, 2019, www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/guerrilla%20warfare

[8] NTI. "Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)." *The Nuclear Threat Initiative*, 28 Feb. 2022, www.nti.org/education-center/treaties-and-regimes/non-aligned-movement-nam/

Sharia law

Islamic law is based on the teachings of the Quran and Hadith that regulate various aspects of life. [9]

1267 Regime

The 1267 Regime is a series of UN penalties that imposes travel restrictions, asset freezes, and arms embargoes on people and organisations connected to Al-Qaeda.[10]

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Historical Information

Early Instances and Root Causes

In the prehistoric and medieval periods, the raiding and looting across borders by mercenaries and nomadic tribes was a form of violent cross-border action similar to today's cross-border terrorism. In those times, insurgent organizations within empires used guerilla warfare and assassination techniques to harm neighboring regions and empires.

Following that, during the colonialist and post-colonialist periods, border crossings were a common form of resistance by forces that opposed colonial governments. Cross-border action was used as a means of safety and assistance. For example, Indian fighters crossed the borders of India to nearby nations, seeking safety from British control forces.[11]

20th Century Developments

Post World War II Period

During the period after World War ll, the geopolitical landscape witnessed a significant rise in nationalist and liberation movements, specifically in Africa, Asia and Latin America. These movements used neighborhood countries as bases for operations , thus increasing and evoluting Cross-Border terrorist activities. As a part of the decolonisation process, (dismantling colonial power structures, reclaiming autonomy, and restoring cultural

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[9] "Sharia | Definition, Law, & Countries | Britannica." *Www.britannica.com*, 29 Apr. 2024, www.britannica.com/topic/sharia

[10] "Security Council Committee pursuant to Resolutions 1267 (1999) 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) Concerning Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and Associated Individuals, Groups, Undertakings and Entities | Security Council." *Un.org*, 2015, main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/sanctions/1267

[11] Chukwuma, Kodili Henry. "Critical Terrorism Studies and Postcolonialism: Constructing Ungoverned Spaces in Counter-Terrorism Discourse in Nigeria." *Critical Studies on Terrorism*, vol. 15, no. 2, 11 Mar. 2022, pp. 1–18, https://doi.org/10.1080/17539153.2022.2048990

identity), these movements were sponsored by numerous nations as well as many international organizations.[12]

Cold War Era

The competition between the United States and the Soviet Union dominated world politics throughout the Cold-War era. During this time, both superpowers supported several cross border proxy groups in order to obtain military and geopolitical benefits. These proxy groups[13] frequently participated in guerilla warfare and cross-border terrorism, which exacerbated already-existing regional crises. As a result, Western Nations (led by the United States) formed alliances such as the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) to exchange intelligence and plan counter offensives against communist bloc-affiliated organisations. In the meantime, a lot of nations made the decision to support peace and neutrality by joining the Non-Aligned Movement in order to stay out of the superpower competition. In an attempt to preserve a precarious balance of power, diplomatic initiatives, typified by accords, such as the Helsinki Accords, sought to regulate and alleviate tensions and confrontations involving proxy organisations.

Middle East Conflicts

The difficult issue of cross-border terrorism was also posed by the Middle East, namely the Arab-Israeli conflict. After the State of Israel was established in 1948, Palestinian organizations launched many cross-border assaults in the region. The dynamics of regional security are further complicated by the fact that these organizations usually operate out of neighbouring nations like Syria, Lebanon, and Jordan. As parts of its reaction, the international community launched a number of peace efforts, such as the Oslo and Camp David Accords, aimed at reducing cross-border violence and addressing the underlying causes of a conflict. A major factor in keeping an eye on ceasefires and averting escalations was the presence of UN peacekeeping soldiers in conflict areas. Furthermore, intelligence sharing, cooperative operations and diplomatic initiatives greatly improved counterterrorism collaboration between Israel and other countries, particularly the US and European Union. International organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) sent humanitarian aid with the intention of supporting impacted communities and advancing peacekeeping and conflict resolution.[14]

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[12] "Post War Nationalism: Independence Movements." *Vaia*, www.vaia.com/en-us/explanations/history/european-history/post-war-nationalism/ Accessed 2 Aug. 2024.

[13] Baugh, Sue. "Proxy War | Armed Conflict | Britannica." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, 2019, www.britannica.com/topic/proxy-war

[14] Britannica. "Arab-Israeli Wars | History, Conflict, & Facts." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, 17 Jan. 2019, www.britannica.com/event/Arab-Israeli-wars

Late 20th Century

South Asia

The long-running conflict between India and Pakistan over the Kashmir area has become a focal point for cross-border terrorism in South Asia. Due to historical, religious and geographical disputes, both countries engaged in hostilities, accusing one another of arming terrorist organisations that carried out assaults inside their borders.[15] The emergence of militant organisations aiming to integrate Kashmir with Pakistan or grant independence to the territory worsened the situation in the region. Targeting both military and civilian populations, these groups committed acts of terrorism, which prompted harsh crackdowns and punitive actions from the governmental players involved. In addition to having a direct impact on the area, the violence and instability in Kashmir also had larger ramifications for global peace and security. [16]

[17] The strong relationship between India and Pakistan explains the ease of cross-border terrorism.

Africa

[15] Zeidan, Adam. "Kashmir - the Kashmir Problem." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, 2019, www.britannica.com/place/Kashmir-region-Indian-subcontinent/The-Kashmir-problem

[16] Center for Preventive Action. "Conflict between India and Pakistan." *Global Conflict Tracker*, Council on Foreign Relations, 9 Apr. 2024, www.cfr.org/global-conflict-tracker/conflict/conflict-between-india-and-pakistan

[17] Center for Preventive Action. "Conflict between India and Pakistan." *Global Conflict Tracker*, Council on Foreign Relations, 9 Apr. 2024, www.cfr.org/global-conflict-tracker/conflict/conflict-between-india-and-pakistan

Significant cross-border terrorist activity emerged as a result of the conflicts and civil wars that characterized Africa's post-colonial era. [18]Power conflicts and internal unrest frequently resulted from the artificial borders erected by colonial rulers, which lumped together numerous ethnic and religious groupings. Violent wars occurred in places like Rwanda, Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where rebel groups and militias operated beyond national borders. These organisations frequently used terrorism as a strategy to further their political and ideological objectives, which led to great deal of misery and uprooting of people such as displacement. These organisations' freedom of movement was further aided by the open borders and shoddy governmental structures seen in many African nations, making counterterrorism and stability initiatives more difficult. [19]

Latin America

Throughout the second half of the 20th century, a number of rebel organisations emerged in Latin America that employed cross-border terrorism as a tactic. Organisations like the Shining Path in Peru and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) conducted operations across national boundaries in addition to attacking within their own nations. The ideological fervour, economic concerns and resistance to perceived government tyranny and corruption propelled these rebel groups. These organisations' actions frequently caused instability in the region, which prompted neighboring nations to coordinate their efforts to counter the security risks they posed. [20]

1972 Munich Olympic Massacre

An important incident that exemplifies the scope and impact of terrorism worldwide during this time was the Munich Olympic Massacre of 1972. On September 5, 1972, during the Munich Summer Olympics, eleven Israeli Olympic team members were kidnapped by the Palestinian terrorist organisation Black September, who demanded the release of two German insurgents and 243 prisoners detained in Israeli jails. The situation worsened and turned into a protracted confrontation that ended tragically and violently at the Fürstenfeldbruck airfield, when five terrorists, a German police officer and, all eleven Israeli captives were slain. The horrific Munich tragedy stunned the globe, drawing attention to the problem of terrorism and emphasising how vulnerable prominent international events are to such assaults. It also highlighted the intricate relationship between international politics,

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[18] United Nations. "Terrorism Intensifying across Africa, Exploiting Instability and Conflict." *UN News*, 10 Nov. 2022, news.un.org/en/story/2022/11/1130432

[19] United Nations. "Root Causes of Conflicts in Africa Must Be Addressed beyond Traditional Response, Special Adviser Tells Security Council Debate on Silencing Guns | UN Press." *Press.un.org*, 30 Mar. 2023, press.un.org/en/2023/sc15249.doc.htm

[20] "Terrorist Groups in Latin America: The Changing Landscape." *InSight Crime*, 7 Apr. 2014, insightcrime.org/news/analysis/terrorist-groups-in-latin-america-the-changing-landscape/

political grievances and militant extremism that underpinned a large portion of this era's terrorism. [21]

21st Century Escalation

Globalization and Technology

Technology and globalization have had a big impact on cross-border terrorism. International connectedness is improved by globalization, which makes it easier for terrorist acts to be coordinated and for extremist ideas to proliferate. Terrorists may be able to obtain money and travel by taking advantage of commercial liberalization and economic integration. Technology helps both carry out and prevent terrorism by enabling improved surveillance and response. Examples of this technology include communication tools and secure Internet servers. ICT (Information and Communication Technology) developments improve security and surveillance, but they also give terrorists more advanced tools for planning and recruiting. Therefore, there are opportunities and problems in the fight against cross-border terrorism posed by globalization and technology. [22]

9/11 Attacks

The events of September 11, 2001, when almost 3,000 people were killed in coordinated attacks by al-Qaeda targeting the Pentagon and New York City, completely changed the history of cross-border terrorism. These attacks fundamentally changed how countries responded to cross-border terrorism and revolutionized global security policies. With a focus on taking down terrorist networks, the US led initiatives to fortify multinational coalitions and expand military operations around the globe. Stricter border controls, increased surveillance, and stronger international intelligence sharing were some of the increased security measures. After the 9/11 attacks, governments began to weigh individual rights against national security, which significantly altered public perceptions of terrorism and gave counterterrorism top priority in international security agendas. This led to discussions on civil liberties. Policies are still influenced by this legacy, highlighting the necessity for global collaboration to address the complex challenges posed by terrorism. [23]

Middle East Instability

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[21] "The New York Times: This Day in Sports." *Archive.nytimes.com*, archive.nytimes.com/www.nytimes.com/packages/html/sports/year_in_sports/09.05.html?scp=1&sq=german%20airport&st=Search

[22] Choudhary, Sheraz Ahmad, et al. "Role of Information and Communication Technologies on the War against Terrorism and on the Development of Tourism: Evidence from a Panel of 28 Countries." *Technology in Society*, vol. 62, Aug. 2020, p. 101296, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.techsoc.2020.101296

[23] Hartig, Hannah, and Carroll Doherty. "Two Decades Later, the Enduring Legacy of 9/11." *Pew Research Center*, Pew Research Center, 2 Sept. 2021, www.pewresearch.org/politics/2021/09/02/two-decades-later-the-enduring-legacy-of-9-11/

The emergence of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) was significantly influenced by the instability in the Middle East, namely the wars in Iraq and Syria.[24] Extremist organisations were able to establish a footing and increase their influence as a result of the power vacuums and general disarray these battles caused. As it conducted cross-border terrorist attacks and established a self-proclaimed caliphate over sizable portions of both Syria and Iraq, ISIS became a powerful force. The group's ruthless methods and cunning use of the media for recruiting and propaganda further demonstrated how cross-border terrorism has changed in the current day.[25]

African Terrorism

The growth of terrorist organisations like Boko Haram in Africa has had a major effect on regional stability. Boko Haram began in Nigeria and has now spread its destructive actions into neighbouring nations including Chad, Niger, and Cameroon. The insurgency of the organisation has caused major security issues in the region, as well as widespread displacement and humanitarian disasters. The fact that Boko Haram may function across national borders emphasises how global today's terrorist dangers are in Africa.[26]

Europe

Terrorist assaults carried out by ISIS and other extremist organisations have also increased in Europe. The scope and capacity for coordination of contemporary terrorist networks were demonstrated by the 2015 Paris attacks, which saw a series of coordinated terrorist strikes around the city that left 130 people dead and hundreds injured. The assaults brought attention to the susceptibility of metropolitan areas to transnational terrorism, leading European countries to strengthen their counterterrorism protocols and collaboration.[27]

There have been notable advancements in the field of cross-border terrorism in the late 20th and early 21st centuries. Geopolitical conflicts and regional instability have enabled the emergence of new extremist groups, while globalisation and technology have expanded the reach and influence of terrorist organisations. Crucial instances of the developing and

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[24] Glenn, Cameron, et al. "Timeline: The Rise, Spread and Fall of the Islamic State." *Wilson Center*, 28 Oct. 2019, www.wilsoncenter.org/article/timeline-the-rise-spread-and-fall-the-islamic-state

[25] "How the Islamic State Rose, Fell and Could Rise Again in the Maghreb." *Crisis Group*, 24 July 2017, www.crisisgroup.org/middle-east-north-africa/north-africa/178-how-islamic-state-rose-fell-and-could-rise-again-maghreb

[26] United Nations. "Root Causes of Conflicts in Africa Must Be Addressed beyond Traditional Response, Special Adviser Tells Security Council Debate on Silencing Guns | UN Press." *Press.un.org*, 30 Mar. 2023, press.un.org/en/2023/sc15249.doc.htm

[27] Ray, Michael. "Paris Attacks of 2015 - the Response to the Paris Attacks." *Encyclopedia Britannica*, www.britannica.com/event/Paris-attacks-of-2015/The-response-to-the-Paris-attacks

widespread character of cross-border terrorism are the 9/11 attacks, wars in the Middle East, acts of terrorism in Africa, and ISIS's strikes in Europe. Strong international collaboration, all-encompassing counterterrorism tactics, and a sophisticated comprehension of the fundamental causes of terrorism in the contemporary world are necessary to tackle this complex menace.

Recent Trends

Modern terrorism has changed due to technological advancements, which have also boosted cyberterrorism and internet radicalisation. The internet is used by terrorist groups, like ISIS, for recruiting, propaganda, and attack planning. Cyberterrorism disrupts society and instills fear by focussing on sensitive data and vital infrastructure. Social media and encrypted messaging applications are two examples of online tools that can spread extremist ideas quickly and draw adherents from around the world. ISIS's adept use of digital expands its ideological reach and operational capabilities, making counterterrorism activities more difficult and demanding strong cybersecurity measures as well as international collaboration. [28]

Terrorist Groups

In the Middle East

Hezbollah

Based in Lebanon, Hezbollah is a Shiite militant organisation and political party that goes by the name Party of God. Hezbollah was established in Lebanon during the 1980s Lebanese Civil War and now commands a sizable military force and political sway there. The group has been significantly involved in the Syrian Civil War, backing the Assad administration, and is most known for its operations against Israel, particularly the 2006 Lebanon War. Hezbollah is involved in a number of wars and terrorist endeavours around the Middle East, therefore its actions go beyond Lebanon and Syria.[29]

Al-Qaeda

Founded in Afghanistan in the late 1980s by Osama bin Laden, Al-Qaeda has grown into a decentralised worldwide terrorist organisation. Many high-profile terrorist assaults, the most prominent of which being the September 11, 2001 strikes in the United States, are

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[28] Steinbach, Michael. "ISIL Online: Countering Terrorist Radicalization and Recruitment on the Internet and Social Media." *Federal Bureau of Investigation*, 6 July 2016, www.fbi.gov/news/testimony/isil-online-countering-terrorist-radicalization-and-recruitment-on-the-internet-and-social-media-

[29] Robinson, Kali. "What Is Hezbollah?" *Council on Foreign Relations*, 14 Oct. 2023, www.cfr.org/backgrounder/what-hezbollah

attributed to Al-Qaeda.[30] The incident had a profound impact on international counterterrorism tactics and paved the way for the US-led invasion of Afghanistan. Additional significant assaults linked to Al-Qaeda comprise: the 1998 bombings of the US embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, Spain's 2004 Madrid Train Bombings, The United Kingdom's 2005 London Bombings. Al-Qaeda continues to be a serious danger on a worldwide scale, having formed affiliates and cells throughout the years in a number of locations, including the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), North Africa (AQIM), and the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS).[31]

Islamic State (ISIS)

The remains of Al-Qaeda in Iraq gave rise to the Islamic State, sometimes referred to as ISIS or ISIL. When ISIL proclaimed a caliphate in 2014, governing sizable portions of Syria and Iraq under the direction of Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, it attracted international attention. Extreme cruelty, such as mass killings, enslavement, and cultural devastation, is what ISIS is notorious for. In addition, the group has planned and encouraged a number of terrorist operations throughout the globe. Notable assaults ascribed to ISIS consist of: in 2015, there were coordinated bombs and shootings around the city of Paris, the 2016 attack on the Berlin Christmas Market, in which a vehicle crashed into a crowd and the 2016 Orlando Nightclub Shooting in the United States, one of the deadliest mass shootings in U.S. history. Despite having lost most of its territory to military battles by foreign coalitions, ISIS is still an insurgent organisation that inspires lone wolf attacks all over the world. The group continues to be a concern to world security because of its doctrine and methods, which have impacted many other extremist groups and people.[32]

In Europe and the Caucasus

Islamic State (ISIS) Cells

Across Europe, the Islamic State (ISIS) has created several cells that function both autonomously and in tandem with the organization's central leadership in the Middle East.

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[30] The Editors of Encyclopedia Britannica. "Al-Qaeda | History, Meaning, Terrorist Attacks, & Facts." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, 2018, www.britannica.com/topic/al-Qaeda

[31] Vasiliev, A.M., and N.A. Zherlitsyna. "The Evolution of Al-Qaeda: Between Regional Conflicts and a Globalist Perspective." *Herald of the Russian Academy of Sciences*, vol. 92, no. S13, 1 Dec. 2022, pp. S1240–S1246, www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC10036157/, https://doi.org/10.1134/s1019331622190091

[32] National Counterterrorism Center. "Islamic State of Iraq and Ash-Sham (ISIS)." *Www.dni.gov*, Sept. 2022, www.dni.gov/nctc/ftos/isis_fto.html

These cells are in charge of planning and carrying out a variety of terrorist acts with the intent of sowing fear, upsetting social order, and spreading their radical ideologies. [33]

Among the most well-known assaults carried out by ISIS cells in Europe were the Paris attacks of 2015. A string of well-planned explosions and shootings occurred in Paris on November 13, 2015, at several locations, including the Stade de France, the Bataclan concert theater, and many cafés. This attack was one of the bloodiest terrorist acts in French history, with 130 people killed and hundreds injured.[34] A more noteworthy assault ascribed to ISIS factions was the Brussels bombings of 2016.[35]

Caucasus Emirate

Based in the North Caucasus, the Caucasus Emirate is a violent Islamist group that seeks to establish an autonomous Islamic state under Sharia law. Since its founding in 2007, the organisation has carried out many bombings, killings, and military assaults against Russian security personnel and civilians.[36] The 2010 Moscow Metro bombings, in which two female suicide bombers left over 100 people injured and 40 dead, were a noteworthy assault. The organisation still uses guerilla warfare to undermine regional security in spite of major counterterrorism measures. [37]

Latin America

Revolutionary Armed Forces of Columbia (FARC)

Founded in 1964, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) are a Marxist-Leninist guerrilla organisation. The FARC has been implicated in attacks on Colombian government and civilians, drug trafficking, and kidnappings. Some groups persist in their militant operations in spite of a 2016 peace accord that resulted in disarmament and political involvement for many members. Due to the FARC's involvement in drug trafficking and abduction, Colombian society has suffered greatly from increased bloodshed, displaced

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[33] National Counterterrorism Center. "Islamic State of Iraq and Ash-Sham (ISIS)." *Www.dni.gov*, Sept. 2022, www.dni.gov/nctc/ftos/isis_fto.html

[34] Le Monde. "What You Need to Know about Paris Attacks and the Situation in France." *Le Monde.fr*, 23 Mar. 2022, www.lemonde.fr/en/archives/article/2022/03/23/what-you-need-to-know-about-paris-attacks-and-the-situation-in-france_5979045_113.html

[35] BBC News. "Brussels Explosions: What We Know about Airport and Metro Attacks." *BBC News*, 9 Apr. 2016, www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-35869985

[36] Government of Canada. "About the Listing Process." *Publicsafety.gc.ca*, 2014, www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/ntnl-scrt/cntr-trrrsm/lstd-ntts/crrnt-lstd-ntts-en.aspx

[37] "Moscow Metro Bombs Kill Dozens." *The Guardian*, 29 Mar. 2010, www.theguardian.com/world/2010/mar/29/moscow-metro-bombs-explosions-terror

people, and economic instability. The issues that these lingering divisions present are still being addressed by the administration.[38]

Africa

Boko Haram

The Islamist militant group Boko Haram is based in Nigeria, but it also has operations in Chad, Cameroon, and Niger. The gang is well known for its vicious kidnappings and attacks. The 2014 Chibok Kidnapping, in which Boko Haram abducted 276 schoolgirls from Chibok and garnered enormous media attention and worldwide criticism, is one such case. The 2015 Baga Attack, in which the gang massacred hundreds of people in the town of Baga and caused major damage, is another noteworthy event.[39]

Al-Shabaab

Based in Somalia, Al-Shabaab is a militant Islamist organisation that regularly launches cross-border terrorist operations against its neighbours, particularly Kenya. Notable assaults include the 2013 Westgate Mall Attack, in which terrorists from Al-Shabaab assaulted a mall in Nairobi, Kenya, resulting in the deaths of 67 people. The 2015 Garissa University Attack, in which terrorists assaulted Garissa University in Kenya and killed 148 people—mostly students—is another significant episode.[40]

Aims of cross border terrorists

Terrorists operating across borders seek to accomplish many strategic goals through their operations. Their main goal is to promote their radical ideas beyond national boundaries in order to gain support and attract new adherents. They seek to destabilise nations and erode public trust in political institutions by instilling fear and terror among civilian populations. Undermining diplomatic connections between countries, so as to create a climate of mistrust and conflict, is another of their goals.

These terrorists also aim to degrade national defense capabilities by revealing weaknesses and undermining the morale and efficacy of security personnel. Another important objective is to get worldwide attention, which will help them spread their message and put pressure on governments to heed their demands. They also want to destabilise the target country's economy, causing harm that may trigger more widespread social and political unrest. All of

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[38] InSight Crime. "FARC." *InSight Crime*, 23 Nov. 2023, insightcrime.org/colombia-organized-crime-news/farc-profile/

[39] Britannica. "Boko Haram | Nigerian Islamic Group." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, 5 Dec. 2018, www.britannica.com/topic/Boko-Haram

[40] Klobucista, Claire, et al. "Al-Shabaab." *Council on Foreign Relations*, 6 Dec. 2022, www.cfr.org/backgrounder/al-shabaab

these objectives work together to achieve the terrorists' larger objectives of causing regional instability and furthering their political, religious or ideological agendas.[41]

MAJOR COUNTRIES AND ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED

Countries

India

The main cause of cross-border terrorism in India is the assaults carried out by terrorist organisations with their headquarters in Pakistan, a neighbouring country. The assaults on the Indian Parliament in 2001, the Mumbai attacks in 2008, and the recurrent clashes in Kashmir are among the notable episodes. The goal of these strikes is to weaken India, harm civilians, and sour relations between Pakistan and India. As a result, there will be more military tensions and security issues in the area.[42]

Israel

The main sources of cross-border terrorism against Israel are extremist organisations in Gaza, Lebanon, and Syria.[43] Israeli military and civilians are the target of rocket assaults, infiltrations, and bombs, which result in fatalities and generalised dread. The war is exacerbated by regional actors' backing for organisations like Hamas and Hezbollah. Israel has taken considerable military and intelligence steps to safeguard its population as a result of these attacks, which compromise security.

Organizations

International Criminal Police Organisation (INTERPOL)

Interpol's Counter-Terrorism Directorate serves as a central hub of information on international terrorism, examining suspicious data and distributing it to member nations. It sends out Blue Notices for gathering information and Red Notices for making arrests, working with the UN to enforce consequences, and also boosting border security through its I-24/7 system and databases.

European Union (EU)

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[41] Borum, Randy. *Psychology of Terrorism*. University of South Florida, 2018
https://www.ojp.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/208552.pdf

[42] India. "Will Continue to Take Action against Cross-Border Terrorism from Pakistan, India Says at UNSC Meet." *India Today*, India Today, 17 Nov. 2021,
www.indiatoday.in/india/story/action-cross-border-terrorism-pakistan-india-unsc-meet-1877538-2021-11-17 Accessed 5 Aug. 2024

[43] BBC News. "Israel Profile - Timeline." *BBC News*, 19 Nov. 2018,
www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-29123668

The EU's goal is to combat radicalization through encouraging social involvement and tackling underlying reasons. Its thorough strategy involves cooperating on legal matters, sharing information, and enforcing the law. Tactics include strengthening border security, safeguarding infrastructure, enhancing reactions to threats, working with member countries and allies, and fighting extremist material on the internet.

United Nations (UN)

Through assaults on its employees and facilities in numerous war zones, the United Nations has fallen prey to cross-border terrorism. The bombing of the UN headquarters in Baghdad, Iraq in 2003 claimed 22 lives. Other notable occurrences include many assaults on UN forces in areas like Mali and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. These terrorist attacks make it more difficult for the UN to uphold world peace and security.[44]

BLOCS EXPECTED

Bloc A

Countries that wish to cooperate with other nations to counteract Cross- Border Terrorism to maintain regional stability and security.

Bloc B

Countries that do not wish to cooperate with other nations to counteract Cross-Border Terrorism because they want to maintain strategic alliances or political leverage.

TIMELINE OF EVENTS

Date	Description of event
September 5, 1972	Munich Olympic Massacre Eleven Israeli athletes were taken hostage by the Palestinian terrorist group Black September. This led to a violent siege and the subsequent execution of all hostages.
September 11, 2001	9/11 Attacks 19 terrorists hijacked four commercial airplanes. Each plane caused an enormous disaster in different parts of

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[44] "FEATURE: Survivors Recall Terror Attack on UN's Baghdad Headquarters." *UN News*, 14 Aug. 2009, news.un.org/en/story/2009/08/309652 Accessed 5 Aug. 2024.

	America and resulted in the death of nearly 3.000 people.
March 11, 2004	The 2004 Madrid train bombings consisted of synchronized explosions on trains for commuters, resulting in the deaths of 193 individuals and causing injuries to approximately 2,000 others. Spain's deadliest terrorist incident was caused by a group inspired by al-Qaeda, impacting national elections.
November 26-28, 2008	Ten Pakistani terrorists carried out a series of well-planned terrorist assaults in many Mumbai, India sites on November 26 and 29, 2008, leaving 166 people dead and more than 300 injured. The CST train station and the Taj Mahal Palace Hotel were important locations.
November 13, 2015	Three groups of suicide bombers targeted different locations in France. 130 people were killed and more than 350 were injured. This highlighted the global threat by ISIS.
March 22, 2016	Coordinated bombings at Brussels Airport and Maalbeek metro station, resulting in the deaths of 32 civilians and causing injuries to more than 300 people.

RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS, TREATIES AND EVENTS

UN security council resolution 1373 (S/RES/1373 [2001])

The United Nations Security Council Resolution 1373, which was passed on September 28, 2001, deals with global terrorism in the aftermath of the 9/11 incidents. Member states are mandated to stop and suppress the financing of terrorism, enhance global cooperation, share intelligence, and improve border controls. It is imperative for states to outlaw activities related to terrorism, prevent terrorists from finding refuge, and guarantee that individuals engaged in terrorist actions face legal consequences. The resolution further creates the Counter-Terrorism Committee to oversee enforcement and encourage global cooperation in the fight against terrorism.[45]

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[45] "S/RES/1373(2001)." *Undocs.org*, 2023, undocs.org/Home/Mobile?FinalSymbol=S%2FRES%2F1373(2001)&Language=E&DeviceType=Desktop&LangRequested=False

UN security council resolution 1267 (S/RES/1267 [1999])

Adopted on October 15, 1999, UN Security Council Resolution 1267 takes aim at the Taliban for their backing of terrorism and hiding of Osama bin Laden. The resolution places restrictions on people and organizations connected to the Taliban and al-Qaeda, including asset freezes, travel restrictions, and arms embargoes. A Sanctions Committee is established to supervise the execution and adherence to these actions. This framework developed into the "1267 Regime," an important component of global efforts to counter financing and support for terrorists.[46]

UN security council resolution 1624 (S/RES/1624 [2005])

On September 14, 2005, the United Nations Security Council enacted Resolution 1624, which deals with the instigation of terrorist activities. It exhorts members to forbid and stop inciting acts of terrorism, bolster border security, and promote global cooperation. The resolution calls on nations to foster intercultural communication and understanding while highlighting how crucial it is to protect human rights when fighting terrorism. Additionally, it pushes states to cooperate in enhancing security protocols and exchanging intelligence to stop the instigation and proliferation of terrorist acts.[47]

UN security council resolution 2178 (S/RES/2178 [2014])

On September 24, 2014, the United Nations Security Council issued Resolution 2178, which addressed the growing threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs). It mandates that member nations stop recruiting, organizing, transporting, and supplying those who go to another state to carry out terrorist activities. The resolution asks for further international collaboration in the form of information sharing, improved border security, and the prosecution of individuals who finance or assist FTFs. In order to effectively combat terrorism, it emphasizes respect for international law and human rights while putting these measures into action.[48]

UN security council resolution 2396 (S/RES/2396 [2017])

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[46] "S/RES/1267(1999)." *Undocs.org*, 2024, undocs.org/Home/Mobile?FinalSymbol=S%2FRES%2F1267(1999)&Language=E&DeviceType=Desktop&LangRequested=False

[47] Security, UN. "Resolution 1624 (2005) /: Adopted by the Security Council at Its 5261st Meeting, on 14 September 2005." *United Nations Digital Library System*, UN, 14 Sept. 2005, digitallibrary.un.org/record/556538?ln=en&v=pdf Accessed 4 Aug. 2024.

[48] "S/RES/2178 (2014) | Security Council." *Un.org*, 2014, main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/s/res/2178-%282014%29 Accessed 4 Aug. 2024.

On December 21, 2017, the United Nations Security Council issued Resolution 2396, which focuses on the threat presented by returning and relocated foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs). In order to stop terrorist travel, it exhorts member states to build biometric data systems, gather and exchange information, and improve passenger data analysis. In order to identify and thwart terrorist operations, the resolution places a strong emphasis on enhancing border security, criminal justice measures, and international collaboration. It also emphasizes how crucial it is to uphold international human rights standards while combating terrorist narratives and developing rehabilitation and reintegration plans for FTFs and their families.[49]

PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS TO SOLVE THE ISSUE

UN Global Counter- Terrorism Strategy (2006)

The four main pillars of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy are: addressing the conditions that encourage terrorism; preventing and combating terrorism; enhancing state capacities and UN system support; and guaranteeing respect for human rights and the rule of law. The strategy was established by resolution A/RES/60/288.

International Criminal Police Organisation (INTERPOL)

Through its Counter-Terrorism Directorate, Interpol combats cross-border terrorism by serving as a global center of intelligence on terrorist networks. It gathers and examines questionable data, including information on overseas terrorist fighters, and disseminates its findings to member nations. Interpol works with the UN to execute sanctions, like asset freezes and travel bans, against organizations connected to Al-Qaeda and the Taliban. With its communication network, databases on suspects, and stolen document protection, it improves border security and offers incident response teams to support terrorist attacks. [50]

North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO)

NATO combats cross-border terrorism through protection, response, and prevention, enhancing intelligence sharing, capacity building, and training, while collaborating with allies and organizations to strengthen global counterterrorism efforts and address asymmetric threats.[51]

African Union (AU)

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[49] "S/RES/2396(2017) | Security Council." *Un.org*, 2017, main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/content/sres23962017 Accessed 4 Aug. 2024

[50] *Future-Oriented Policing Projects* | INTERPOL COUNTER-TERRORISM | Interpol
[51] NATO. "Countering Terrorism." *NATO*, 5 Dec. 2023, www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_77646.htm

The African Union (AU) uses a comprehensive approach that includes multiple important steps to prevent cross-border terrorism. To improve member nations' capacity to combat terrorism, the AU creates financial intelligence units and national counterterrorism fusion centers. Its main goals include stopping the funding of terrorism and upending networks of illegal trafficking, such as the trade in illegal wildlife and mining, which provides funding for terrorism. The AU fosters regional collaboration and capacity building to bolster defenses against terrorism, enhancing security through member and ally cooperation.[52]

European Union (EU)

By encouraging social involvement and tackling the causes of radicalization, the EU seeks to avoid radicalization. It places a strong emphasis on an all-encompassing approach that includes judicial cooperation, intelligence exchange, and law enforcement. In addition to strengthening border security, safeguarding vital infrastructure, and upgrading reactions to terrorist threats and attacks are all part of the EU's counterterrorism activities. To prevent and counter terrorism, key activities include working with member states and outside partners, putting in place efficient counter-radicalization programs, and addressing extremist information on the internet. [53]

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Strengthening International Cooperation

International Cooperation can play a crucial role in combating Cross-Border Terrorism. Real-time information about terrorist activities, networks and threats can be shared among countries. When countries cooperate, awareness can be raised and in addition, a united front against terrorism can be created to isolate terror and ensure peace. Furthermore, international cooperation makes it hard for terrorist groups to operate and stick to their plans, for the reason that if countries collaborate and share information then terrorist actions will be investigated and preventable , reducing the threat of terrorist attacks globally. An example of successful cooperation is by EUROPOL, when the European Union's law enforcement agency encouraged EU member states in their defense against terrorism.

Diplomatic Engagement

Countries can exchange intelligence and plan their reactions to terrorist threats through diplomatic channels. Terrorists are unable to elude punishment thanks to diplomacy, which streamlines extradition accords and harmonises legal frameworks. Countries can work

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[52] "Stronger Regulation, Cross-Border Coordination Key to Stopping Terrorism across Africa Funded by Illegal Trafficking in Natural Resources, Speakers Tell Security Council | UN Press." *Press.un.org*, press.un.org/en/2022/sc15056.doc.htm

[53] "Counter Terrorism and Radicalisation." *Home-Affairs.ec.europa.eu*, 13 Dec. 2022, home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies/internal-security/counter-terrorism-and-radicalisation_en

together to address the underlying causes of terrorism such as radicalisation and instability, through international forums and organizations. Applying diplomatic pressure to countries that sponsor terrorism promotes adherence to international norms. In order to provide prompt, efficient answers, diplomacy also encourages the formation of international cooperations and collaborative task teams. All this considered, diplomatic involvement guarantees a cohesive and well-coordinated strategy to counter cross-border terrorism.

Technological Advancements

Technological advancements will impact intelligence gathering as well as the analysis of them. Technological advancements seem to have helped for the reason that we now have the ability to gather vast amounts of data from many platforms and analyze them with the aim to uncover patterns of terrorist activities. In addition, Artificial Intelligence (AI) can process data more efficiently than humans, identifying terrorist threats easier with much more accuracy. Lastly, countries´ communication becomes faster and easier, aiming for the cooperation of nations.

Capacity Building

Capacity Building enhances the ability of states to prevent, detect and respond to terrorist activities. Border security needs to be trained and informed in order to be able to intercept terrorists as well as they should be familiar with technology so as to have the ability to use drones, surveillance cameras and biometric systems which will ease monitoring of borders. Furthermore, standardizing anti-terrorism laws can close legal loopholes which terrorists exploit.

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