

General Assembly

Chairs: Natalia Botero, Ana Higuera

Topic 1: The issue of border control regulations

[Video](#) (this is about one specific situation)

[Resource #1](#)

[Resource #2](#)

Overview: Effective border control regulations are crucial to enact counter-terrorism measures, as crystallized by Security Council resolution 1373 (2001). Having such regulations is the first step towards preventing the movement of terrorists across borders and the illegal movement of goods and cargo. Managing borders, by land, water, or air, is difficult for some Member States. For example, land borders, which are long, are difficult to monitor, allowing illegal movement past the border to go unnoticed. Other problems arise as well, due to lack of resources (both financial and human), equipment, and overall cooperation in the government. Although this continues to be a problem, many organizations have proposed solutions to this problem, which goes along with preventing FTF (foreign terrorist fighters) travel. Such solutions include passport confiscation, the requirement for transit visas, and use of the databases of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) to screen for potential FTFs. Another vital tool in improving border security is advance passenger information (API). API is an electronic communications system that collects personal passenger data and basic flight details from airline carriers and sends the data to border-security authorities in the destination country before the flight arrives. This system allows authorities sufficient time to perform in-depth checks of all passengers (who are on watch lists). This reduces the delay time for the rest of the passengers on the flight. Moreover, Security Council resolution 2178 (2014) calls on all Member States to require airlines operating in their respective State to use the API system in such situations that threaten border security. Of course, problems such as fraudulent use of identity documents are harder to combat, as States lack specific and effective policies for this. All in all, we must continue to search for ways to solve this urgent issue in a timely manner.

Topic 2: The issue of governmental corruption and the promotion of transparency

[Video](#)

[Resource #1](#)

[Resource #2](#)

Overview: Government transparency is key to the welfare of a State's inhabitants, as well as the maintaining of strong ties with the other States. Corruption is an issue in a number of Member States, and it can occur in many forms such as bribery, trading in influence, and abuse of power; thus, it poses a threat to transparency and its many advantages. Steps have been taken to combat this problem, but certainly not enough. The same week of Kofi Annan's election as Secretary-General of the UN in January 1997, a declaration was made against corruption and approved by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and General Assembly. This declaration condemns all corrupt practices, requiring the Member States and other organizations to take action against the criminal activity of these corrupt governments. However, a declaration like this will only make a difference if action is taken to implement it. This issue has had mounting support for a number of years, prompting it to reach the highest levels of the world's political climate. Even the current President of the General Assembly, Miroslav Lajčák (Slovakia), has declared that battling corruption is vital to the 2030 Agenda, as it "stifled growth and development." In conclusion, we must put new ideas and solutions into motion in order to abolish corruption not only at a local scale but at a global scale as well. This way, we can promote transparency and solve the issue at hand.

Topic 3: The issue of human trafficking

[Video](#)

[Resource #1](#)

[Resource #2](#)

Overview: The *Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons* defines human trafficking as “the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.” Furthermore, this protocol, adopted in 2000, has been ratified by the majority of Member States, but actually implementing it has been somewhat problematic, since few criminals have been convicted and not many victims have been assisted or even identified. This is an appalling crime and a serious violation of basic human rights. Every single year, thousands of men, women, and children succumb to traffickers, and this affects almost every Member State. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has taken measures to solve this matter, like conducting research and raising awareness, promoting the Protocols, and enhancing partnerships and collaboration. Moreover, the Security Council adopted resolution 2331 in 2016, firmly condemning human trafficking, specifically in armed conflicts, where it frequently occurs. They emphasized that human trafficking contributes to other forms of organized crime, thus aggravating conflicts and causing instability. These measures stress the importance of solving this problem so therefore, we must capitalize on every opportunity we have to take action and come up with new solutions.
