



UNSC

United Nations Security Council

> **Combating Terrorist Organizations in the Middle East: Al-Qaeda, Hezbollah, Hamas and Taliban**

Presentation Letter

Since the 1990s the United Nations Security Council has been dealing with terrorism, although in the wake of the September 11th attacks in the United States, the UNSC has dramatically intensified its efforts on combating and preventing future terrorist attacks from occurring and to protect each sovereign UN member state. Before this event, terrorism was not considered an immediate threat as much as it is today, for before the attacks this tactic of violence had not been ubiquitous nor as forceful and as strongly represented as this “new” globalized world has influenced.

For this reason, we would like to present to the IX Fórum FAAP, the fierce and extremely relevant debate that tries to present a solution to counter terrorism, specifically focusing on acting terrorists organizations in the Middle East. This simulation will provoke the delegates to come up with solutions and methods to diminish the effects of terrorism across the world, pushing them to really become and represent their national interest and view this case with an international perspective. We hope that the simulation of the UN Security Council will develop a stronger understanding of what terrorism looks like, who is responsible, how the activity is organized, and each step involved in producing the ostentatious actions that are seen throughout the world.

Leading the simulation are three International Relations’ undergraduate students from FAAP. First, Bethsaira De Oliveira who is in her 4th semester and has served as a volunteer in the 2011 VIII Fórum FAAP in the International Court of Justice, treating the theme of French nuclear tests and the Rainbow Warrior Case. Second, Guilherme Callegaretti, is in the 7th semester and who in 2011 was an academic director of the Security Council in the VII FAAP Forum treating the theme, "The Advancement of Oil in Times of Civil War: The Question of Nigeria" as well as an academic director of the World Health Organization, treating the theme, "Public Policies for Family Health" in the V Fórum FAAP de Desenvolvimento, in Ribeirão Preto. In 2012, he was also an academic director of the Security Council in the VIII Fórum FAAP treating the theme, "The imminent expansion of nuclear weapons: the accession of new countries to the Additional Protocol to the Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT)". Third, Renan Fava Serafim, a 6th semester student, participated as an academic director of the Rio+20 UN

Conference about sustainable development, director at the VI Fórum FAAP de Desenvolvimento, in Ribeirão Preto, as a delegate American Model United Nations, and also as a delegate at the Harvard National Model United Nations – Latin America.

With this we would like to present the United Nations Security Council with a focus on acting terrorist organizations in the Middle East – specifically Al-Qaeda, Hamas, Hezbollah and Taliban – to the 2013 IX Fórum FAAP, wishing to contribute with information and knowledge about an important issue and gaining different perspectives about the same situation.

Sincerely,

Bethsaira De Oliveira

Guilherme Callegaretti

Renan Fava Serafim

Introduction

Terrorism unfortunately has spread all around the world. All continents suffer from its danger and it does not matter if you are a civilian, a policeman, or a soldier, any person can be a victim of an attack or of its consequences. Terrorism is characterized by its unpredictability, the enigma of whom will be the next victim and where is going to happen a new attack.

The United States of America has an organ called National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC)¹ that collects data about the activities and attacks of terrorist organizations all around the world in an annual report. The NCTC states 11,604 terrorist attacks in 72 countries, resulting in 49,901 victims. More than half of the victims killed by terrorists were civilians and more than 600 were children. It is relevant to note that the number of attacks raised 5% compared to the previous year, in 2009, which registered 10,969 attacks.²

Another study about terrorist organizations is the Global Terrorism Index (GTI)³, realized by the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP)⁴, using data from the Global Terrorism Database (GTB)⁵, which is developed by the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START). The GTI⁶ highlights statistics that all countries need to pay attention to. Since 2001, the number of terrorist attempts quadruplicated and a large group of researchers have stated that the United States' War on Terror exacerbated this rising danger instead of mitigating it. Steve Killeleam, IEP's executive president and founder, concluded: "After September 11th, the terrorist activity decreased to pre-2000 levels since the Iraq invasion, thenceforth the levels increased dramatically".⁷

In this study, IEP made a ranking considering the countries that presented the largest number of deaths and injured people, constructions damaged and number of attacks; Iraq, Pakistan, Afghanistan, India and Yemen are in the top five. Another interesting fact is that Iraq corresponds for one-third of terrorist deaths; and Iraq,

¹ NATIONAL COUNTER TERRORISM CENTER. *About the National Counter Terrorism Center*. Available at: <<http://www.nctc.gov/>>. Last access: 28 nov. 2012.

² IIP DIGITAL. *Relatório dos EUA sobre o Terrorismo cita ataques em 72 países em 2010*. Available at: <<http://iipdigital.usembassy.gov/st/portuguese/article/2011/08/20110819154745x0.1417614.html#ixzz2F3GhIzXk>>. Last access: 22 nov. 2012.

³ VISION OF HUMANITY. *Global Terrorism Index*. Available at: <<http://www.visionofhumanity.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/2012-Global-Terrorism-Index-Report1.pdf>>. Last access: 20 dez. 2012.

⁴ INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMICS AND PEACE. Available at: <<http://economicsandpeace.org/>>. Last access: 20 dez. 2012.

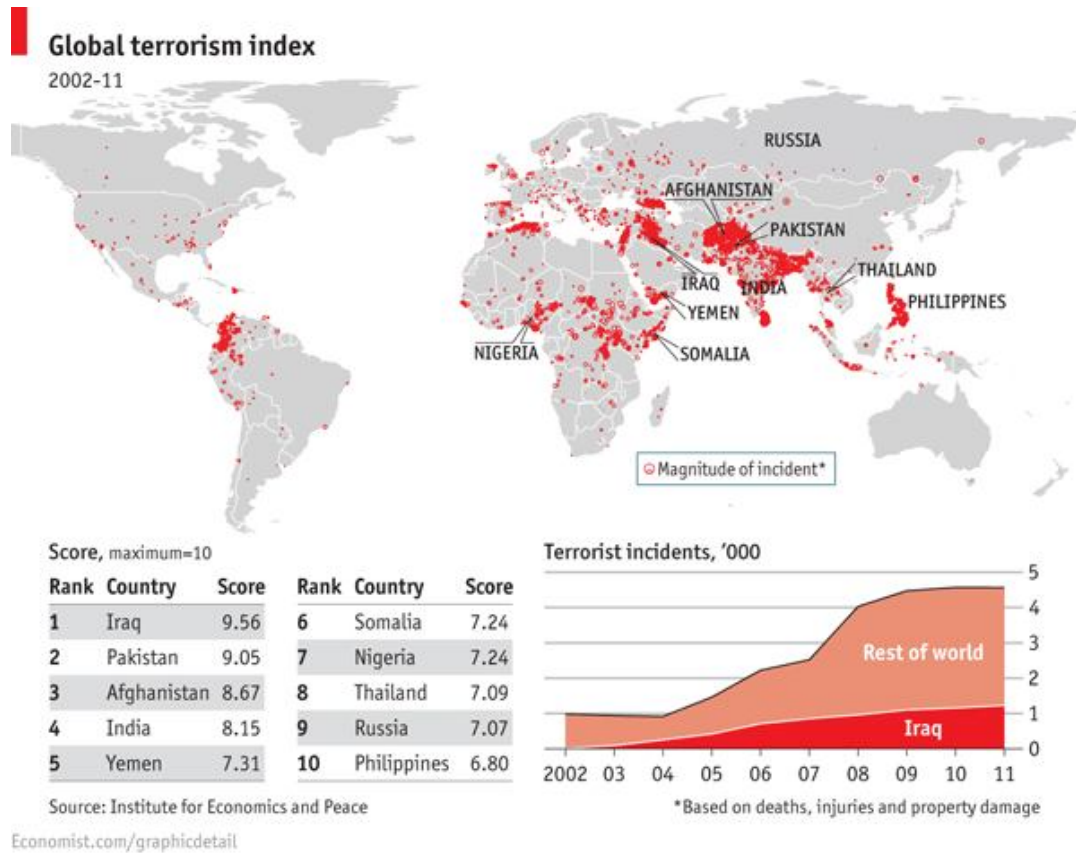
⁵ GLOBAL TERRORISM DATABASE. 2012. Available at: <<http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/>>. Last access: 20 dez. 2012.

⁶ APPS, Peter. *Atentados terroristas aumentam, mas causam menos mortes*. Available at: <<http://br.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idBRSPE8B301H20121204?pageNumber=1&virtualBrandChannel=0>>. Last access: 20 dez. 2012.

⁷ Idem.

Pakistan and Afghanistan for 50% of all fatal deaths. This research studied 158 countries and only 31 demonstrated zero effects from direct terrorist attacks since 2001. The research concluded that North America is still the safest region in the world even after counting the September 11 events.

Below a map published by The Economist⁸ using the data collected by the GTI:



In conclusion, these two studies show how terrorist activity is present throughout the globe, jeopardizing world peace. And it is up to the Security Council to analyze the available data in order to create a Draft Resolution in order to make decisions to revert this chaotic scenario.

History of the Committee

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) was created after World War II and to understand how it works it is necessary to comprehend the global context after its creation. Before the United Nations, there was an organism called the League of

⁸ THE ECONOMIST. *Terrorist attacks mapped around the world*. 2012. Available at: <<http://www.economist.com/blogs/graphicdetail/2012/12/daily-chart-0&date=2012-12-17>>. Last access: 20 dec. 2013.

Nations that had a branch named “The Council”, which worked as a security mechanism for all member countries. However, this organism had innumerable complications and setbacks that failed to produce the desired results; thus with the creation of the United Nations, the world understood the crucial importance of building a new and effective security apparatus that would be successful in resolving conflicts, avoiding the same mistakes that occurred in the League of Nations.⁹

Observing the importance of collective security, the United Nations Security Council was founded through article 7 of the Charter of the United Nations in 1945 where “action with respect to threats to the peace, breaches of the peace, and acts of aggression”¹⁰ are versed. According to chapter V of the charter, the United Nations Security Council¹¹ is a restricted organ of United Nations created to maintain international peace and security whose objectives are: peacekeeping, preserving international security, and investigating all disputes or situations that may result in international conflicts as well as recommending possible peace resolutions.¹²

To better promote the image of the world’s great powers at the time, the UNSC was formed with five permanent members: China, France, United Kingdom, United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR).¹³ These countries were chosen to be permanent members based on their international political position in the post-World War II scene, considered to be the victorious regarding this conflict. In 1991, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics was dissolved; consequently the Russian Federation substituted the place of the USSR in the Security Council.¹⁴

With this in mind, it is important to note the fact that the five members composing the UNSC, who detain the veto power, are the same countries authorized to possess nuclear weapons, according to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons¹⁵, also called the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). It is relevant to note that the

⁹ UN SECURITY COUNCIL. Available at: <www.un.org/Docs/sc>. Last access: 19 oct. 2012.

¹⁰ UNITED NATIONS. *Charter of the United Nations. Chapter III: Organs*. Available at: <<http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/chapter3.shtml>>. Last access: 19 oct. 2012

¹¹ UNITED NATIONS. *Charter of the United Nations. Chapter V: The Security Council*. Available at: <<http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/chapter5.shtml>>. Last access: 19 oct. 2012

¹² UN SECURITY COUNCIL. *Functions and Powers*. Available at: <www.un.org/Docs/sc/unsc_functions.html>. Last access: 19 oct. 2012.

¹³ UN SECURITY COUNCIL. *Members*. Available at: <<http://www.un.org/sc/members.asp>>. Last access: 19 oct. 2012

¹⁴ UNITED NATIONS. *Department For Disarmament Affairs*. Available at: <<http://www.un.org/Depts/dda/WMD/treaty/>>. Last access: 18 oct. 2012.

¹⁵ Idem.

veto power allows individual members to reject any proposal, meaning that if one member vetoes any proposal, clause, or resolution, the request is automatically dismissed. Voting needs the unanimous approbation (or absence) of the five members in order to pass.¹⁶

After World War II, the globe was divided among the world's great powers, the United States and the USSR, in a period referred to as the Cold War.¹⁷ Later in 1965, the Amendment 1991 was created and added to the Charter of the United Nations¹⁸, raising the number of non-permanent members from 6 to 10, representing a more equitable geographical distribution. Thus, there would be three countries representing Africa, two representing Western Europe and others, two representing the Asian continent, two Latin American, and one from Eastern Europe.¹⁹

In brief, the Security Council is composed of permanent and non-permanent members, where non-permanent members are chosen by the General Assembly upon candidacy. The duration of a non-permanent member mandate lasts two years, and half of the chairs are changed yearly. The sections of this year will be composed by the following non-permanent members: Argentina, Australia, Luxembourg, the Republic of Korea, and Rwanda.²⁰

Additionally, the Security Council presidency rotates every month, thus each participating member has the opportunity to be president, and the order of presidency follows the English alphabetical order. If one of the members violates the principles of The Charter of the United Nations, the Security Council, through the General Assembly, will have the power to recommend the exclusion or the suspension of a committee member.²¹

Moreover, the Security Council is the most important UN organ, having mandatory character, which means that it has authority over countries and their

¹⁶ UNITED NATIONS. *Provisional Rules Of Procedure Of The Security Council*. Available at: <<http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/scrules.htm>>. Last access: 15 oct. 2012.

¹⁷ GLOBAL SECURITY. *Cold War*. Available at: <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/ops/cold_war.htm>. Last access: 16 oct. 2012.

¹⁸ UNIC. *Carta das Nações Unidas e Estatuto da Corte Internacional de Justiça*. Available at: <http://unic.un.org/imucms/userfiles/rio/file/CartadaONU_VersoInternet.pdf>. Last access: 12 oct. 2012.

¹⁹ VESENTINI, José Willian. *Geografia Série Brasil*. 1. ed. - São Paulo: Ática, 2004. Chap. 14.

²⁰ UNITED NATIONS. *Members*. Available at: <<http://www.un.org/sc/members.asp>>. Last access: 19 oct. 2012.

²¹ Idem.

institutions.²² Apart from the Security Council's most important functions, the organism needs to investigate, mediate, and if necessary, intervene in conflicts among countries, always aiming for peaceful agreements and the population's welfare. The SC is also responsible for authorizing military operations for peacekeeping, imposing economic sanctions, military embargos and a ceasefire mandates in case of war.²³

A Security Council draft resolution will be approved if nine of the fifteen members agree with the draft resolution and vote affirmative. In the case of a veto from a permanent member the draft resolution dies, and this veto can be used to ban a simple article or the entire draft resolution. Particularly, the abstention of a permanent member does not configure a veto.²⁴

Lastly, apart from the fifteen official members, this year, the Security Council will have a set group of observing members, which do not have the power to vote on substance matters, the final resolution, but whose presence is of extreme importance to stimulate, inform, encourage, and develop all discussions about the agenda of our meeting.²⁵

History of the Problem

Terrorist incidents have happened in the world through the centuries, but in the 20th century they reached another level, most of it started being directed against tyrants' governors or their agents. In the first part of the century, terror were mainly used in revolutionary proposes; one example is the overthrow of the Russian government and the establishment of the communism. Later in the century, it turned to be more often the State sponsorship of terrorists in several forms, as unwitting or inconsequential support, like when democratic States have laws protecting civil rights and end up also providing a refuge for terrorists; unwilling, but the State do not have the capacity to take counter-terrorists effective actions, for instance in Colombia, the drug cartel; when the State

²² UNITED NATIONS. *Provisional Rules Of Procedure Of The Security Council*. Available at: <<http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/scrules.htm>>. Last access: 15 out. 2013

²³ UNITED NATIONS. *Functions and Powers*. Available at: <www.un.org/Docs/sc/unsc_functions.html>. Last access: 19 oct. 2013.

²⁴ Idem.

²⁵ CALLEGARETTI, G.; CORNETTA, A.; NÓBREGA, F. *Conselho de Segurança das Nações Unidas – A iminente expansão de armas nucleares e a adesão de novos países ao TNP*. Guia de Estudos VIII Fórum FAAP de Discussão Estudantil, 2012.

tolerate this groups because both have common interests, as with Libya or Sudan; or a full support, what happens when the State either want to use it as a direct instrument or when both have the same objectives, so the act together to achieve their goals, like in the Syrian and Iranian support of Hamas and Hezbollah.

In 1934 was taken the first attempt by the international community to define terrorism and take measures to combat it, proposed by the League of Nations. In its 1937 convention the Article 1.1 defined acts of terrorism as “criminal acts directed against a State and intended or calculated to create a state of terror in the minds of particular persons or a group of persons or the general public”²⁶.

Later, the UNSC passed a resolution that classified terrorist acts as:

*Criminal acts, including against civilians, committed with the intent to cause death or serious bodily injury, or taking of hostages, with the purpose to provoke a state of terror in the general public or in a group of persons or particular persons, intimidate a population or compel a government or an international organization to do or to abstain from doing any act, which constitute offences within the scope of and as defined in the international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism, are under no circumstances justifiable by considerations of a political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic, religious or other similar nature.*²⁷

The international community has been working through the United Nations specialized agencies and the General Assembly on combating terrorism and, in this sense, adopted 16 international legal instruments²⁸:

- 1963 Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed On Board Aircraft (“Tokyo Convention”) on the safety of aviation
- 1970 Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft (“Hague Convention”) on aircraft hijackings

²⁶ SIEGEL. *Criminology*. California, 2009. pg 328.

²⁷ UNITED NATIONS. *Security Council Resolution No. 1566*. 2004. Available at: <<http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N04/542/82/PDF/N0454282.pdf?OpenElement>>. Last access: 10 jan. 2013.

²⁸ UNITED NATIONS. *The Role of the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate in the International Counter-Terrorism Effort*. Available at: <<http://www.un.org/en/sc/ctc/docs/presskit/2011-01-presskit-en.pdf>>. Last access: 15 feb. 2013.

- *1971 Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation (“Montreal Convention”) on acts of aviation sabotage such as bombings aboard aircraft in flight*
- *1973 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes Against Internationally Protected Persons on attacks on senior government officials and diplomats*
- *1979 International Convention against the Taking of Hostages (“Hostages Convention”)*
- *1980 Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (“Nuclear Materials Convention”) on unlawful taking and use of nuclear material*
- *Amendments to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material*
- *1988 Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports Serving International Civil Aviation, supplementary to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation*
- *1988 Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation on terrorist activities aboard ships*
- *2005 Protocol to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation*
- *1988 Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf on terrorist activities on fixed offshore platforms*
- *2005 Protocol to the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf*
- *1991 Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection provides for chemical marking to facilitate detection of plastic explosives, e.g., to combat aircraft sabotage*
- *1997 International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings*
- *1999 International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism*
- *2005 International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism*

Since the 1990s, the UNSC is taking more efforts on fighting terrorism. It took actions against States that sponsor terrorism, such as Libya (1992), Sudan (1996), and the Taliban (1999, extended to al-Qaida in 2000). Although, greater actions started occurring after the September 11 attacks on the United States.

The immediate aftermath of this event was the establishment of the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) by the Security Council Resolution 1373. This committee

is responsible for monitoring the implementation of resolution 1372 (2001). This resolution requires countries to implement many measures combating terrorism in their own country, in their region and around the world, including:

- *Criminalize the financing of terrorism;*
- *Freeze without delay any funds related to persons involved in acts of terrorism;*
- *Deny all forms of financial support for terrorist groups;*
- *Suppress the provision of safe haven, sustenance or support for terrorists;*
- *Share information with other governments on any groups practicing or planning terrorist acts;*
- *Cooperate with other governments in the investigation, detection, arrest, extradition and prosecution of those involved in such acts; and;*
- *Criminalize active and passive assistance for terrorism in domestic law and bring violators to justice.*²⁹

For supporting this committee, in 2004 the UNSC adopted the resolution 1535, creating the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED), which is divided in two sections: the Assessment and Technical Assistance Office (ATAO) and the Administrative and Information Office (AIO). Later, also was established the resolution 1540, seeking to prevent non-State actors of obtaining weapons of mass destruction.

In the 2005 September World Summit, the Secretary-General Kofi Annan, proposed a strategy based in five basic pillars: dissuading groups from resorting to terrorism; denying terrorists the means to carry out an attack; deterring states from supporting terrorist groups; developing state capacity to prevent terrorism; and defending human rights in the context of terrorism and counter-terrorism.³⁰ Based on this, in 2006, the General Assembly adopted the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/RES/60/288), which was the first time the Member States agreed in consensus on a common strategy against terrorism. Later in 2010 it was reviewed,

²⁹ SECURITY COUNCIL COUNTER-TERRORISM COMMITTEE. Available at: <<http://www.un.org/en/sc/ctc/>>. Last access: 27 oct 2012.

³⁰ UNITED NATIONS. *Action to counter-terrorism: Security Council Resolutions*. Available at: <<http://www.un.org/terrorism/sc-res.shtml>>. Date accessed: 28 oct. 2012.

condemning all forms and manifestations of terrorism, “by whomever, wherever, and for whatever purposes.” This resolution reaffirmed the main responsibility of the Member States in implementing the Global Strategy, and also the importance of the role of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF), which was established by the Secretary-General in 2005.

Statement of the Issue

The September 11th events shocked the world demonstrating the dangerous capacity of terrorist organizations. The World Trade Center, an enormous symbol of the United States, was destroyed and now the terrorist organizations are seen as threats to world peace. The United Nations quickly responded to the attack: on September 28th 2001, the Resolution 1373 was unanimously approved, creating the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) obligating all nations to criminalize help or assistance to terrorism groups.

This year, simulating the United Nations Security Council, we hope for the delegates to have stimulating and academically challenging discussions, while imagining and acting similarly how the Security Council would with the intent to combat the present threats that the international community faces.

After September 11th 2001, the Security Council approved twelve resolutions about preventing and fighting against terrorist acts, and before this date thirty-three had already been approved³¹. The last resolution passed in 1963 (2010)³² reaffirms the worry that the Security Council and the Counter-Terrorism Committee have regarding this situation, brainstorming and implementing measures to combat this danger.

The terrorist organizations have bases mostly in the Middle East, but can attack almost any country in the world. Because of this, the Security Council has the obligation to find the headquarters and the sources of these organizations in order to uproot them with the purpose of seeking and maintaining world peace.

Thus, the terrorist organizations that we are going to combat are:

³¹ *Idem*.

³² UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL. *Resolution 1963*. 2010. Available at: <[http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/1963\(2010\)](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/1963(2010))>. Last access: 29 oct .2012.

Hezbollah

Lebanese Shiites founded Hezbollah, or “Party of God” in Arabic, in 1982, in response to the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.³³

Nowadays, this group operates in the southern suburbs of Beirut, the Bekaa Valley and southern Lebanon³⁴. Hezbollah’s current leader is Hasan Nasrallah, a forty-six year old Lebanese who succeeded Abbas al-Musawi, in 1992, after being killed by Israeli forces. Nasrallah is the party’s third general secretary and silently boasts that this organization is the only Arab force ever to have defeated Israel.

Hezbollah has two arms. The first arm is the political branch, which includes access to and consists of a TV station, cabinet minister, parliamentary bloc, and with Iranian help, Hezbollah organized the Lebanese Shiite minority into a national force. Working as a political party, Hezbollah always aligns with the Syrian-dominated government, Palestinians, Shiites, and some groups of Christians. Exerting their influence, Hezbollah brought to the poorest Shiite communities a network of schools and clinics.³⁵

The second arm of Hezbollah provides support to several Palestinian terrorist organizations and a great number of local Muslim and Christian militias in Lebanon. This support includes, funding, explosives, covert provision of weapons, guidance and training³⁶. In 2005, Hezbollah was the target of massive peaceful protests, including United Nations, to disarm the group. But this in vain for Hezbollah refused and declared that arms were only to defend themselves against Israel.³⁷

In order to survive, Hezbollah depends on external aid and to prove this, lays the political and military help provided by Iran and Syria. Hezbollah is funded by private donations and profits from legal and illegal businesses, from Lebanese communities, in

³³ BRITANNICA. *Hezbollah*. Available at: <<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/264741/Hezbollah>>. Last access: 30 oct 2012.

³⁴ US DEPARTMENT OF STATE. *Foreign Terrorist Organizations: Chapter 6*. Available at: <<http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2011/195553.htm#hizballah>>. Last access: 30 oct 2012.

³⁵ MORLEY, Jefferson. *What is Hezbollah?* Available at: <<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/07/17/AR2006071700912.html>>. Last access: 30 oct. 2012.

³⁶ Idem.

³⁷ BRITANNICA. *Hezbollah*. Available at: <<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/264741/Hezbollah>>. Last access: 30 oct 2012.

all continents, that always donates money to the group; criminal groups, like Barakat Network³⁸, that finance Hezbollah with organized criminal activities; and private institutions, like the Lebanese Canadian Bank, that money laundered for Hezbollah³⁹.

The recent activities of Hezbollah are⁴⁰:

- In July 2006, Hezbollah attacked Israeli soldiers, kidnapping two, and killing three. This event started a conflict with Israel that lasted into August
- In 2008, Damascus' officials killed Imad Mughniyah, Hezbollah's military and terrorism chief. The group promised a huge retaliation that caused panic in the region.
- In 2011, four Hezbollah members were indicted by the U.N.-based Special Tribunal for Lebanon, for the assassination of Rafik Hariri, Lebanese Prime Minister, in 2005
- Also in 2011, al-Qaeda blamed Hezbollah for a bomb attack that killed six Italian soldiers.

Al-Qaeda

Al-Qaeda is an international terrorist organization that seeks to rid Muslim countries of western influence and re-install fundamental Islamic principles. Al-Qaeda translated means "the base" and this network was founded by Osama Bin Laden in 1988.⁴¹ Al-Qaeda's current leader is Ayman al-Zawahiri, a citizen of the Egyptian elite that graduated from Cairo University and who holds a doctoral diploma as a surgeon.

³⁸ Barakat Network is a criminal network operating in the tri-border area between Paraguay, Brazil, and Argentina.

³⁹ US DEPARTMENT OF STATE. *Foreign Terrorist Organizations: Chapter 6*. Available at: <<http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2011/195553.htm#hizballah>>. Last access: 30 oct. 2012.

⁴⁰ Idem.

⁴¹ BAJORIA, J. and Bruno G. *Al-Qaeda (a.k.a. al-Qaida, al-Qa'ida)*. Available at: <<http://www.cfr.org/terrorist-organizational/al-qaida-k-al-qaida-al-qaida/p9126#p4>>. Last access: 30 Oct. 2012.

Zawahiri became a part of the Islamic Jihad in 1979 when he traveled to Afghanistan in order to help the resistance movements to prevent Russia from occupying.⁴²

Al-Qaeda believes and advocates for radical Islam which states that governments must behave and act according to Muslim Law, Sharia. In particular they believe and support the idea of the Muslim Jihad which is a holy war to remove Western influence in Muslim areas that have been influenced such as Saudi Arabia and Palestine for example, as well as the formation of the Caliphate, the believe successor of Muhammad that is to conquer the rest of the non-Muslim world and remove western influence.⁴³

Furthermore, Al-Qaeda finances its actions from money gained mainly with the help of financial facilitators that ask for donations from individuals, mosques, and charities.⁴⁴ To the surprise of many, Osama Bin Laden did not finance the operations for he had no inheritance or substantial sources of income that would lead to such, but gaining the sympathy of the people, many contribute financially.

Regarding Al-Qaeda's location and bases, there is no headquarters but this group has worked primarily in Pakistan and spent some time in Afghanistan before moving back to tribal Pakistani cities after the attacks of September 11. The "headquarters" would be in Pakistan, taking into consideration that there are underground cells spread within about one hundred countries throughout the world.⁴⁵ Lastly, Al-Qaeda's is responsible for the attempted bombing of a Detroit bound Northwest Airlines flight departing from Boston in 2009, the bombings in the London public transportation system in July of 2005, the bomb attacks on commuter trains in Madrid, Spain in March 2004, and the infamous hijacking attacks of four American planes known as September 11th.

The death of Osama Bin Laden accelerated the process to turn Al-Qaeda is a most decentralized organization. In life, Bin Laden authorized many terrorists groups to

⁴² BIO. *Ayman al Zawahiri Biography*. Available at: <<http://www.biography.com/people/ayman-al-zawahiri-241182>> Last Access: 30 Oct. 2012.

⁴³ ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE MIDDLE EAST. *Al Qaeda*. Available at: <<http://www.mideastweb.org/Middle-East-Encyclopedia/al-qaeda.htm>>. Last Access: 30 Oct. 2012.

⁴⁴ GREENBURG, D; ROTH, J; WILLE, S. *National Commission on Terrorist Attacks upon the United States: Al-Qaeda's Means and Methods to Raise, Use, and Move Money*. Available at: <http://govinfo.library.unt.edu/911/staff_statements/911_TerrFin_Ch2.pdf> Last Access: 30 Oct. 2012.

⁴⁵ NATIONAL COUNTER TERRORISM CENTER. *About the National Counter Terrorism Center*. Available at: <<http://www.nctc.gov/>>. Last access: 28 nov. 2012.

use the “brand” Al-Qaeda, turning these groups, in subsidiaries. His intention was to improve the influence of Al-Qaeda all around world, having new allies; give advices to improve their actions; and have an organization that will keep strong even with the death of the most important leadership.⁴⁶

Hamas

Hamas is a the most substantial and significant military and political movement in Palestine founded in 1987 with the purpose of being a branch of the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt, but in 1988 it became an official group and movement that steered away from nonviolence and from the Muslim Brotherhood. Hamas’ general leader is Khaled Meshaal. Khaled Meshaal is the head of a leadership body other than the Hamas authority exercising control over what happens, he is the one who makes the orders of what to do and how to fulfill them. During the formation of Hamas, Meshaal lived in Kuwait and eventually led the Kuwaiti branch of Hamas before going to Jordan and leading that chapter, before expulsion by the Jordanian King in 1999 leading him to Doha, Qatar where he abandoned his family and lastly ending in Damascus, Syria where he currently resides.

Hamas believe in Palestinian nationalism and Islamic fundamentalism, encouraging the destruction of Israel, replacing the Palestinian Authority with a fundamentally Islamic one, and installing Allah over all of the territory. Hamas gets its money from the government’s public funds because Hamas is to lead the PA, the Palestinian Authority which is an administrative organization created to govern the West bank and the Gaza strip. Besides the public funds at the group’s disposal, Hamas also receives money from expatriates and from private donors from oil-rich states such as Saudi Arabia.

Hamas over the course of history has operated in Gaza, West Bank and in Israel. The Gaza Strip and West Bank are enclaves so because Hamas leads the Palestinian Authority, they function in the predominantly Palestinian areas. Hamas is responsible for a wide variety of attacks using rockets, small arms, mortars, and suicide bombers,

46 CARRANCA, Adriana. *Bin Laden se preocupava com 'marca' Al-Qaeda*. Available at: <<http://www.estadao.com.br/noticias/impresso,bin-laden-se-preocupava-com-marca-al-qaeda--989211,0.htm>>. Last access: 12 apr. 2013.

which have caused Israel to increase the construction of barriers between Israel and Palestinian regions.⁴⁷

Afghan Taliban

Taliban means “students” in Pashto, and it is an Islamic fundamentalist militant movement formed by Pashtun tribesmen, that is located in Afghanistan and Pakistan. It was created late in the 80’s when the Soviet Union was controlling Afghanistan. By this time, the militia was supported by Pakistan’s Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) and also the U.S.

When the communist regime fell, in 1992, the country started to be on a political instability, and that contributed for the rise of more militant movements. In 1994 the Taliban took the power, and also many fundamentalist measures in order maintain an Islamic State, including several against women rights.

The Taliban were accused of supporting terrorists organizations, including Al-Qaida and its leader, Osama bin Laden. So, in 2011, after the 9/11 attacks, the U.S. led a NATO invasion and overthrow them from the government.

As the Taliban was overthrown, they started to be an insurgency group, fighting against the Afghan government and the ISAF (International Security Assistance Force). They started recruiting members in Pashtun areas, in Afghanistan and Pakistan, launching a “jihad” (war on religious proposes). Their main money supply comes from the opium production, it represents 93% of the world production and it is 50% of the Afghan GDP (Gross Domestic Product). They are also accused of still getting support from the Pakistani government and their leaders are Sami ul Haq, Fazal-ur-Rehman, and Mullah Mohammed Omar.

Since 2006, the Taliban started increasing their attacks, especially after the NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) took command on combating the insurgents. Their tactics of attacks basically consisted in using suicide bombers and

⁴⁷ MASTERS, Jonathan. *Hamas*. 2012. Available at: <<http://www.cfr.org/israel/hamas/p8968#p9>>. Last access: 30 Oct. 2012.

improvised explosives. In the first half of 2011 about 1462 civilians were killed, which means the deaths raised 15%, according to the United Nations.

Pakistani Taliban (Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan – TTP)

The TTP was formed in 2007, and is located in the FATA (Federal Administrative Tribal Areas), in Pakistan. It is considered the Pakistani Taliban because many of its members fought in the “War in Afghanistan”, mostly alongside with the Afghan Taliban. Also, both organizations interpret Islam in the same way, and are predominantly Pashtun, although, their goals and their leadership and structure are completely different. And they do not have officially any affiliation, just share some common terrorist tactics.

The Pakistani Taliban is an umbrella organization of many militant groups, so it is considered that it has a lack of central command. It was founded under the leadership of Baitullah Mehsud, and after his death, in August 9th, Hakimullah Mehsud started leading it, and Wali Ur Rehman is also one of the leaders. Their main goal is to overthrow the Pakistani government, so they also fight against the Pakistani Armed Forces.

They get support from the al-Qaida, which has a global terrorist network, and a huge operational experience. The TTP raise funds mostly by kidnapping for ransom, and stealing military equipments, which are sold in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Since its foundation, the group has taken several terrorist acts, including a suicide attack on an American military base in Khowst, Afghanistan, in 2009; a suicide bombing attack against the American Consulate in Peshawar, Pakistan in 2010; also in 2010, they attempted to detonate a bomb in New York City’s Times Square; and they are suspected of being involved in the murder of Benazir Bhutto, a former Pakistani Prime Minister, in 2007.

Considerations

Bearing in mind what was previously presented in this study guide and each delegate's own research, manners of combating acting terrorist organizations must be discussed. Terrorist organizations includes groups that commit violent acts against people - such as deadly attacks, or taking hostages, "*with the purpose to provoke a state of terror in the general public or in a group of persons or particular persons, intimidate a population or compel a government or an international organization to do or to abstain from doing any act*"⁴⁸ – and they must be stopped.

Taking that into account, the delegates need to find ways of disrupting the terrorists' networks so it may be possible to prevent new attacks. Important aspects to address are: whether or not the financing of these groups should be interrupted, identifying sources of capital that fund them, in other words, how they get their money and who helps them; military operations that could be taken, acquiring information on each group's headquarters and cells, the position that the United Nation's should take, considering if economic sanctions are enough; and also thinking about the possibility of negotiations with these groups.

Some countries are more affected by groups that use terrorist tactics than others, although, any country is a possible target. Because terrorists' attacks cause many deaths, this serious issue is being raised. There are many acting terrorist groups in the world; meanwhile, in this committee the discussion is about a few in the Middle East (al-Qaeda, Hamas, Hezbollah, and Taliban). Thus, the delegates must know specifically about each of them, for instance: what their goals are; their *modus operandi* (many might perform terrorist attacks just to call people's attention through the media); how they are financed; where their headquarters and main cells are located; their ability to attack; and other information, however, global strategies are also important to keep in mind.

It is important that the debates does not remains fixed on biased or extremist points of view, for the main goal is to find a way to make our world less violent and to respect human rights. Also, delegates should consider what the United Nations has done so far regarding this issue, such as the creation of the UN Action to Counter Terrorism,

⁴⁸ UNITED NATIONS. *Security Council Resolution No. 1566* . 2004. Available at: < <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N04/542/82/PDF/N0454282.pdf?OpenElement>>. Last access: 15 feb. 2013.

which includes the CTC (Counter-Terrorism Committee), which is a subsidiary body of the UNSC.

This committee's topic is very complex and there is a lot to be reasoned, thus we expect the delegates to write satisfactory *Draft Resolutions*. In addition, each delegate must have material to work with and on during the debates, although we understand that there is a time limit for the discussion.

Position Papers

The *Position Paper* is very important for the delegates because it is the opportunity to summarize his or her understanding about the topic, as well to propose possible solutions for the issue at hand and also for peers to consult on other's foreign policy.

Initially, the delegate should write about how the matter has been handled in his/her country, if attacks have occurred in his/her territory, if there are cells of acting terrorist organizations, and measures that have been taken on combating these organizations. This is essential for understanding how your nation is involved with the topic.

Lastly, it is fundamental to mention what your country is planning to do, its official position regarding the topic, as well as personal ideas about how to solve this, mentioning some solutions that you may have found, always respecting your nation's official position.

After writing the text, make sure that it follows these standards: the committee's symbol in the superior left side; the national emblem/national flag in the superior right side; the full name of the country in the center bolded; the signature of both ambassadors at the bottom of the page in Times New Roman, 12, single spaced. Remember that the Position Paper should not have more than one (1) page.

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