



*WEMUN All-Star  
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**International Criminal  
Police Organization  
(INTERPOL)**

**#BACKGROUND GUIDE**

# HISTORY OF THE COMMITTEE

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The **International Criminal Police Organization (ICPO or INTERPOL for short)** is an international police force which fights cross-border crime. Interpol is not a traditional law enforcement organization because it is not responsible for enforcing the laws of a particular city, state, nation, or region. Rather, its aim is to enable and facilitate cooperation between separate police forces among its 190 member nations.<sup>1</sup> As a result, it focuses on crimes whose scope spans national borders. It does so through four major pathways. First, Interpol maintains an international crime database which is used to share information with cooperating law enforcement agencies.<sup>2</sup> Second, Interpol provides various forms of support to these agencies such as providing crisis response teams and developing their capabilities. Third, Interpol supports research and innovation of new tools and services to bolster law enforcement effectiveness. Fourth, Interpol identifies crimes and criminals and shares this information with relevant enforcement bodies. Notably, Interpol cannot arrest people except in very specific cases. It can only share information to regional law enforcement bodies which are then responsible for arresting criminals.

Interpol was conceived during the First International Criminal Police Congress in 1914. Held in Monaco, the Congress was a meeting of police officers, lawyers, and judges from 24 countries.<sup>3</sup> They met to discuss arrest procedures, identification techniques, centralized international criminal records and extradition proceedings. Their efforts led to the formal establishment of the International Criminal Police Commission in 1924 under Dr. Johannes Schober in Vienna of present-day Austria.<sup>4</sup> The organization effectively crumbled when it fell under the control of Nazi Germany during World War II until it was reestablished in Paris, France, in 1946. In 1956, Interpol became a fully independent body by collecting dues from its members and maintaining investments to sustain itself financially. In 1990, Interpol moved its General Secretariat, or headquarters, to its present location in Lyon, France.<sup>5</sup> Since then, Interpol has made several advances to better handle and use developing

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<sup>1</sup> - "Overview," *About INTERPOL*, accessed July 01, 2016, <http://www.interpol.int/About-INTERPOL/Overview>.

<sup>2</sup> - "Priorities," *About INTERPOL*, accessed July 01, 2016, <http://www.interpol.int/About-INTERPOL/Priorities>.

<sup>3</sup> - "History," *About INTERPOL*, accessed July 01, 2016, <http://www.interpol.int/About-INTERPOL/History>.

<sup>4</sup> - Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> - "History," *About INTERPOL*, accessed July 01, 2016, <http://www.interpol.int/About-INTERPOL/History>.

technologies. These changes include the creation of the I-24/7 online communications system and database, the creation of a 24/7 Command and Coordination Centre in 2003, and the opening of the Global Complex for Innovation in Singapore.<sup>6</sup>

The organizational structure of Interpol is divided into three parts based on their functions. First is the strategic arm which consists of the **General Assembly** and the **Executive Committee**. The General Assembly consists of delegates from each member state and is responsible for creating the policy actions for the organization. As delegates at MUNUC, you will be representing member countries in our simulation of the General Assembly. The Executive Committee is elected by the General Assembly and is responsible for general oversight, long-term policy considerations, and implementations of the General Assembly's policy measures. The second general piece is the implementation arm, consisting of the General Secretariat and the National Central Bureaus. The General Secretariat is the central headquarters of Interpol from where worldwide operations are coordinated. The National Central Bureaus are institutions in each member country run by each nation's law enforcement bodies. They are responsible for linking regional police with Interpol's global network and are particularly important for contributing to the international crime database. The final branch of Interpol is the oversight branch which consists of advisers and the Commission for the Control of Interpol's Files (CCF). Advisers provide guidance and the CCF ensures that Interpol's data collection operations do not violate ethical standards of fundamental human rights.<sup>7</sup>

**National Central Bureaus** play a key role in the organization's intelligence operations. National Central Bureaus link the international collaborative and intelligence capabilities of INTERPOL with national police and investigative forces on the ground. They contribute to Interpol's criminal databases and cooperate on international operations, investigations, and arrests. They are focused on regional work because combining the resources of several member nations dedicated to the same problem can greatly increase the effectiveness of the effort to combat crime.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> - Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> - "Structure and Governance," *About INTERPOL*, accessed July 01, 2016, <http://www.interpol.int/About-INTERPOL/Structure-and-governance>.

<sup>8</sup> - "National Central Bureaus," *About INTERPOL*, accessed July 01, 2016, <http://www.interpol.int/About-INTERPOL/Structure-and-governance/National-Central-Bureaus>.

Interpol has faced criticism throughout its history for several reasons. People have accused its operations at times of being corrupted by nations looking to advance their political agendas. The Russian government issued a "Red Notice" against a government protestor for "hooliganism" in 2010 which led to his arrest in Spain. It took six months for the charges to be dropped.<sup>9</sup> The organization in the past was considered a model of the failures of bureaucracy: slow, inefficient, and outdated. While this has certainly changed for the better in the last two decades, the concern remains that Interpol might fall behind as crime becomes increasingly sophisticated.<sup>10</sup>

Interpol is not a true global police force because it notably does not have the power to arrest people, but rather works to coordinate efforts between sovereign police departments. It must operate under the laws of the countries within which it works on each mission and supports the law enforcement of that nation in making arrests. Nonetheless, its scope is truly global. Between 2013 and 2016, Interpol coordinated with law enforcement bodies in 103 countries to halt the illicit online sale of medical substances and devices. Operation Pangea IX saw the seizure of 53 million USD of goods consisting of 12.2 million fake and illegal medicines and 270,000 illicit medical devices. These enormous numbers show a massive operation which spanned the borders of at least half the countries in the world. Interpol's importance in coordinating this operation through information gathering and sharing cannot be understated.<sup>11</sup> Interpol has a distinguished history and with the exponential growth of the Internet and rise of globalization, its importance in the fight against crime can only continue to increase.

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<sup>9</sup> - Jake Simons, "Interpol: who polices the world's police?" *The Telegraph*, May 8, 2014, <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/culture/books/10801997/Interpol-who-polices-the-worlds-police.html>.

<sup>10</sup> - Gary Feinberg, "New Structures, Problems and Prospects in Policing," *Criminal Justice International*, May 2000, <http://www.cjimagazine.com/archives/cjic1fb.html?id=209>.

<sup>11</sup> - "Online Sale of Fake Medicines and Products Targeted in INTERPOL Operation," *INTERPOL News and Media*, June 09, 2016, accessed July 01, 2016, <http://www.interpol.int/News-and-media/News/2016/N2016-076>.

## Topic A: The Financing of Terrorist Groups

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### Statement of the Problem

**Terrorism** is a complex term that has not been universally defined. While there is not a general consensus on what constitutes terrorism, it usually entails the use of violence to promote a social, political, or religious end. Not all countries agree on what organizations should be called terrorist organizations, and this poses problems when discussing terrorism in a global context in an international body. However, there are general consistencies that allow states to find a common ground to formulate a coordinated plan of action. In general, terrorist groups range in size, from individual actors, who often conduct what has been coined lone wolf terrorist attacks, such as the recent stabbing in a London Underground transit station by an individual, to large organizations that control large swaths of land and a self-implemented infrastructure.<sup>12</sup> The wide-range of operations poses a myriad of complications, but directed efforts need to be tailored to the specific case at hand.

Most acts of terrorism necessitate funding. Funding is used to coordinate operations as well as for organizing and maintaining groups. Individual terrorist actors may require minimal finances in order to fulfill operations while large-scale organizations like the **Islamic State (IS)** need a constant flow of large revenues in order to carry out its procedures and practices. For example, the 2005 London subway attacks are estimated to have cost as little as 8,000 USD, and the Madrid train attacks of 2004 may have only cost 10,000 USD.<sup>13</sup> However, large-scale organizations like IS may require upwards of 20 billion USD annually to fund all of its operations and programming.<sup>14</sup>

While there is a large range of funding goals for the various terrorist groups, funding is typically needed to meet similar long-term costs. A primary cost is member development and salaries. Additionally, many logistical components of terrorist activities require large sums of money to effectively and

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<sup>12</sup> - Vikram Dodd, “‘Lone Wolf’ Terror Attacks Hard to Stop, Says Security Expert,” *The Guardian*, December 6, 2015, <http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/dec/06/lone-wolf-terror-attacks-impossible-to-stop-says-security-expert>.

<sup>13</sup> - “Financial Action Task Force Terrorist Financing Report,” *Financial Action Task Force*, 2008, <http://www.fatfgafi.org/media/fatf/documents/reports/FATF%20Terrorist%20Financing%20Typologies%20Report.pdf>.

<sup>14</sup> - Shadee Ashtari, “Here’s How Much the War Against ISIS Could Cost American Taxpayers,” *The Huffington Post*, September 26, 2014, [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/09/26/syria-iraq-war-isis-costs\\_n\\_5883898.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/09/26/syria-iraq-war-isis-costs_n_5883898.html).

efficiently coordinate. Organizations need to maintain camps and safe-houses as well as smuggling routes. Traveling between locations and sites also requires significant funding. In order to ensure long-term organization success and viability, many funds are allocated to media outreach and recruitment. Bringing in new members and spreading their fundamental beliefs are a key goal of terrorist groups, so maintaining websites, publishing various forms of media, and establishing connections to recruit are all actions carried out by many terrorist groups today in order to achieve long-lasting power.<sup>15</sup>

For example, Islamic State is a contemporary large-scale terrorist group that requires significant funding; its goal of creating an Islamic caliphate that stretches from Iraq to Syria cannot happen with just a pittance. IS brings in about 1.4 to 1.5 billion USD in revenue per year, which comes from jihad taxes, stolen bank loots, oil production, donations, and ransom payments. While this sum may seem adequate to meet its variety of needs, in actuality, IS's budget is significantly below the estimated costs of running its controlled territory, not to mention the costs of its planned future expansion.<sup>16</sup> Not including reconstruction and repair costs, IS controlled Iraqi provinces cost about 2.6 billion USD just to run. This does not include estimates for IS territories in Syria. To retain any semblance of a legitimate state, as per its stated mission, IS would need to increase current revenues to meet its operational costs as well as the necessary infrastructural development and repair costs. Thus, future success of the group relies heavily on the ability to meet its financial needs.

Because terrorist groups require funding to carry out their operations, a primary area of focus for countries and organizations combating terrorism is to shut down as many funding channels as possible. Once funding is reduced, terrorist groups' power to perform violent and malicious acts is also reduced. Understanding how and where terrorist groups are receiving funds is an essential step in mitigating the terrorist problem and restoring regional and global peace.

## Sources of Funding

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<sup>15</sup> - "Financial Action Task Force Terrorist Financing Report," *Financial Action Task Force*, 2008, <http://www.fatfgafi.org/media/fatf/documents/reports/FATF%20Terrorist%20Financing%20Typologies%20Report.pdf>.

<sup>16</sup> - Mona Alami, "The Islamic State and the Cost of Governing," *Carnegie Endowment for International Peace*, September 14, 2014, <http://carnegieendowment.org/sada/?fa=56534>.

Funding for terrorism comes from diverse sources and varies widely between different organizations. Generalized rules about funding are few and far between because no two terrorist organizations are perfectly similar and all organizations are constantly evolving to stay ahead of law enforcement. It is important to find sources because it is a potential method of stopping organizations and operations from carrying out their goals. Furthermore, finding sources can help reveal the political leanings of the group, which is valuable information for counterterrorism efforts. This information can reveal motives, potential targets, and several other details.

A highly problematic source of terrorist funding is state sponsors. A **state sponsor of terrorism** is a country which has repeatedly and directly supported terrorist activity. The U.S. State Department has a list of state sponsors of terrorism which currently includes Iran, Sudan, and Syria.<sup>17</sup> However, the US' list is considered incomplete and potentially politically motivated because a country's designation as a state sponsor results in sanctions.<sup>18</sup> Sanctions by the U.S. prohibits trade and prevents significant economic interactions between the U.S. and the sanctioned country, so they can easily be used as a crippling political tool. One example of a politically motivated decision was Iraq's removal from the list in 1982 so American arms manufacturers could sell the country weapons in its war with Iran.<sup>19</sup> As such, the U.S.' list is not comprehensive. Other countries which have been suspected of being sponsors of terrorism include but are not limited to India,<sup>20</sup> Pakistan,<sup>21</sup> Saudi Arabia,<sup>22</sup> Turkey,<sup>23</sup> and the United States itself. A sponsor would generally be assumed to be financing terrorism but in practice, sponsors might instead give resources, training, or turn a blind eye to the actions of a terrorist group.<sup>24</sup> It is more difficult to find and regulate such activities because they are more ambiguous but are just as important

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<sup>17</sup> - "Country Reports on Terrorism 2014," *US State Department Bureau of Counterterrorism*, June 2015, <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/239631.pdf>.

<sup>18</sup> - Dennis Jett, "Why the State Sponsors of Terrorism List Has So Little to Do With Terrorism," *Huffington Post*, June 29, 2015, [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/dennis-jett/state-sponsors-of-terrorism-list\\_b\\_7658880.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/dennis-jett/state-sponsors-of-terrorism-list_b_7658880.html)

<sup>19</sup> - Ibid.

<sup>20</sup> - Mateen Haider, "RAW involved in terrorist activities across Pakistan: foreign secretary," *Dawn*, May 2005, <http://www.dawn.com/news/1181908>.

<sup>21</sup> - Sultan Munadi, "Coalition Vows to Regain Afghan Town Seized by Taliban," *The New York Times*, July 2006, [http://www.nytimes.com/2006/07/18/world/asia/18cnd-afghan.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2006/07/18/world/asia/18cnd-afghan.html?_r=0).

<sup>22</sup> - Edward Clifford, "Financing Terrorism: Saudi Arabia and its Foreign Affairs," *Brown Political Review*, December 2014, <http://www.brownpoliticalreview.org/2014/12/financing-terrorism-saudi-arabia-and-its-foreign-affairs/>.

<sup>23</sup> - Kim Sengupta, "Turkey and Saudi Arabia alarm the West by backing Islamist extremists the Americans had bombed in Syria," *Independent*, May 2015, <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/middle-east/syria-crisis-turkey-and-saudi-arabia-shock-western-countries-by-supporting-anti-assad-jihadists-10242747.html>.

<sup>24</sup> - Matthew Levitt, "Hezbollah Finances: Funding the Party of God," *The Washington Institute*, February 2005, <http://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/view/hezbollah-finances-funding-the-party-of-god>.

as direct funding. In this case, the information gathering and sharing capabilities of INTERPOL are highly important because coordinating information between regional law sharing bodies can improve success in stopping these less clear-cut cases of state support.

External funding can also come from sources like charities or direct donations. Approximately a third of terrorism funding cases in the US involved direct donations from individuals, while a 2002 report showed that Saudi Arabian charities were the most important source of funding for Al-Qaeda.<sup>25</sup> Charities in the Islamic world are even more common fundraising tools because charitable giving is a fundamental tenet of Islam. Although a majority of charities are benevolent, there are still several which support the funding of terrorism. However, regulating charities can be difficult because legitimate charities may not even know that some of their funds are being used to fund terrorism.<sup>26</sup>

Terrorism can also be self-funded through three means: internal funding, criminal fundraising actions, and taxing or extorting civilians. Internal funding includes terrorists using their personal money to fund their operations. This type of funding is especially common for small-scale operations involving a few individuals. As previously discussed, individual terrorist attacks are relatively cheap, often requiring only a few thousand dollars to execute.<sup>27</sup> It is especially problematic to regulate this type of funding because the money was often acquired through legitimate means like job salaries or legal businesses. Regulating suspicious individuals and/or businesses requires great scrutiny because of the legitimacy of businesses and the relatively small amounts of money being used. This regulation has contributed to the growing debate on the tradeoff between security and privacy as described in the section below.

On the opposite end of the spectrum, criminal fundraising is generally done by organized terrorist groups rather than through isolated cells. In the past, ties to states was a significant source of illegal funding, but pressure from the international community through sanctions has led to a decrease in such funding.<sup>28</sup> Criminal fundraising is a very broad term which covers everything from financial fraud

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<sup>25</sup> - Financial Action Task Force, "Emerging Terrorist Financing Risks," *Financial Action Task Force*, October 2015, <http://www.fatf-gafi.org/media/fatf/documents/reports/Emerging-Terrorist-Financing-Risks.pdf>.

<sup>26</sup> - Eben Kaplan, "Tracking Down Terrorist Financing," *Council on Foreign Relations*, April 2006, <http://www.cfr.org/terrorist-financing/tracking-down-terrorist-financing/p10356>.

<sup>27</sup> - "Financial Action Task Force Terrorist Financing Report," *Financial Action Task Force*, 2008, <http://www.fatf-gafi.org/media/fatf/documents/reports/FATF%20Terrorist%20Financing%20Typologies%20Report.pdf>.

<sup>28</sup> - Ibid.



to sales of illicit substances. For example, drug sales were a huge fundraiser for Al-Qaeda which is centered in the Golden Crescent of Central Asia, the world's largest opium producing region.<sup>29</sup> Another example of illicit goods sales is IS's black market oil sales.

Large organizations also raise funds by extorting civilians. IS fashions itself as a pseudo-state which taxes civilians in the territory that it controls. In fact, taxes and other extortions are the single largest contributor to IS's fundraising operations. This source of funding is arguably one of the greatest stabilizing factors for IS because it is virtually impossible to regulate criminal activity when the laws are set and enforced by the criminals themselves. The success of this fundraising scheme for IS reflects its overall success because citizens must either support the organization or face the ruthless consequences. The only practical way to stop this source of funding is to retake IS territory so it is resistant to traditional information gathering and law enforcement practices.<sup>30</sup>

Transfers of funding between individuals and organizations often takes place through the traditional banking system, through shell corporations, or money laundering techniques. Experts estimate that up to ten% of the global GDP is transferred through money laundering. Consequently, searching for sources of terrorist funding through brute force methods would be nearly impossible given the massive number of funds to scan.<sup>31</sup>

One highly important money laundering technique in South Asia is **hawala**, a virtually untraceable technique where one party gives money to a middleman. The middleman then instructs an associate to give an equal sum of money to the end recipient. This involves no actual transfer between the primary donor and the end recipient and no paper trail which makes it very difficult to trace. The amounts of money exchanged are sufficient to finance operations costing a few thousand US dollars which complicates their regulation even more.<sup>32</sup> All means of terrorist funding are difficult for law

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<sup>29</sup> - Haroun Mir, "Afghanistan's opium problem will keep growing," *Al Jazeera English*, October 21, 2014, <http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/2014/10/afghanistan-opium-problem-wil-20141021132123166673.html>.

<sup>30</sup> - Pamela Engel, "ISIS has found a new moneymaking method that's 'impervious to sanctions and air raids'," *Business Insider*, December 2015, <http://www.businessinsider.com/isis-taxation-extortion-system-2015-12>.

<sup>31</sup> - Eben Kaplan, "Tracking Down Terrorist Financing," *Council on Foreign Relations*, April 2006, <http://www.cfr.org/terrorist-financing/tracking-down-terrorist-financing/p10356>.

<sup>32</sup> - Patrick Jost and Harjit Sandhu, "The Hawala Alternative Remittance System and its Role in Money Laundering," *US Department of Treasury*, September 2010, <https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/terrorist-illicit-finance/Documents/FinCEN-Hawala-rpt.pdf>.

enforcement to stop for several reasons: they may be untraceable, large-scale, or even supported by state actors. Nonetheless, any solution INTERPOL creates must address the many disparate means of terrorist funding.

## **Security Versus Privacy**

Many efforts to combat terrorist activity have come in the form of increased security measures, such as increased surveillance in public areas, phone tapping, and increased access to financial records. The fear of terrorist activities has led many states to increase their use of such methods. However, the willingness to track people and sift through personal information has made many wary of privacy violations. The concern rests on the idea that increased surveillance and privacy breaches will neither improve our security nor lower the threat of terrorism.

For example, after the Brussels terrorist attacks in March of 2016, the Belgian government was criticized for not taking adequate preemptive counter-terrorist measures. The criticism was in response to the fact that Belgian authorities had detained, without taking more stringent action, one of the suspects from the Paris attacks of November 2015 just a few days prior to the onslaught of attacks in Brussels.<sup>33</sup> The attacks in Paris killed over 130 people and injured hundreds more, prompting a major reconsideration of counter-terrorism strategies in Europe and across the globe.<sup>34</sup>

While the threat of terrorism is apparent, countries have taken a variety of approaches to prevent terror attacks. France has passed legislation in support of expansive surveillance measures, including phone taps and hidden cameras. After the Paris attacks, the government increased security to include increased police presence and increased abilities to perform searches. The United Kingdom also has extensive surveillance legislation, and the US has increased government abilities to monitor terrorist activity through the Patriot Act, which was passed under the Bush administration in response to the

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<sup>33</sup> - "2015 Paris Terror Attacks," *CNN*, April 13, 2016, <http://www.cnn.com/2015/12/08/europe/2015-paris-terror-attacks-fast-facts/index.html>.

<sup>34</sup> - *Ibid.*

9/11 attacks in 2001.<sup>3536</sup> Essentially, measures that sacrifice privacy for security are implemented in order to improve governmental oversight of terrorist activity. Increased surveillance can lead to greater access to terrorist funding channels and planned schemes.

While there has been a general increase in government actions to combat terrorism, there have been concerns raised about the legitimacy and efficacy of such actions. Many people do not like the potential for the government to pervade the private sphere and limit personal liberties. Consequently, in some places, like Germany, there has been some active resistance to upping surveillance capacities. Reminiscing on historical authoritarian East Germany, citizens have expressed concerns that allowing the government to access more information could devolve into a more invasive and freedom-restricted society.<sup>37</sup> For example, discovering where terrorist money is held requires increased information sharing by banks and the government. This necessitates sifting through suspicious activity, making regular civilians' finances more open to scrutiny and deliberation.

Some other problems facing global counter-terrorism strategy is the coordination and implementation efforts by all nations involved. Enhancing security systems necessitates resources that are currently lacking in many places. Other problems include how information should be shared and monitored between states. Specifically, how can solutions effectively address the coordination problem that arises due to the varying governments and banking systems across the globe? Should security measures be a national issue or a regional collaboration?<sup>38</sup> How do regional bodies such as the European Union make concerted efforts when they have to consider the wide-variety of interests of their member states? How do developing countries sufficiently implement counter-terrorist measures if they do not have the same resources or governmental authority to enforce monitoring programs? All of these questions have been of utmost importance in recent discussions, and the complexity of an interconnected world only complicates the matter further.

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<sup>35</sup> - Missy Ryan, "Brussels Attacks Rekindle Privacy vs. Security Debate in Europe," *Washington Post*, March 26, 2016, [https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/brussels-attacks-rekindle-privacy-vs-security-debate-in-europe/2016/03/26/60a68558-f2dc-11e5-a2a3-d4e9697917d1\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/brussels-attacks-rekindle-privacy-vs-security-debate-in-europe/2016/03/26/60a68558-f2dc-11e5-a2a3-d4e9697917d1_story.html).

<sup>36</sup> - "The USA PATRIOT Act: Preserving Life and Liberty," *Department of Justice*, <https://www.justice.gov/archive/11/highlights.htm>.

<sup>37</sup> - Missy Ryan, "Brussels Attacks Rekindle Privacy vs. Security Debate in Europe," *Washington Post*, March 26, 2016, [https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/brussels-attacks-rekindle-privacy-vs-security-debate-in-europe/2016/03/26/60a68558-f2dc-11e5-a2a3-d4e9697917d1\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/brussels-attacks-rekindle-privacy-vs-security-debate-in-europe/2016/03/26/60a68558-f2dc-11e5-a2a3-d4e9697917d1_story.html).

<sup>38</sup> - Ibid.

## History of the Problem

Terrorism has always required funding at any level. Using terror as a weapon for religious, political, or social change has been occurring arguably since the beginning of civilization; razing a village or hurting members of a certain social group can certainly send a powerful message. Until quite recently, terrorism was largely the domain of states or small scale organizations. An early modern example of state-sponsored terrorism could be European privateers in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. Many states commissioned privateers to carry out attacks on cargo-carrying ships of rival nations without the rival nation accusing them of foul play. The privateers were allowed to take some of the spoils from the raided ship for themselves.<sup>39</sup> An example of a small-scale group in history was the Sicarii Zealots of the 1<sup>st</sup> century C.E. This group consisted of Jewish extremists who undermined Roman rule in modern-day Israel by assassinating prominent supporters of the regime.<sup>40</sup> In both of these cases, there was no need for sophisticated funding schemes. Privateers were indirectly funded by states and the Zealots hardly needed any funding at all because their weapons and operations were simplistic. These examples highlight the simplicity of the field of terrorism financing through most of recorded history. However, funding schemes have become far more complex in conjunction with the development of more sophisticated and multi-layered terrorist organizations over the past hundred years. We will consider these problems through a number of case studies of terrorist groups across the world.

### Case Study: The Irish Republican Army (IRA)

The Irish Republican Army was not one singular organization, but a series of Irish paramilitary groups which conducted terrorist attacks in support of freeing Ireland from British rule. It was originally an arm of the political group Sinn Fein which fought for Irish independence in the United Kingdom. The group was successful in the 1919 Irish War of Independence in gaining freedom from the British for part of Ireland; however, Northern Ireland remained under English rule. In the ensuing decades, divisions began to develop between the nonviolent and violently dissatisfied portions of the group. These divisions eventually resulted in the formation of the Provisional IRA (PIRA).<sup>41</sup>

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<sup>39</sup> - "Privateer," Encyclopedia Britannica Online, December 17, 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/topic/privateer>.

<sup>40</sup> - Amy Zalman, "Sicarii: First Century Terrorists," *About.com*, <http://terrorism.about.com/od/groupsleader1/p/Sicarii.htm>.

<sup>41</sup> - Paul Arthur, "Irish Republican Army (IRA)," *Encyclopedia Britannica*, <http://www.britannica.com/topic/Irish-Republican-Army>.

PIRA continued its war against the British throughout the United Kingdom using violent means until 1998. Throughout this time, it maintained a few different avenues of fundraising. Members extorted civilians and engaged in racketeering, which involves fraudulent business dealings. The money was generally used to fund the organization's paramilitary, violent activities.<sup>42</sup> The more unique part of their fundraising came through support from Irish-Americans. The Irish Northern Aid Committee (NORAID) is an Irish-American fundraising group which supported the PIRA. Representatives of NORAID claim that it only donated for humanitarian aid like supporting families, but there are many links which suggest that the money was used to support terrorism.<sup>43</sup> The problem with regulating such transfers is that distinguishing between charitable donations and terrorism support often involves significant violations of privacy because donations to terror are a drop in the bucket of true charitable donations which amounted to 373 billion USD in 2015.<sup>44</sup>

### **Case Study: Hezbollah and Hamas**

Hezbollah is a political party and militant group based in Lebanon whose mission is to resist the influence and power of Israel and the Western world within Lebanon. It maintains strong ties with the governments of Syria and Iraq, both of which have been found to be supporting Hezbollah financially.<sup>45</sup> Iran in particular is a strong supporter of the organization: at one point in 2005, the state was funneling up to 200 million USD into the organization. Much of this funding comes not through cash but through physical goods like weapons. This has significant implications for fighting the source of funding.<sup>46</sup> Iran also directly funds allegedly humanitarian charities associated with the organization. Although definitive links have not been found, there is evidence linked to other terrorist groups which shows a possible way charities can support terrorism.

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<sup>42</sup> - Ibid.

<sup>43</sup> - Jonathan Duffy, "Rich Friends in New York," *BBC*, 2001, <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/1563119.stm>.

<sup>44</sup> - "Giving Statistics," *Charity Navigator*, 2015, <http://www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm/bay/content.view/cpid/42>.

<sup>45</sup> - Jonathan Masters and Zachary Laub, "Hezbollah," *Council on Foreign Relations*, January 2, 2014, <http://www.cfr.org/lebanon/hezbollah-k-hizbollah-hizbullah/p9155>.

<sup>46</sup> - Ibid.

State-sponsored terrorism is a buzzword often thrown around by the media and politicians. However, in the case of Hezbollah, the focus was certainly warranted at one point as the amount of funding it received from other countries was substantial. However, Iran severely reduced its funding to Hezbollah as a result of its economic problems combined with the international trade sanctions it faced in recent years.<sup>47</sup> When Iran's sanctions were lifted, Hezbollah's financial problems went away because it was able to resume its operations as they were prior to the sanctions. This showed that cutting off the source of funding can greatly inhibit operations for terrorist organization.<sup>48</sup>

Hamas is a Palestinian fundamentalist organization that has facilitated terrorist activities in the past via funding received through a variety of charities. These charities run committees, mosque classes, student unions, sport clubs, and other organizations the group runs all serve as places where Hamas activists recruit Palestinian youth. Funding charities provides a credible excuse for countries who can claim to be ignorant of their illicit activities. In a way, it is a form of money laundering because it "cleans" the money of any traces of its origin.<sup>49</sup> Iran was also shown to be providing logistical and operational support to Hezbollah operatives and leaders through training and various other venues.<sup>50</sup>

### **Case Study: Al-Qaeda**

Al-Qaeda is a terrorist organization based in Afghanistan and Pakistan with operations across the world. It was started by Osama bin Laden and was responsible for many significant terrorist attacks in the last few decades including the September 11 attacks in 2001.<sup>51</sup> Although its operations have recently been overshadowed by the Islamic State, Al-Qaeda very much remains a worldwide influence and threat to security.

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<sup>47</sup> - Ranstorp Magnus, "Hezbollah's Calculus after the Iran Nuclear Deal," *Combating Terrorism Center at West Point*, January 19, 2016, <https://www.ctc.usma.edu/posts/hezbollahs-calculus-after-the-iran-nuclear-deal>.

<sup>48</sup> - Ibid.

<sup>49</sup> - Matthew Levitt, "Charitable Organizations and Terrorist Financing," *Washington Institute*, March 19, 2004, accessed July 01, 2016, <http://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/view/charitable-organizations-and-terrorist-financing-a-war-on-terror-status-che>.

<sup>50</sup> - Matthew Levitt, "Hezbollah Finances: Funding the Party of God," *Washington Institute*, <http://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/view/hezbollah-finances-funding-the-party-of-god>.

<sup>51</sup> - Paul Lebnikov, "Who Is Osama Bin Laden?" *Forbes*, September 14, 2001, <http://www.forbes.com/2001/09/14/0914whoisobl.html>.

Al-Qaeda has several major sources of funding, including private donations, state sponsors, and drug trafficking revenues. One significant source until his death was Osama bin Laden himself. Bin Laden came from a very wealthy Saudi Arabian family, with his personal wealth estimated to be upwards of 100 million USD. He personally bankrolled many operatives and operations the organization carried out.<sup>52</sup> There have been many reports, some of which have been confirmed, that both the Saudi government and other individuals have been sponsoring the organization.<sup>53</sup> Al-Qaeda was also a player in the global heroin trade because it operated in the Golden Crescent of poppy production in Afghanistan.<sup>54</sup> Finally, mismanagement of Afghanistan's government funding has supported Al-Qaeda because much of the money which the United States gave to the government has ended up in the hands of terrorists. America propped up the Afghani government during its war in the region. It gave significant funding and resources to the government, but CIA reports indicate that Al-Qaeda fighters have been found with American vehicles, equipment, and other resources which had been given to the Afghani government.<sup>55</sup>

Al-Qaeda has been a major terrorist organization for over two decades now. Its methods of funding have been key to this longevity because of their diversity and stability. The drug trade represents an enormous center of profit and despite the international law enforcement community's best efforts, remains highly lucrative. Funding from individuals is also important for Al-Qaeda because it is difficult to regulate (as discussed under the IRA). Individual funding generally occurs in small amounts which is difficult to even detect, let alone control.

### **Case Study: Islamic State (IS)**

The Islamic State is a terrorist group based in the Middle East with a global reach. After its emergence in 2014, IS poses one of the greatest threats to the stability of the Middle East. Over the past three years, it has spread using military force to occupy and currently controls significant portions

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<sup>52</sup> - Ibid.

<sup>53</sup> - Eric Lichtblau and Eric Schmitt, "WikiLeaks Archive - Arab States and Terror Funds," *New York Times*, December 5, 2010, <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/12/06/world/middleeast/06wikileaks-financing.html>.

<sup>54</sup> - Lebnikov, "Who Is Osama Bin Laden?"

<sup>55</sup> - Matthew Rosenberg, "C.I.A. Cash Ended Up in Coffers of Al-Qaeda," *New York Times*, March 14, 2015, <http://www.nytimes.com/2015/03/15/world/asia/cia-funds-found-their-way-into-al-qaeda-coffers.html>.

of Iraq and Syria. IS has also been referred to as Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), and Daesh. Its self-proclaimed mission is to establish a worldwide caliphate under its fundamental expression of Wahhabi Sunni Islam.

Like Al-Qaeda, IS has many different sources of funding. A significant source of funding has been black market oil revenue.<sup>56</sup> IS occupies a great deal of oil-rich territory in Iraq and Syria and contains many extraction and processing facilities. The organization is estimated to have been selling upwards of 1 million USD of oil every day. Its most significant source of income for IS has been the extortion of civilians living in IS controlled areas.<sup>57</sup> IS levies taxes on income, businesses, and on religious minorities. These are its major funding operations but it also receives donations from individuals and commits smaller scale financial crimes such as racketeering.<sup>58</sup>

IS is similar to Al-Qaeda insofar as they both use varied sources of funding for financial stability. The troubling problem IS presents is that it has motivated detached terrorists in other countries to carry out individual operations. Individuals like the shooter in the San Bernardino County shooting in early 2016 and the Paris attacks earlier the same year were all linked to IS but were based in the countries they attacked. Regulating finances can only go so far in stopping such individuals because the money trail between the organization and the individuals is usually sparse or non-existent. With the development of increasingly sophisticated investigative techniques, it is certainly possible to follow these once blurred money trails. However, this problem again brings up the question of how to draw the line between security and privacy.

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<sup>56</sup> - Sarah Almukhtar, "ISIS Finances Are Strong," *New York Times*, 2015, accessed July 01, 2016, [http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2015/05/19/world/middleeast/isis-finances.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2015/05/19/world/middleeast/isis-finances.html?_r=1).

<sup>57</sup> - Ibid.

<sup>58</sup> - Cam Simpson and Matthew Philips, "Why U.S. Efforts to Cut Off Islamic State's Funds Have Failed," *Bloomberg*, <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2015-11-19/why-u-s-efforts-to-cut-off-islamic-state-s-funds-have-failed>.



## Past Actions

The complex issue of terrorist financing has been addressed on multiple levels over the past 20 years, including individual nations, the United Nations, and INTERPOL itself. Many individual states have established systems to counteract terrorism, and states have also worked together on an international level to create a general system that addresses the international problem posed by terrorist organizations. Since terrorist groups are often not limited to a single state, it is important that a plan of action is created on a global level so that coordination and cooperation can best ameliorate the shared consequences of terrorism. Some examples of past actions include times when INTERPOL led investigations and information sharing, greater coordination between UN bodies, and international systems to standardize and enhance criminalization efforts.

### INTERPOL-Specific Action

As the leading international body designed to coordinate police efforts, INTERPOL is central to this effort. The **Counter-Terrorism Fusion Centre** (CTFC) is a sub-unit of INTERPOL which primarily “investigates the organizational hierarchies, training, financing, methods and motives of terrorist groups.”<sup>59</sup> The CTFC works to coordinate international investigations and serves as a medium for information-sharing and intelligence gathering. For example, INTERPOL resolution AGN/68/RES/2 calls member states to take serious measures to combat terrorist financing activities, including refraining from supporting terrorist activities, reporting terrorist financing that comes into their purview, and putting terrorist offenders on trial.

In 2013, the CTFC launched **Project Foreign Terrorist Fighters** which is responsible for sharing information between countries regarding suspected terrorists attempting to cross borders. Because terrorist organizations need to build strong numbers in order to carry out attacks as well as to maximize funding potential, stopping terrorists from reaching their destination—whether that be for training or to partake in an operation—is one of the best ways to address the root cause of terrorism.

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<sup>59</sup> - “Counter-Terrorism Fusion Centre,” *INTERPOL*, accessed October 28, 2016, <http://www.interpol.int/Crime-areas/Terrorism/Counter-Terrorism-Fusion-Centre>.

If recruited members are unable to travel to their desired location, then it is more difficult for the organization as a whole to fulfill tasks and expand its influence.

The success of INTERPOL and the CTFC can be seen through empirical events when data sharing across international lines prevented terrorist financing and operative efforts. For example, in October of 2014, a known terrorist offender was stopped in Lebanon after an alert was made through INTERPOL. The person was intending to cross the border into Syria. However, Belgian officials used INTERPOL to inform other states of the known offender.<sup>60</sup>

Similarly, in December 2014, Spain had targeted three individuals responsible for terrorist activities. Later, after an INTERPOL alert, the three were stopped at a border checkpoint between Bulgaria and Turkey. If not apprehended, the three had plans to join terrorist rebels in Syria.<sup>61</sup> The past success of the CTFC shows that greater information sharing proves necessary if international terrorism is to be mitigated. When countries work together, everyone benefits. Without international collaboration, efforts are more inefficient and lack synchronization that prevents timely and auspicious actions.

While the CTFC works on a global scale, in order to optimize efforts and collaboration, it has also created various regional projects that aim to address issues particular to a certain area. Projects are wide-ranging and are focused in the Middle East and North Africa, the Americas, Africa, Europe, Central Asia, and Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands.<sup>62</sup> For example, IS operates primarily in the Middle East, so the Middle East regional project would target IS more heavily and work to limit its operative and financial mobility in the region. This is done by bringing together law enforcement personnel from around the region to increase coordination and collaboration. INTERPOL's various operational regions encompass a large portion of the globe. Through the CTFC and its various global and regional efforts, INTERPOL hopes to reduce the scope of terrorist influence and terrorist ability to augment funding.

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<sup>60</sup> - "Foreign terrorist fighters," *INTERPOL*, accessed October 28, 2016, <http://www.interpol.int/Crime-areas/Terrorism/Foreign-terrorist-fighters>.

<sup>61</sup> - Ibid.

<sup>62</sup> - "Counter-Terrorism Fusion Centre," *INTERPOL*, accessed October 28, 2016, <http://www.interpol.int/Crime-areas/Terrorism/Counter-Terrorism-Fusion-Centre>.

## Other UN Efforts

As the leading international body, the UN plays a pivotal role in creating and monitoring systems that aim to inhibit terrorism around the globe. INTERPOL also works within a larger UN organization called the **Counter-Terrorism International Task Force (CTITF)**, established in 2005 to coordinate counter-terrorism efforts within the larger UN body itself. In 2009, the CTITF released a report titled "Tackling the Financing of Terrorism." The report analyzed data and consulted many expert organizations to ultimately produce statements about the formal financing of terrorist groups and subsequent recommendations for addressing them. The report notes that freezing assets of a person linked to terrorist activity as well as implementing sanctions against groups supporting illicit activities are difficult in multiple ways: First, identification of funds can prove problematic; second, freezing funds or issuing sanctions can pose a myriad of political and human rights dilemmas. Furthermore, halting the transfer of funds, while effective historically, can inhibit the overall goal of tracking the larger terrorist organization by monitoring larger-scale money transfers.<sup>63</sup> Since the passage of the resolution in 2005, the UN has led efforts to combat terrorism while avoiding the abridgement of personal liberties and invasion of privacy for people across the world.

The CTITF report also discusses the importance of criminalizing terrorist funding. It cites the 1999 **International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism (ICSFT)** that was the first attempt to create a formal system of criminalizing terrorist financing as a separate crime from an act of terrorism.<sup>64</sup> The ICSFT aimed to criminalize any attempt to collect or send funds to individuals or groups that intended to carry out terrorist acts. Since financing in itself is not illegal, the convention needed to establish a system of punishment for terrorist financing. This required creating the first general definition of terrorism. In defining terrorist financing broadly, the convention compelled states to prosecute offenders and to implement measures that will identify illicit transactions and create a greater transparency for financial transactions.<sup>65</sup>

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<sup>63</sup> - "Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Report," *Counter-Terrorism International Task Force*, October 2009, [http://www.un.org/en/terrorism/ctitf/pdfs/ctitf\\_financing\\_eng\\_final.pdf](http://www.un.org/en/terrorism/ctitf/pdfs/ctitf_financing_eng_final.pdf).

<sup>64</sup> - "International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism," *United Nations*, December 9, 1999, <http://www.un.org/law/cod/finterr.htm>.

<sup>65</sup> - Pierre Klein, "International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism," *United Nations*, 2009, [http://legal.un.org/avl/pdf/ha/icsft/icsft\\_e.pdf](http://legal.un.org/avl/pdf/ha/icsft/icsft_e.pdf).

The ICSFT had relatively little influence at first; however, after the attacks of 9/11, the Security Council issued Resolution 1373 (2001), which implemented key elements from the 1999 convention. Some viewed the Security Council action as overstepping its authority in attempt to be a lawmaking body, but others noted the strengthened system for combatting terrorism and its financing. The ICSFT has also spurred enhanced regional efforts as exemplified by the creation of the 2005 Council of Europe Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime and on the Financing of Terrorism (CETS No. 198). The convention further implemented parts of the 1999 convention to include more elements to combat terrorist financing.<sup>66</sup>

However, criminalizing terrorist funding requires the direct efforts of individual states, which is difficult for a global body to monitor.<sup>67</sup> INTERPOL can play an important role in creating a system of information-sharing that can help member states adhere to a more formal system of combatting terrorist funding. The report encourages collaboration on an international level so that states riddled with terrorist problems can still receive the adequate institutions, legislation, and training necessary to inhibit the financing of terrorist activity.<sup>68</sup>

However, if inhibiting terrorist funding should be done through halting money flow and increasing international collaboration, how can states detect suspicious activity and actually stop the transfer of money to terrorist organizations? There are two main ways in which terrorists can transfer money: wire transfers, the electronic transfer of money from one party to another, or physical relocation, wherein a person physically transports physical money.

This first method—wire transfers—is most problematic, as it requires monitoring systems to identify suspicious transfer activity and then the enactment of some sort of action to prevent its occurrence and penalize the responsible party. The CTITF states that most institutions comply with **anti-money laundering and combatting the financing of terrorism** (AML/CFT) requirements. Money laundering is the concealment of the origins of funds and/or illicit transfer. Yet, identification of suspicious activity and actual analysis and determination of terrorist activity are two different things. Not all institutions

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<sup>66</sup> - Ibid.

<sup>67</sup> - “Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Report,” *Counter-Terrorism International Task Force*, October 2009, [http://www.un.org/en/terrorism/ctitf/pdfs/ctitf\\_financing\\_eng\\_final.pdf](http://www.un.org/en/terrorism/ctitf/pdfs/ctitf_financing_eng_final.pdf).

<sup>68</sup> - Ibid.

can sufficiently link suspicious transfers to terrorism. This means that even if a transfer appears suspicious, often there is not sufficient evidence to prove that the transfer was intended for terrorist purposes. Furthermore, there is a loophole in the system that has not been adequately addressed: not all banks around the globe have the same mandates or requirements regarding the provision of information about the transaction's party.<sup>69</sup>

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has also helped states combat money laundering within their own borders. It has used the recommendations in the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) report to achieve this goal. The FATF report was released in 2012 and contains 40 recommendations that highlight weaknesses and needs for change in the international financial crime fighting community.<sup>70</sup> Many of these recommendations have been met today through past UN and domestic actions, including greater transfer transparency, increased preventative measures, harsher punishments, the establishment of powers for competent authorities, and increased international cooperation. The IMF tries to enforce these recommendations by doing work in three main areas: assessments of vulnerabilities in the financial sector, technical assistance to states in order to enhance anti-money laundering capabilities, and policy development to maximize the identification and abatement of terrorist funding.<sup>71</sup> While emerging technologies have given governments increased oversight over attempted money-laundering activities, it has also given new abilities to terrorist groups who can take advantage of limited government regulation and oversight in new and developing technologies.<sup>72</sup> Thus, international bodies still face the problem of creating appropriate protocol and monitoring measures that will reduce the abilities of terrorist groups to transfer money and thus disable their operations.

The second main method—physical transferral—often requires an individual or group to physically cross a border. The CTITF report notes that border officials often lack sufficient resources to apprehend individuals and has recommended that more resources are allocated to border control and

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<sup>69</sup> - Ibid.

<sup>70</sup> - "Financial Action Task Force 40 Recommendations," *Financial Action Task Force*, February 2012, [http://www.fatf-gafi.org/media/fatf/documents/recommendations/pdfs/FATF\\_Recommendations.pdf](http://www.fatf-gafi.org/media/fatf/documents/recommendations/pdfs/FATF_Recommendations.pdf).

<sup>71</sup> - "Anti-Money Laundering/Combating the Financing of Terrorism – Topics," *International Monetary Fund*, accessed October 28, 2016, <https://www.imf.org/external/np/leg/amlcft/eng/aml1.htm>.

<sup>72</sup> - "Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Report," *Counter-Terrorism International Task Force*, October 2009, [http://www.un.org/en/terrorism/ctitf/pdfs/ctitf\\_financing\\_eng\\_final.pdf](http://www.un.org/en/terrorism/ctitf/pdfs/ctitf_financing_eng_final.pdf).

detection, as well as increased coordination between border officials and other national and international authorities.<sup>73</sup> After recent attacks in Europe, some which relied on free movement across state borders under the European Union's Schengen framework, the European Commission has looked into ways to increase security. Many countries within the EU have implemented stronger security measures within their individual state. However, security measures can be controversial as some view state autonomy in the anti-terrorism fight as a means of jeopardizing the EU system.<sup>74</sup> Furthermore, the scarcity of financial resources to implement stronger security systems is a particularly difficult problem for less advanced nations. While efforts have been made, formal international systems remain preliminary in this area.

The implementation of sanctions by the UN through the Security Council can halt funding for a terrorist organization by preventing it from acquiring more resources. This can be difficult to do for a terrorist organization since many financial transactions with terrorist groups are often covert or off the books. However, the implementation of sanctions certainly does increase the difficulty of travel and trade for a terrorist group. For example, UN Resolution 2253 (2015) applied sanctions to the Islamic State by extending existing sanctions placed on Al-Qaeda. The resolution was passed by the Security Council and reaffirmed past international anti-terrorism efforts. Specifically, the resolution called member states to freeze assets, ban travel, and place arms embargos on IS and associated groups through increased monitoring of financial transactions, especially those related to natural resources like oil.<sup>75</sup>

### **State-Specific Efforts**

In addition to working with other states through international bodies like the UN, individual states have implemented measures to increase surveillance and oversight of terrorist operations, including terrorist financing. One major example is the United States' **Patriot Act** of 2001, which aims to

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<sup>73</sup> - Ibid.

<sup>74</sup> - "After Paris, drawbridges up?" *The Economist*, accessed October 28, 2016, <http://www.economist.com/news/europe/21678832-schengen-system-open-borders-was-already-under-pressure-latest-terrorist-attacks-may>.

<sup>75</sup> - "Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2253 (2015), Security Council Expands Sanctions Framework to Include Islamic State in Iraq and Levant," *United Nations*, December 17, 2015, accessed October 28, 2016, <http://www.un.org/press/en/2015/sc12168.doc.htm>.

decrease terrorist activity affecting the nation. Specifically, Title III of the Act addresses the prevention of terrorist financing. The first section, titled "Targeting Money Laundering and Funding of Terrorism," amends previous legislation by adding new measures for identification, such as giving the Secretary of the Treasury the ability to request special measures (outlined in section b) from financial institutions and domestic financial agencies. This increased authority pushes financial institutions to be more transparent to the federal government in transactions, especially with foreign entities.<sup>76</sup> The second section, titled "Bank Secrecy Act Amendments," amends the Bank Secrecy Act by requiring banks to report suspicious activity to intelligence agencies and creates harsher punishments for violations of the laws. Pieces of legislation in other nations similar to the Patriot Act aim to increase awareness of terrorist activity by increasing transparency and coordination between different institutions to best combat terrorist financing, as well as increase punishment for those who engage in criminal behavior. While INTERPOL cannot make any obligatory mandates, it can make suggestions and plans of action that can create shared systems of intelligence, reporting, and action.

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<sup>76</sup> - "US Patriot Act," *Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation*, accessed October 28, 2016, <https://www.fdic.gov/regulations/examinations/bsa/PATRIOT-Act.pdf>.

## Possible Solutions

The *Past Actions* section of this background guide has provided examples of what the UN and other bodies have done in the past to try to inhibit terrorist financing. While past efforts have been wide-ranging, there remains much more that must be done in order to eradicate the global threat of terrorism. The following subsections propose three general forms of action that the committee may consider during conference. They do not cover all forms of action nor do they delineate necessary routes for committee. Nonetheless, they do provide a general outline of the most effective solutions currently being weighed by the counterterror community.

### Enhancement of Technologies to Track Funding Sources and Destinations

Each country has a distinct capability to adequately track suspicious financing activities. While countries with advanced technological infrastructure have commensurate high-tech systems that can detect suspicious wire transfers, other countries lack surveillance systems and abilities to enforce laws that prevent such activities. Investing in these advanced technological capabilities makes countries better equipped to identify and prosecute terrorists. On the contrary, technological advancement can also enable terrorists to skirt governmental authorities and continue their operations.

A major problem with stopping terrorist activities is that terrorists can “go dark” on the Internet. Going dark is when terrorists use encrypted websites and chat rooms to discuss operations, including recruitment, attack planning, and financing, meaning that the government is unable to track content on some programs and allowing terrorist activity to thrive.<sup>77</sup> In order to gain more intel about operations, preventing terrorists from going dark will be extremely important. INTERPOL can help prevent this by working with local, regional, and international authorities to track activities. INTERPOL can gather, store, and share intel with member states so that encrypted activity can be shared once uncovered. In this sense, INTERPOL serves as the connection between the technological and policing components of terrorism.

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<sup>77</sup> - “How Terrorist Trends Evolve and How Financial Institutions Should Respond,” *ACAMSToday*, March 7, 2016, <http://www.acamstoday.org/how-terrorist-trends-evolve/>.



Furthermore, terrorist financing often involves bank transfers that can be detected by financial institutions. Increasing detection capabilities will be of paramount importance if the world is determined to minimize terrorist capabilities. The **Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication** (SWIFT) is a Belgian company that stores and transmits financial transactional information. It operates on a global scale, allowing countries across the world to access its records. Data are not publicly shared but some countries do have access to portions of SWIFT's data.<sup>78</sup>

After the attacks against the World Trade Center on 9/11, the US Department of the Treasury implemented the **Terrorist Finance Tracking Program** (TFTP) which aims to uncover suspicious transactions. In 2010, the US Treasury Department gained access to certain SWIFT files, allowing the US to search through suspected terrorist transactional records. Other countries have received similar privileges and have gained access to SWIFT files.<sup>79</sup> Even if governmental departments do not have full access to large portions of SWIFT's information, SWIFT operations allow over 11,000 banking and security organizations in over 200 countries to receive intelligence about suspected actors and groups.<sup>80</sup> Expanding SWIFT access and network sharing can speed up terrorist detection abilities and can allow financial institutions to increase coordination efforts. INTERPOL member states can use SWIFT and other information sharing systems as references when discussing technologies and agencies that advance terrorist detection. Specifically, countries can use SWIFT to locate the source, destination, and amount of transfer. Once discovered, government authorities can use the information to apprehend and then prosecute offenders. To enhance SWIFT and similar services, INTERPOL can highlight the importance of international cooperation in tackling terrorism, which is discussed in the following section.

### **Increasing International Coordination and Cooperation**

Because a lot of terrorist activities are financed by legitimate incomes, it is often hard for financial institutions to identify any suspicious money laundering or terrorist funding activity. However, when a violent attack is carried out, financial institutions are crucial in aiding the

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<sup>78</sup> - "Terrorist Finance Tracking Program," *U.S. Department of the Treasury*, accessed October 28, 2016, <https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/terrorist-illicit-finance/Terrorist-Finance-Tracking/Pages/tftp.aspx>.

<sup>79</sup> - Ibid.

<sup>80</sup> - "Discover SWIFT," *SWIFT*, accessed October 28, 2016, <https://www.swift.com/about-us/discover-swift?AKredir=true>.

government and police authorities in identifying records of suspected individuals. While financial institutions have been helpful in the past, further measures can be taken to enhance the reactivity of institutions and efficiency in adequately quelling terrorism activities. Financial institutions could form something along the lines of a Strategic and Tactical Response (STR) team that would be responsible for quick action after a terrorist plot. While financial institutions have in-house investigative units that can look into transactions after a terrorist event, there exists no standard across the board to ensure maximized efficiency and utility. A standardized team like ST would specialize in terrorist financing and would be responsible for immediate investigations following a terrorist event. They would be the first line of contact with government officials to increase coordination and efficiency.

Furthermore, standardized teams would review past responses to ensure maximized efficiency and accuracy in investigations. In efforts to prevent further homegrown terrorism activity that often cannot be identified through transactional records, this specialized group could work to implement monitoring initiatives that could better track subtle terrorism transactions and records.<sup>81</sup> Resistance by private institutions would be a potential problem, as a standardized system requires extra resources and compliance, which would place a financial burden on the institutions to implement such a system. Furthermore, financial institutions need to ensure some sense of client confidentiality, so nullifying this right in the case of terrorism may blur the line of personal privacy. Determining what transactions an institution will be expected to report may prove tenuous as some corporations will oppose regulation.

While INTERPOL cannot force countries (or companies) to implement these types of policies, it can have substantial influence in organizing a system that member states can employ. Since member states can tap into INTERPOL's shared information and technology systems, improving information sharing and databases, such as the STR team and SWIFT, can improve reactivity to terrorist activity and can give authorities the ability to track terrorist activity that may extend beyond or enter into their own jurisdiction. Because terrorism is often not contained within an individual

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<sup>81</sup> - Ibid.

state's borders, coordination and cooperation on a multilateral front can help mitigate the larger terrorist threat.

### **Recommendation of Sanctions to Other UN Bodies**

INTERPOL can make strong appeals to other UN bodies or countries individually to make **sanctions**, specifically by making recommendations to the United Nations Security Council. While resolutions passed in committee cannot command member states to participate, resolutions can make suggested courses of actions. If INTERPOL finds that preventing terrorist financing necessitates cutting off trade with states or actors funding terrorist operations, then there can be provisos in the resolution that states that members who choose not to abide by the resolution will be subject to similar sanction measures. The degree to which member states must comply with a resolution can be determined in committee, but some factors to consider for individual states include: the financial ability to implement resolution, the degree of threat terrorism plays within the specific state, and the economic impacts of suggested policies. While there is no legal authority in any resolution of this nature, if countries feel compelled to take a stringent stance, they can take joint actions against those who do not follow the proposed resolutions, even if these actions are independent of INTERPOL authority despite being derived from INTERPOL committee actions. Thus, while INTERPOL faces limitations in making mandated proposals, it can serve as a forum for fostering largely adopted courses of actions that can significantly affect global recourse.

## Bloc Positions

### Western Bloc

Australia, Canada, EU member states, Japan, Republic of Korea, Switzerland, United Kingdom, and the United States of America

The Western bloc contains technologically advanced nations who are often leaders of the charge to fight the financing of terrorism. While nations across the world have been affected by terrorism,<sup>82</sup> these countries have the financial and technological resources to allocate toward fighting terrorism. In the United States, the Patriot Act of 2001 explicitly detailed and criminalized many methods of funding terrorism.<sup>83</sup> This legislation displayed an increased focus from the people and government of the United States on fighting the financing of terrorism directly through further gathering of information. The impact of such legislation in this bloc can be seen through the anti-terrorism funding "Action Plan" released by the European Commission, the governing body of the European Union. The plan, released in February 2016, shows the enduring influence of the Patriot Act through measures such as increasing the power of financial monitoring agencies and oversight of financial institutions.<sup>84</sup> As a result of these highly scrutinizing laws, the tradeoff between oversight and privacy is very relevant for citizens of these nations.

### Loose Allies of EU-Associated Bloc

China, India, Russia, and Turkey

This bloc has a vested interest in fighting terrorism and their governments possess the resources to do so. However, for varying reasons, their interests are not perfectly aligned with interests of the first bloc. China's policy stance on terrorism is anti-interventionist. Its government supports afflicted nations with intelligence and technological collaboration but does not commit

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<sup>82</sup> - "Global Terrorism Index 2015," *Institute for Economics and Peace*, accessed July 9, 2016, <http://economicsandpeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/2015-Global-Terrorism-Index-Report.pdf>.

<sup>83</sup> - "USA PATRIOT Act," *Financial Crime Enforcement Network*, accessed July 9, 2016, [https://www.fincen.gov/statutes\\_regs/patriot/](https://www.fincen.gov/statutes_regs/patriot/).

<sup>84</sup> - "Commission Presents Action Plan to Strengthen the Fight against Terrorist Financing," *European Commission*, accessed July 9, 2016, [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-16-202\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-202_en.htm).

troops to international conflicts.<sup>85</sup> This position shows that China is hesitant to fully join the Western bloc but can help fight the global funding of terrorism. Russia and Turkey's executives, Vladimir Putin and Recep Erdogan, have increasingly moved to strengthen their holds on power while expounding nationalist agendas. They have cooperated with the Western Bloc at favorable times and opposed it when it suited them. For this reason, their positions are less stable.<sup>86</sup> China and Russia frequently do not see eye-to-eye with the first bloc because of the outsized perceived influence of the United States and its allies on global policy. Western nations have criticized China for its internet regulation policies<sup>87</sup> and Russia for its restrictions on speech.<sup>88</sup> Likewise, China, India, Russia, and Turkey have alleged that the United States has been hypocritical and is making politically charged statements.<sup>89</sup> India had a strained relationship with the United States for decades because of the US' support of its rival Pakistan. Ties have certainly warmed up in recent years but India wants to keep its decision-making uninfluenced by the US.<sup>90</sup> Turkey has significant problems with terrorism but its government has faced criticism for its handling of refugees and strife with Turkish Kurds.<sup>91</sup> This bloc has generally supported the fight against terrorism but seemingly unrelated political problems with the Western Bloc and other nations have influenced its varying stances on fighting global terrorism.

### **Bloc of Countries with Major Domestic Terrorist Presences**

Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Afghanistan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Pakistan, Nigeria, and Sudan

Their role in stopping funding is particularly important because funding to many major terrorist groups must flow through their borders. A significant problem for some but not all of these countries

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<sup>85</sup> - Shannon Tiezzi, "What is China's Plan for Fighting Global Terrorism?" *The Diplomat*, November 27, 2015, <http://thediplomat.com/2015/11/what-is-chinas-plan-for-fighting-global-terrorism/>.

<sup>86</sup> - Neil McFarquhar and Tim Arango, "Putin and Erdogan, Both Isolated, Reach Out to Each Other," *New York Times*, August 8, 2016, <http://www.nytimes.com/2016/08/09/world/europe/russia-putin-turkey-erdogan-syria.html>.

<sup>87</sup> - Tom Mitchell, "China Approves Controversial Antiterrorism Law," *Financial Times*, accessed July 10, 2016, <https://next.ft.com/content/078a8b42-ac7b-11e5-b955-1a1d298b6250>.

<sup>88</sup> - Max Seddon, "Russia Tightens Terror Law Ahead of Election," *Financial Times*, accessed July 10, 2016, <https://next.ft.com/content/1bd24e92-39fb-11e6-9a05-82a9b15a8ee7>.

<sup>89</sup> - Jacob Davidson, "China Accuses U.S. of Hypocrisy on Cyberattacks | TIME.com," *Time World*, accessed July 10, 2016, <http://world.time.com/2013/07/01/china-accuses-u-s-of-hypocrisy-on-cyberattacks/>.

<sup>90</sup> - Jayita Sardar, "Strategic Passing: Why India Will Not Be Pakistan 2.0 in U.S. Asia Policy," *Foreign Policy Magazine*, March 6, 2015, accessed July 9, 2016, <http://foreignpolicy.com/2015/03/06/strategic-passing-why-india-will-not-be-pakistan-2-0-in-u-s-asia-policy/>.

<sup>91</sup> - BBC Monitoring, "Turkey v Syria's Kurds v Islamic State," *BBC*, February 19, 2016, accessed July 10, 2016, <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-33690060>.

is the instability of their governments. Syria is in the midst of a civil war.<sup>92</sup> Egypt had its government ousted in 2013 and most of its cabinet replaced in 2015.<sup>93</sup> As developing nations, this group as a whole lacks the same financial or technological resources as the first two blocs to combat terrorism. Nevertheless, this regional bloc is the most affected by terrorism in terms of lives lost and its people on the whole maintain an interest in fighting terrorism.<sup>94</sup>

### **Non-Aligned-Movement**

Brazil, Kenya, South Africa, Djibouti, Ukraine, Romania, Argentina, Chile, Vietnam, Thailand, and Panama

These countries have faced problems with terrorism but are less involved in the fight against it for various reasons. For many nations, their economic development prevents them from owning the technology or resources necessary to combat terrorism. Djibouti, for instance, is extremely underdeveloped with a per capita income about 2.5% that of the United States.<sup>95</sup> For others, the financial burden of investing in anti-terrorism resources may be too large to implement any meaningful anti-terrorism measures. Romania received a score of "0" for the impact of terrorism as rated by the Global Terrorism Index.<sup>96</sup> While these nations support antiterrorism measures, combatting terrorism is not as much a priority for them as it may be for countries in the other three blocs and carries extensive fiscal burdens for the central government to carry.

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<sup>92</sup> - "Syria: The Story of the Conflict," *BBC*, March 11, 2016, accessed July 10, 2016, <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-26116868>.

<sup>93</sup> - Ahmed Aboulenein, "Egypt's Sisi Swears in New Government, Keeps Ministers in Key Posts," *Reuters*, 2015, accessed July 10, 2016, <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-egypt-government-idUSKCN0RJ06P20150919>.

<sup>94</sup> - "Global Terrorism Index 2015," *Institute for Economics and Peace*, accessed July 9, 2016, <http://economicsandpeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/2015-Global-Terrorism-Index-Report.pdf>.

<sup>95</sup> - "Djibouti GDP per Capita," *Trading Economics*, accessed July 10, 2016, <http://www.tradingeconomics.com/djibouti/gdp-per-capita>.

<sup>96</sup> - "Global Terrorism Index 2015," *Institute for Economics and Peace*, accessed July 9, 2016, <http://economicsandpeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/2015-Global-Terrorism-Index-Report.pdf>.

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## Topic B: The Policing of Human Trafficking

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### Statement of the Problem

**Human trafficking**, a form of modern-day slavery, is one of the most severe and widespread human rights abuses in the world. Although its presence persists today, it has been an ongoing practice throughout human history. While human trafficking is often associated with forced sex work, in reality, human trafficking encompasses a wide-range of activities, including sex work, forced labor, and organ trafficking.<sup>97</sup> The United Nations defines human trafficking as “the recruitment, transport, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a person by such means as threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud or deception for the purpose of exploitation.”<sup>98</sup> According to the United Nations, human trafficking involves three core elements: actions, means, and purpose. Action refers to the physical act of recruitment, transferring, and harboring. Means is how the trafficking is accomplished, which involves an abuse of power through threat, manipulation, or force. The purpose of all forms of human trafficking is the exploitation of the trafficked individuals for profit.<sup>99</sup>

The general definition of human trafficking and its core elements create a shared system so that international bodies can work cooperatively to abate the human trafficking problem. Since human trafficking affects all types of states, both those in the developing and developed world alike, all states have a stake in solving this humanitarian crisis. Using the three-pronged framework proposed by the United Nations, human trafficking can only be stopped by addressing all three elements of the problem: its actions, its means, and its purpose.

### The Prevalence and Profitability of Human Trafficking

The human trafficking industry makes up a massive portion of the underground economy, affecting millions each year. The International Labour Organization estimates that the global human trafficking industry makes a profit of approximately 150 billion USD each year; this figure includes all service costs performed by trafficked labor and products produced by trafficked labor. Due to the

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<sup>97</sup> - “Types of human trafficking,” *INTERPOL*, <http://www.interpol.int/Crime-areas/Trafficking-in-human-beings/Types-of-human-trafficking>.

<sup>98</sup> - “Human Trafficking FAQs,” *UNODC*, [https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/humantrafficking/faqs.html#How\\_widespread\\_is\\_human\\_trafficking](https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/humantrafficking/faqs.html#How_widespread_is_human_trafficking).

<sup>99</sup> - *Ibid.*

profitability of the industry, there are over 20 million people subjected to exploitation worldwide.<sup>100</sup> While sexual exploitation is the most discussed form of human trafficking, in reality, only 40% of victims are used for forced labor. Additionally, 33% of victims are children, and 50% are female.<sup>101</sup> The many victims of human trafficking come from disparate backgrounds, yet all are exploited for the benefit of their traffickers.

Because the human trafficking industry takes on a wide-range of forms from forced labor to sexual exploitation, every nation across the globe are affected in different ways. Victims from 127 different countries have been trafficked to 137 countries. Some locations are primarily for recruitment while others are primarily the destination for exploited victims. Other states serve as intermediary locations that are involved with the transport of trafficked persons.<sup>102</sup> INTERPOL in particular plays a key role in organizing cooperation between different states since all are involved in the human trafficking pandemic. While some states will need to primarily address demand, others will need to minimize recruitment. By working with local authorities, INTERPOL can help create a specialized and coherent system for stopping trafficking across the spectrum.

### **Risk Factors of Human Trafficking**

Regardless of whether trafficking is for sexual exploitation or for forced labor, there are a variety of factors that foster the trafficking industry. **Migration** is a major cause of human trafficking. In many places, trafficking victims seek new opportunities to advance their socio-economic statuses and to secure a better life. In an attempt to do this, they often trust others to find them a place to live or a place to work. Unfortunately, some of these people exploit them and subject them to human trafficking. Those trying to leave their homes due to poverty, oppression, infringements on human rights, and political instability are particularly vulnerable.

In today's globalized and connected world, people in impoverished states can see the relative wealth in other parts of the world; searching for a better life is a pursuit that can lead people into the

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<sup>100</sup> - "The Facts," *Polaris Project*, <http://polarisproject.org/facts>.

<sup>101</sup> - "Global Report on Trafficking in Persons," *UNODC*, 2014, [https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/glotip/GLOTIP\\_2014\\_full\\_report.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/glotip/GLOTIP_2014_full_report.pdf).

<sup>102</sup> - "Factsheet on Human Trafficking," *UNODC*, [https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/UNVTF\\_fs\\_HT\\_EN.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/UNVTF_fs_HT_EN.pdf).

hands of human traffickers.<sup>103</sup> For example, because of the recent influx of refugees into Europe, over 96,000 unaccompanied children sought asylum in the continent in 2015, one-fifth of the total number of global child refugees. However, the European Union reports that over 10,000 of those children are now unaccounted for by official agencies. While there is no empirical data to show how many of these children have fallen victim to trafficking, the EU is concerned with the growing feeding ground for the human trafficking industry fostered by massive migration.<sup>104</sup>

**Women** are also at higher risk of falling victim to human trafficking. As noted, half of trafficking victims are female.<sup>105</sup> Yet women make up the majority of sexual exploitation victims.<sup>106</sup> Because in many places women do not have equal social and economic status to men, they are often more vulnerable and more dependent on others due to a lack of resources. The vulnerability of women often stems from cultural and social conditions, including unequal treatment by family members and key community stakeholders.<sup>107</sup>

**Children** are also particularly vulnerable to exploitation because of their youth and vulnerability in many cultures. Firstly, they are less physically capable of defending themselves. Second, they are often dependent on authorities or their families for resources and guidance. Third, children are not exposed to existing policies that protect them from mistreatment nor are they as capable of recalling events that may lead to the identification of their offenders. Human traffickers often target young children because they are the most defenseless.<sup>108</sup> Children make up about one-quarter of the total trafficking victims population. However, in some regions, they make up nearly 100%. For example, in West Africa, children comprise almost all of the trafficked population.<sup>109</sup> A report by the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) found that not only are children the main

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<sup>103</sup> - “Toolkit to Combat Trafficking in Persons,” *UNODC*, [https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Toolkit-files/08-58296\\_tool\\_9-2.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Toolkit-files/08-58296_tool_9-2.pdf).

<sup>104</sup> - Jennifer Rankin, “Human traffickers ‘using migration crisis’ to force more people into slavery,” *The Guardian*, May 19, 2016, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/may/19/human-traffickers-using-migration-crisis-to-force-more-people-into-slavery>.

<sup>105</sup> - “The Facts.”

<sup>106</sup> - “Global Report on Trafficking in Persons.”

<sup>107</sup> - “An Introduction to Human Trafficking: Vulnerability, Impact and Action,” *UNODC*, [https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/An\\_Introduction\\_to\\_Human\\_Trafficking\\_-\\_Background\\_Paper.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/An_Introduction_to_Human_Trafficking_-_Background_Paper.pdf).

<sup>108</sup> - *Ibid.*

<sup>109</sup> - “UNODC report on human trafficking exposes modern form of slavery,” *UNODC*, <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/global-report-on-trafficking-in-persons.html>.

victims of trafficking across the continent, but many countries reported that trafficking in children is more than double the trafficking of women.<sup>110</sup>

The **LGBTQ+ community** is also a subgroup of the population that faces unique human trafficking issues due to their persecution and marginalization in many nations. Across much of the world, LGBTQ+ individuals are socially denigrated and ostracized. The stigmas and taboos that surround the community enable specific vulnerabilities to the human trafficking industry. Social and economic conditions leave many LGBTQ+ individuals with limited resources and economic opportunities. Homelessness contributes to the likelihood that an individual will be subjected to human trafficking, and homeless LGBTQ+ peoples, specifically children, are subjected to the human trafficking industry at higher rates. For example, according to the US National Coalition for the Homeless, 20% of the homeless youth population is LGBTQ+, yet 58.7% are subjected to sexual exploitation—a rate over 25 points higher than the rate of heterosexual homeless youth subjected to sexual exploitation. In addition to higher rates of human trafficking within the LGBTQ+ community, efforts to inhibit human trafficking for this subgroup are also difficult, as the industry is more underground and fewer victims report experiences due to social stigmas.<sup>111</sup> Members of the LGBTQ+ community are subjected to human trafficking in cities and towns across the world.

The major reason that people are trafficked is due to the high demand from various sources. Whether it be for sexual exploitation or forced labor, people desire cheap and easy ways to satisfy their needs. The criminal demand for human trafficking can be divided into three levels. The first is **employer demand**, which includes people who use human trafficking victims to perform a specific service like factory work or sex work.<sup>112</sup> One of the best ways to increase profits without cutting other costs is by obtaining cheaper labor. Much of the employer demand is for work in the seasonal agriculture, construction, garment, and hospitality industries in the developed world.<sup>113</sup> Sexual exploitation, which employer demand causes, is responsible for 53% of human trafficking victims.<sup>114</sup> Labor trafficking, such as for cheap field hands or factory work, is the second most common form of

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<sup>110</sup> - “Children are main victims of trafficking in Africa,” *National Center for Biotechnology Information*, May 1, 2004, <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC403882/>.

<sup>111</sup> - “Sex Trafficking of LGBT Individuals,” *National Institute of Health*, 2013, <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4204396/>.

<sup>112</sup> - “Demand fosters human trafficking,” *United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner*, <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/Demandfostershumantrafficking.aspx>.

<sup>113</sup> - “An Introduction to Human Trafficking: Vulnerability, Impact and Action.”

<sup>114</sup> - “Global Report on Trafficking in Persons.”

the human trafficking, making up about 40% of the industry based on records of detected victims. Forced labor has grown considerably in size in recent years.<sup>115</sup> The second level of demand for human trafficking is **consumer demand**, the people who use prostitution services or buy domestic workers for their households. The third level is **third-party demand**, people who engage in the trafficking process at some point, whether it be harboring trafficking victims or transporting them to their final destination.<sup>116</sup> While a statistical breakdown between types of demand is nearly impossible to deduce due to victim overlap, the point remains that human trafficking is fueled by various sources of demand, all which perpetuate the industry.

Demand is not synonymous with exploitation; that is, those who benefit indirectly from human trafficking may not be aware of the source. For example, many clothing products were produced by trafficked labor, yet many consumers are unaware of this fact. People who demand services made available by the human trafficking industry are not always the same people who are exploiting the victims and forcing them to perform the service. In this sense, targeting demand proves crucial in limiting the scope of human trafficking. By reducing demand, the entire trafficking chain is complicated. The takeaway is that inhibiting the demand for human trafficking involves much more than just shutting down explicit offenders – we are all complicit.

### **Means of Human Trafficking**

So, if many risk factors create vulnerability to the human trafficking industry, the question remains: what are the means in which people are trafficked? While there are a variety of ways in which people can be trafficked, one of the most common ways is through deceit. Traffickers can put on a front, telling people that they can help secure a job or a home in a better place. When people consent to their guidance, offenders can transport them to a different location where they are exploited and forced into the human trafficking industry.<sup>117</sup> This is particularly dangerous for people in less secure states, where there is less government oversight of transportation and fewer police authorities.

Once controlled by traffickers, victims are left virtually helpless. Escape is not as easy as it appears. Traffickers use threats to make sure that victims do not try to flee. They often claim that

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<sup>115</sup> - Ibid.

<sup>116</sup> - “Demand fosters human trafficking,” *United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner*, <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/Demandfostershumantrafficking.aspx>.

<sup>117</sup> - “Toolkit to Combat Trafficking in Persons.”



victims are indebted to them for transportation and living costs.<sup>118</sup> Furthermore, traffickers often take victims' documents and identification information, which makes escape even more dangerous and difficult. Many victims also face threats to their well-being and the well-being of their family members. Some traffickers even drug victims to ensure their compliance.<sup>119</sup>

Trafficking in persons across borders is a necessary obstacle for many traffickers. Border-crossing is a double-edged sword for traffickers who must decide whether or not to expand their trafficking networks outside of their immediate state or region. Expansion often brings increased profits; it also increases the likelihood of being detected. The United Nations found that 37% of trafficking crosses borders within the same sub-region and 26% of trafficking crosses borders not in the same sub-region, constituting transregional trafficking.<sup>120</sup>

Because travelling farther distances and crossing state borders increase trafficking risks, transregional trafficking usually necessitates sophisticated criminal networks. To ensure control over the entire trafficking process, organizations need to control the location of origin and the destination location, which requires a more extensive network. This complex form of trafficking may involve various layers of organization, often using partners and subcontractors to carry out specific parts of the operation. For example, one subcontractor may be responsible for transporting victims and another may be used to detain victims upon arrival, both working under a larger criminal organization.<sup>121</sup> These methods safeguard the traffickers from government detection and make it more difficult for victims to escape their enslavement.

## **Psychological Effects of Human Trafficking**

Besides the obvious human rights that human trafficking breaches, many victims face individual consequences from their experiences. Psychological distress is a serious effect of human trafficking, and its impacts can pervade a victim's lifetime. The types of psychological stress can be both short-term and long-term. Most importantly, all instances of human trafficking involve exploitation, and often this exploitation relies on manipulation and deceit. The Trafficking Victims

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<sup>118</sup> - "Southern African Counter-Trafficking Assistance Program," *International Organization for Migration*, [http://www.ungift.org/doc/knowledgehub/resource-centre/IOM\\_SACTAP\\_South\\_Africa\\_10\\_Questions\\_about\\_Human\\_Trafficking.pdf](http://www.ungift.org/doc/knowledgehub/resource-centre/IOM_SACTAP_South_Africa_10_Questions_about_Human_Trafficking.pdf).

<sup>119</sup> - Ibid.

<sup>120</sup> - "Global Report on Trafficking in Persons."

<sup>121</sup> - Ibid.

Protection Act (TVPA) of 2001 was passed in the United States to better define the coercion that human trafficking victims face, both physical and psychological torment. The TVPA recognized that the psychological consequences of coercion can be just as great as the physical.<sup>122</sup> Because victims are subjected to trauma from their trafficking experience, and, since many had previously experienced traumatic experiences (which often provides a propensity to enter the human trafficking industry), many victims are left reeling from a litany of traumatic events.

As a result of human trafficking, many victims experience depression and other psychological illnesses. Depression can manifest in various ways. Common symptoms include learned helplessness, the psychological state in which a person feels they have no power in effecting his/her own outcome. Other signs of depression are irritability, weight change, and suicidal thoughts and/or actions.<sup>123</sup> In one study published by the National Institute of Health concerning female trafficking victims, 79% exhibited depression symptoms.<sup>124</sup> The prevalence of depression creates long-term problems for the anti-human trafficking effort. Victims are less likely to become productive citizens and are less likely to aid in the prosecution process.<sup>125</sup>

Human trafficking victims also suffer high rates of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), a disorder that can cause psychological distress years after an intense experience. PTSD consists of three sets of symptoms: re-experiencing, avoidance, and arousal. When thinking about a traumatic experience, people with PTSD often react as if they are re-experiencing the event, prompting a bodily arousal that often manifests in fear and heightened stress. The avoidance aspect of PTSD is a coping mechanism for the trauma, in which victims undergo an emotional numbing and detachment from others.<sup>126</sup> PTSD victims are less likely to aid the prosecution process and are more likely to reenter the trafficking industry.<sup>127</sup>

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<sup>122</sup> - Elizabeth Hopper, "Invisible Chains: Psychological Coercion of Human Trafficking Victims," *Intercultural Human Rights Law Review*, Vol. 1, 2006, [http://www.traumacenter.org/products/pdf\\_files/Invisible\\_Chains.pdf](http://www.traumacenter.org/products/pdf_files/Invisible_Chains.pdf).

<sup>123</sup> - Elizabeth Hopper, "Underidentification of Human Trafficking Victims in the United States," *Journal of Social Work Research and Evaluation*, Vol. 5, No. 2, 2004, [http://www.traumacenter.org/products/pdf\\_files/underidentification\\_traf.pdf](http://www.traumacenter.org/products/pdf_files/underidentification_traf.pdf).

<sup>124</sup> - "The Relationship of Trauma to Mental Disorders Among Trafficked and Sexually Exploited Girls and Women," *National Institute of Health*, May 2010, <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2978168/>.

<sup>125</sup> - Hopper.

<sup>126</sup> - Ibid.

<sup>127</sup> - Elizabeth Hopper, "Invisible Chains: Psychological Coercion of Human Trafficking Victims," *Intercultural Human Rights Law Review*, Vol. 1, 2006, [http://www.traumacenter.org/products/pdf\\_files/Invisible\\_Chains.pdf](http://www.traumacenter.org/products/pdf_files/Invisible_Chains.pdf).

In addition to the distress that victims face in their day to day lives, psychological impacts of human trafficking make ameliorating the problem more difficult. For example, in order to prosecute trafficking offenders, criminal justice systems rely on information from victims who have insider knowledge of the people and places involved. However, victims with serious trauma often are untrusting of the legal systems intending to help them. The method in which they are questioned and approached is also extremely tenuous. If not done in the best way, victims may feel alienated and less likely to aid in the prosecution process. If done poorly, victims may undergo further trauma and become re-victimized.<sup>128</sup> The process of prosecuting human traffickers is often inhibited by the trauma inflicted on trafficking victims throughout the ordeal.

While ensuring legal systems can prosecute and criminalize human trafficking offenders, the victims' mental and emotional health remain of utmost importance. If left unaddressed, victims can face a life of poverty, depression, and have higher likelihoods of reentering the human trafficking industry.<sup>129</sup> It is widely recognized by the United Nations that many countries riddled with human trafficking issues do not have or do not sufficiently allocate enough resources to mitigate the impacts of this form of modern-day slavery.<sup>130</sup> UN Resolution 64/293, The United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, which was adopted by the General Assembly in 2010, specifically called for more coordinated and collaborative efforts so that the industry can best be inhibited worldwide.<sup>131</sup>

## Physical Effects of Human Trafficking

Human trafficking also threatens the physical health of involved individuals. In particular, there is a large risk of HIV/AIDS spreading and affecting victims of human trafficking. Approximately 40 million people live with HIV around the world, so the threat of infection is high across the world. Both HIV/AIDS and human trafficking are influenced by similar factors: poverty, discrimination, and unsafe

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<sup>128</sup> - "Anti-human trafficking manual for criminal justice practitioners," *UNODC*, 2009, [https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/TIP\\_module3\\_Ebook.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/TIP_module3_Ebook.pdf).

<sup>129</sup> - Hopper, "Invisible Chains: Psychological Coercion of Human Trafficking Victims."

<sup>130</sup> - "Awareness and education are key to beating human trafficking," *UNODC*, February 7, 2001, <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2011/February/awareness-and-education-are-key-to-beating-human-trafficking.html>.

<sup>131</sup> - "World Day Against Trafficking in Persons," *United Nations*, <http://www.un.org/en/events/humantrafficking/>.

transport. Currently, there is no scientific evidence that identifies a causal relationship between human trafficking and HIV/AIDS; however, it is known that human trafficking victims are heavily exploited, often in a foreign place, which heightens the risk factors for contracting the disease because of lacking medical care resources. Furthermore, the risk of HIV/AIDS for trafficking victims is greater than for people who engage in sex work by choice. Drugs are often used to increase compliance of victims to engage in sex work and are also used as a form of self-medication for victims who feel powerless. It is also important to note that while both men and women in the human trafficking industry face increased risk of HIV/AIDS, women are particularly vulnerable because they face higher rates of sexual exploitation and often have less access to healthcare and financial resources.<sup>132</sup> The risk of diseases like HIV/AIDS is particularly high among human trafficking victims due to a number of common risk factors.

Alcohol and drug dependence is another serious consequence of the human trafficking industry. Substances are often used to sedate victims and to increase compliance with the demands of the trafficker. Drugs are also used as coping mechanisms by victims who suffer higher rates of substance abuse both during and after their trafficking experiences.<sup>133</sup> Evidence shows that the majority of victims who have a substance dependence reported that the dependence began after their human trafficking experience.<sup>134</sup>

As illustrated throughout this section, human trafficking causes a myriad of short-term and long-term consequences that riddle the international community. Thus, policymaking needs to address the physical, psychological, and social aspects of the human trafficking industry, all which necessitates collaboration and coordination between various groups ranging from local services to international bodies like INTERPOL.

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<sup>132</sup> - "Human Trafficking and HIV/AIDS," *Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking*, <http://www.ungift.org/knowledgehub/en/about/human-trafficking-and-hiv-aids.html>.

<sup>133</sup> - "Understanding and addressing violence against women," *World Health Organization*, 2012, [http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/77394/1/WHO\\_RHR\\_12.42\\_eng.pdf](http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/77394/1/WHO_RHR_12.42_eng.pdf).

<sup>134</sup> - "Evidence-based Mental Health Treatment for Victims of Human Trafficking," *Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation*, April 15, 2010, <https://aspe.hhs.gov/basic-report/evidence-based-mental-health-treatment-victims-human-trafficking>.

## History of the Problem

### Slavery as the Root of Human Trafficking

Human trafficking has been a problem since the earliest recorded human civilizations in the form of the slave trade, observed even in certain ancient Mesopotamian societies. While slavery is not synonymous with human trafficking, it is unquestionably one of the root causes of human trafficking. People became slaves through capture, indentured servitude (to pay off a debt), capture in an armed conflict, receiving punishment for a crime, or any number of other ways.<sup>135</sup> From then on, major factions within virtually every civilization before the modern era forcefully exploited people or a group of people in countless ways.

The first changes came with the abolition of slavery throughout the world beginning in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Western European countries and the leaders of their overseas colonies had benefitted enormously from the work done by slaves. In particular, colonial powers such as England, France, Spain, and Portugal and former colonies such as the United States grew significantly thanks to the work of millions of slaves.<sup>136</sup> Consequently, the abolition of slaves was a contentious move in many nations, as evidenced by the violence of the American Civil War. Spain was the first Western power to abolish slavery throughout its territories in 1811. All of the major Western powers abolished slavery over the next half century at varying rates through their colonies in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.<sup>137</sup> China officially abolished slavery in 1910 under the pressure of British colonizers.<sup>138</sup> By that point, slavery had been legally abolished in most stable countries.

The abolition of slavery was not the end to human trafficking. As discussed in the *Statement of the Problem*, modern slavery remains prevalent because forced exploitation is highly profitable. Since the worldwide abolition of slavery, such exploitation has occurred in various forms, including forced

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<sup>135</sup> - Joshua Mark, "Daily Life in Ancient Mesopotamia," *Ancient History Encyclopedia*, April 15, 2004, <http://www.ancient.eu/article/680/>.

<sup>136</sup> - "Who banned slavery when?" *Reuters*, March 22, 2007, <http://www.reuters.com/article/uk-slavery-idUSL1561464920070322>.

<sup>137</sup> - Ibid.

<sup>138</sup> - Junius Rodriguez, "The Historical Encyclopedia of World Slavery," *Google Books*, 1997, [https://books.google.com/books?id=ATq5\\_6h2AT0C&pg=PA146#v=onepage&q&f=false](https://books.google.com/books?id=ATq5_6h2AT0C&pg=PA146#v=onepage&q&f=false).

labor and sex trafficking, in virtually every country.<sup>139</sup> The distinction between slavery and human trafficking is notable because human trafficking was not legally banned in any country except India and Belgium until after the year 2000.<sup>140</sup> The problem of human trafficking was not widely acknowledged for well over a century after most countries had abolished slavery, which made it difficult for victims to seek help or for law enforcement to fight the crime. There were also several international treaties signed through the 20<sup>th</sup> century which will be discussed further in the following section. However, these treaties were not very effective because they initially discriminated by race, focused only on women and children, and were not legally binding for individual countries.<sup>141</sup> We will now consider the history of the slave trade, its abolition, the continuation of human trafficking in the years after the abolition of slavery, and finally the status of human trafficking today.

## The Global Slave Trade

Since slavery was considered “ownership” of people, the sale of slaves between owners has been present since the advent of slavery. The mass forcible displacement and sale of slaves in the West originated with the Roman Empire. At least one third of the Empire’s population consisted of slaves, most of whom were non-citizens captured from the edges of Roman territory or war prisoners. They were then sold transported across the vast Roman territory freely where they supported Roman society in almost all conceivable societal roles.<sup>142</sup>

Slaves in the Islamic Empires from the 7<sup>th</sup> century onward continued using and selling slaves following the decline of slavery in Europe after the fall of the Roman Empire. Similar to the Romans, these states captured slaves from their periphery and moved them throughout the Arabic speaking world of North Africa and the Middle East.<sup>143</sup>

Outside of the Western Europe and Middle Eastern world, the slave trade was not as prevalent before the age of global colonization. The vast majority of slaves were local lower and repressed class people. While this certainly does not mean that there was no slave trade outside of Western Europe

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<sup>139</sup> - “The Global Slavery Index,” *Walk Free Foundation*, 2016, <http://www.globalslaveryindex.org/index/>.

<sup>140</sup> - “International Trafficking in Persons Law,” *UN Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking*, [http://www.no-trafficking.org/resources\\_int\\_tip\\_laws.html](http://www.no-trafficking.org/resources_int_tip_laws.html).

<sup>141</sup> - Kristiina Kangaspunta, “A Short History of Trafficking in Persons,” *Freedom from Fear Magazine*, <http://f3magazine.unicri.it/?p=281>.

<sup>142</sup> - Sue Peabody, “Slavery and the Slave Trade,” *Europe, 1450 to 1789: Encyclopedia of the Early Modern World*, 2004, accessed September 6, 2016, <http://www.encyclopedia.com/doc/1G2-3404901051.html>.

<sup>143</sup> - Ibid.

and the Middle East, the institution of slavery generally did not involve as much displacement of people throughout the rest of the world.<sup>144</sup>

The age of European exploration beginning in the 14<sup>th</sup> century was a turning point for the global slave trade. Expanding “New World” colonies and bigger, faster ships created a demand for cheap labor that Western powers satisfied through the Transatlantic and global slave trade.<sup>145</sup> Millions of mostly African people were captured and sold into slavery in the Americas. In Asia, colonization brought millions of locals into slavery or bonded labor but a smaller fraction of these people were taken from their countries to others. The origins of modern global human trafficking come from the Transatlantic slave trade. While slaves had always been repressed in the context of their societies, the new slave trade was the first time millions of people were taken by culturally and geographically distinct states thousands of miles from home as slaves. These lopsided interactions showed the ability of powerful people, organizations, and nations to influence and subjugate poorer populations far from home for personal gain. Unfortunately, these interactions have persisted to this day with modern slavery still frequently resulting in the forcible displacement of people from poor regions to wealthier ones.<sup>146</sup>

### **Post-Abolition Human Trafficking**

In the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, there was not a significant focus from the international community on human trafficking. A 1904 international conference led to the International Agreement for the Suppression of “White Slave Traffic.”<sup>147</sup> This agreement displayed a clear racial bias on the part of the international community. A 1927 League of Nations report on the trafficking of women and children found that victims were generally being trafficked from Europe to Asia, North Africa, and South America.<sup>148</sup> A second report by the League of Nations in 1932 found that women from Western countries were being trafficked to East Asia while women throughout Asia were being trafficked within the continent. Many of the problems listed in the report are still relevant today. The authors of the report recognized the financial demand for traffickers as the driver of modern slavery. While these

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144 - Ibid.

145 - Ibid.

146 - “Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2014.”

147 - Kangaspunta.

148 - Ibid.

reports elucidated the problems of human trafficking to a certain extent, the issue did not get the attention it deserved until the 1980s and 1990s when the UN brought attention to the plight of women through the Beijing Platform for Action.<sup>149</sup> Consequently, the last two or three decades have brought the most attention and data driven research on human trafficking.

## Human Trafficking Today

The shift in focus around the turn of the millennium to combating rampant human trafficking around the world brought with it several important studies, surveys, and government crackdowns which revealed the current magnitude of human trafficking. Estimates for the number of people enslaved around the world are as high as 45 million, or over 0.6% of the world population.<sup>150</sup> Slavery raises an estimated 32 billion USD for traffickers annually.<sup>151</sup> One of the most commonly cited statistics is that the average price paid worldwide for a slave has decreased from 40,000 USD in 1809 to 90 USD in 2009, after inflation.<sup>152</sup> An estimated 78% of modern slaves toil in forced labor, commonly in agriculture or construction. The financial appeal for traffickers to commit such horrendous crimes is clear because of the demand created by rising labor costs and the opportunity to use a person for cheap labor.<sup>153</sup>

Globalization has brought significant change to the world but it has been another factor contributing to the growing profitability of human trafficking. As previously discussed, there is an ever-growing demand for cheap labor, concentrated in India, China, Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Uzbekistan, where 58% of all enslaved people in the world currently live.<sup>154</sup> These nations are manufacturing centers for low-skilled labor and supply much of the world's produced goods. Exacerbating this problem are governments rife with corruption at all levels.<sup>155,156</sup> This creates ideal

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<sup>149</sup> - Ibid.

<sup>150</sup> - "Global Findings," *The Global Slavery Index*, <http://www.globalslaveryindex.org/findings/>.

<sup>151</sup> - "Trafficking and Slavery Fact Sheet," *Free the Slaves*, [https://www.freetheslaves.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/FTS\\_factsheet-Nov17.21.pdf](https://www.freetheslaves.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/FTS_factsheet-Nov17.21.pdf)

<sup>152</sup> - Christian Sabyan, Emily Smith, and Manav Tanneeru, "The Number: Average price of slave has decreased," *CNN Freedom Project*, April 6, 2011, <http://thecnnfreedomproject.blogs.cnn.com/2011/04/06/bales-average-price-of-slave-has-decreased/>.

<sup>153</sup> - "Slavery Today," *Human Goods*, [http://humangoods.net/?page\\_id=1096](http://humangoods.net/?page_id=1096).

<sup>154</sup> - "Global Findings."

<sup>155</sup> - "A bad boom," *Economist*, March 15, 2014, <http://www.economist.com/news/briefing/21598967-graft-india-damaging-economy-country-needs-get-serious-about-dealing-it>.

<sup>156</sup> - Macabe Keliher and Hsinchao Wu, "How to Discipline 90 Million People," *The Atlantic*, April 7, 2015, <http://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2015/04/xi-jinping-china-corruption-political-culture/389787/>.



circumstances for exploiters to traffic slaves to high demand locations. The government of Uzbekistan in 2015 forcibly exploited over one million citizens to harvest cotton in a state-sanctioned process which occurs annually.<sup>157</sup> While not strictly an example of human trafficking, this mass coercion shows that exploitation for low-skill labor is very much prevalent across the world.

Another major effect globalization has had on human trafficking is the invention of the Internet. The Internet has become both a place for transactions between traffickers and a place to lure victims, largely under the condition of anonymity. Traffickers often reach out to victims on social media or through advertisements. Anonymity and the wide reach of the Internet make this method of entrapment particularly effective because criminals expand their audience and bring victims to them often voluntarily with the promise of employment in other countries.<sup>158</sup> These situations arise more typically with the sexual exploitation of women who are lured with advertisements to work and are then forced to work as prostitutes.<sup>159</sup>

While the use of the Internet to lure victims is certainly worrying, the use of the Internet for transactions poses a greater threat because it extends to many more individuals than ever before. The ease with which illegal transactions can be made on the Internet is astonishing. Online anonymity has been widely scrutinized recently due to the takedown of the black-market commerce site, Silk Road.<sup>160</sup> Criminals can use Tor, an encrypted browser which allows users to anonymously access the deep web which consists of websites not accessible by normal search engines like Google.<sup>161</sup> Many criminal transactions like human trafficking have moved online which means law enforcement officials face an additional challenge in bringing down traffickers.

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<sup>157</sup> “Global Findings.”

<sup>158</sup> - “Global Report on Trafficking in Persons.”

<sup>159</sup> - Herbert Dixon, “Human Trafficking and the Internet\* (\*and Other Technologies, too),” *The Judges Journal, American Bar Association*, Vol. 52 No. 1, [http://www.americanbar.org/publications/judges\\_journal/2013/winter/human\\_trafficking\\_and\\_internet\\_and\\_other\\_technologies\\_too.html](http://www.americanbar.org/publications/judges_journal/2013/winter/human_trafficking_and_internet_and_other_technologies_too.html).

<sup>160</sup> - Jon Card, “Anonymity is the internet’s next big battleground,” *The Guardian*, June 22, 2015, <https://www.theguardian.com/media-network/2015/jun/22/anonymity-internet-battleground-data-advertisers-marketers>.

<sup>161</sup> - David Nield, “How to Search the Deep Web Safely,” *Gizmodo*, May 2, 2016, <http://fieldguide.gizmodo.com/how-to-search-the-deep-web-safely-1770828854>.

## Past Actions

Since human trafficking has been a rampant issue throughout human history, there have been extensive efforts made to mitigate the industry's social, economic, and political impacts across the world, as well as the root causes of human trafficking. While the actions outlined in this section cover the most relevant efforts made by various bodies, it by no means encompasses the full extent of actions made across the international community, nor does it detail the full range of possible actions that can be implemented. Our past actions can serve as a model for future actions but can also highlight weaknesses and shortcomings in current systems, especially at the international level.

### INTERPOL-specific actions

As the international policing organization, INTERPOL has held a prominent role in investigating human trafficking operations. Because INTERPOL sets up coordination within the international community, the creation of the **I-24/7 global police network** was an important step in connecting enforcement authorities across the globe. All police in member countries have access to the I-24/7 system, which enables digital communication and data exchange among members. The global police network is particularly crucial for local enforcement around the world because officers can access the various criminal databases maintained by INTERPOL. Within seconds, officers can do background checks for people suspected of criminal records and illicit activities.<sup>162</sup>

Member states with access to I-24/7 also gain four important tools that increase international cooperation and lead to increased human trafficking inhibition. First, INTERPOL created the **Human Smuggling and Trafficking** (HST) message, which is a standard format for reporting human trafficking activities to INTERPOL and other member states.<sup>163</sup> Second, in 2005, INTERPOL launched the MIND/FIND technology system that allows border agents to run background checks of suspected people against INTERPOL's database of stolen and lost documents. This immediate security check can stop suspected traffickers and victims before they are able to cross into new states and territories. Third, INTERPOL also has a **Notices and Diffusion** system that allows countries to track suspects and missing persons. Integral to this system is the Green Notice, a system for member states to warn

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<sup>162</sup> - "Data exchange," *INTERPOL*, <http://www.interpol.int/INTERPOL-expertise/Data-exchange/I-24-7>.

<sup>163</sup> - "INTERPOL tools," *INTERPOL*, <http://www.interpol.int/Crime-areas/Trafficking-in-human-beings/INTERPOL-tools>.

others when a known child-sex offender is travelling into another state.<sup>164</sup> Lastly, member states have access to a broad network of contact details for people responsible for smuggling and suspicious migration called the International Contact Directory for People Smuggling Issues.<sup>165</sup>

These tools created by INTERPOL significantly augment the organization's operational capacity. As the international coordinator of police authorities, INTERPOL plays an important role in heading investigations at the international, regional, and local levels. By aiding local enforcements, member states receive advanced intelligence and operational assistance.

Rescue operations are one of the main ways INTERPOL exercises its ability to mitigate human trafficking. For example, in 2012, INTERPOL-led operation TUY rescued 400 children working in forced labor in Burkina Faso, leading to the arrest of 70 human traffickers.<sup>166</sup> Another INTERPOL operation called Operation Intercops - Spartacus III resulted in the rescue of over 2,700 victims in 2016. The investigation began in Central and South America at airports thought to be centers for trafficking. Police used INTERPOL databases and their records to check travelers' documentation for suspected traffickers and victims. This first phase of arrests and intelligence-gathering led to further investigations. As a result, thousands of victims were saved from the human trafficking industry across the continent. The success of these series of operations stemmed from the INTERPOL network of databases and INTERPOL-directed coordination between police authorities across the region.<sup>167</sup> There is a precedent for past INTERPOL operations successfully apprehending traffickers with the cooperation of host nations.

## Other UN actions

While INTERPOL has played a key role in the fight against human trafficking, the UN as a whole has made significant strides in creating a systematic international approach to stopping the pandemic. Though INTERPOL directs police initiatives and field operations, it relies on other UN bodies to assist in anti-human trafficking efforts largely through research and collaboration initiatives.

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<sup>164</sup> - "Notices," *INTERPOL*, <http://www.interpol.int/INTERPOL-expertise/Notices>.

<sup>165</sup> - "People Smuggling," *INTERPOL*, <https://www.google.com/#q=the+international+contact+directory+for+people+smuggling+issues>.

<sup>166</sup> - "Operations," *INTERPOL*, <http://www.interpol.int/Crime-areas/Trafficking-in-human-beings/Operations>.

<sup>167</sup> - "More than 2,700 human trafficking victims rescued in INTERPOL-coordinated operation," *INTERPOL*, July 28, 2016, <http://www.interpol.int/News-and-media/News/2016/N2016-098>.

One of the most important UN actions was the creation of the **United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime** (UNODC) in 1997 to address several global problems, including human trafficking. It works closely with INTERPOL and offers research and analyses about trafficking as well as technical assistance to members. While INTERPOL organizes police authorities around the world, the UNODC works with other local and regional bodies to create a collaborative system for inhibiting human trafficking and to ensure that governments have the capacity to support UN-led operations.<sup>168</sup>

The efforts of the UNODC align with the **United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime**, adopted by General Assembly in 2000. The convention was a pivotal event for the anti-human trafficking community because it was the main international means of addressing the global scope of organized crime. One of the three Protocols created by the convention was the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children. It created the first legal definition for trafficking in persons (detailed in the *Statement of the Problem* section) with the hopes of consolidating a cohesive and shared international system for criminalizing the activity by using the definition of trafficking to identify offenders that demand prosecution.<sup>169</sup> The result of the convention was increased awareness, participation, and effort by the international community in regards to the global threat of human trafficking.

The UNODC also published the **Global Report on Trafficking in Persons** in 2014, one of the most thorough analyses of the human trafficking industry, which shed light onto some industry-specific demographics and characteristics. It also identified patterns unique to the industry, such as that a trafficker and their victims are likely to be from a similar geographic area. The publication has aided other UN and anti-human trafficking bodies in focusing their efforts to best target the root problems of the industry, namely victims' lack of security within their own states and economic dependence.<sup>170</sup> With a better picture of what's happening, the UN and other groups can create better ways of combatting trafficking.

In 2007, the UN, in collaboration with other organizations, launched the **United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking** (UN.GIFT) in order to set goals for the global anti-human trafficking movement.<sup>171</sup> The umbrella goal of UN.GIFT is to foster an environment of teamwork

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<sup>168</sup> - "About UNODC," *UNODC*, <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/about-unodc/index.html?ref=menutop>.

<sup>169</sup> - "United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols Thereto," *UNODC*, <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/treaties/CTOC/index.html>.

<sup>170</sup> - "Global Report on Trafficking in Persons."

<sup>171</sup> - "UN.GIFT," *Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking*, <http://www.ungift.org/knowledgehub/en/about/index.html>.

between nations for the anti-human trafficking effort in hopes of reducing the number of people subjected to the industry's torment. Some specific objectives proposed in UN.GIFT include raising awareness about the magnitude of the industry, warning potential victims of the danger, reducing the demand for products and services created by trafficked persons, improving information and intelligence sharing capabilities, and implementing and monitoring international commitments.<sup>172</sup> UN.GIFT uses an all-encompassing approach, hoping to stem the tide of human trafficking.

One of the most important resolutions passed by the UN was **Resolution 64/293**, The United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, adopted by the General Assembly in 2010. The goal of the resolution was to create an integrative approach between governments and organizations fighting to restore human rights to all, including the protection of individuals.

The Secretary-General called the international community to donate money so that a trust fund could be created for trafficking victims, stating:

The fund aims to help Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations provide these vulnerable people with protection and support for their physical, psychological and social recovery. After they have been exploited and abused, they should not be punished, too.<sup>173</sup>

The General Assembly also acknowledged that the impacts of exploitation extend far after the experience is over. Additionally, it focused on the prosecution of traffickers, which is of utmost importance in reducing the number of future victims subjected to the industry.<sup>174</sup> Accommodating the needs of trafficking victims and prosecuting traffickers has had far-reaching effects on the wellbeing of millions across the world.

## **Regional and National Action**

Along with INTERPOL and other UN bodies, the United States and European countries have been at the forefront of the anti-human trafficking effort. UN.GIFT has ranked the US and many Western European countries highly on the **Global Slavery Index**, which is a composite score based on the number of people in slavery in each country, flow of trafficking in and out of each country, and

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<sup>172</sup> - "The Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking," *UNODC*, May 2007, <https://www.unodc.org/pdf/gift%20brochure.pdf>.

<sup>173</sup> - "United Nations launches global plan of action against human trafficking," *UNODC*, September 1, 2010, <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2010/September/un-launches-global-plan-of-action-against-human-trafficking.html>.

<sup>174</sup> - Ibid.

level of child and early marriage in each country.<sup>175</sup> Additionally, many significant pieces of legislation have been passed in the US and Europe that have set global precedents. Commonalities include a formally recognized definition of the problem, adequate police authorities to detect and inhibit trafficking, and legal systems that have protocols for prosecuting offenders.

In 2000, the US passed the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA), the first comprehensive legislation in the US that dealt with the multi-faceted nature of human trafficking. Notably, it proclaimed prior actions and legislation in the US and abroad as not far-reaching enough to adequately curb the root causes of human trafficking. It prioritized making the crime as severe as the consequences it inflicts on its victims. The TVPA outlined a three-pronged approach to accomplish its overarching goal of mitigating the impacts of the industry, including prevention, prosecution, and protection.<sup>176</sup> Following this threefold framework provides a number of meaningful ways to address the issue in its entirety.

In 2007, the Polaris Project, a non-governmental organization, was established to protect communities from the threat of human trafficking by increased awareness. It maintains a national hotline that people can call at any time for help, safety, and information that can prevent people from falling victim to the industry. Callers can also report suspicious activity, which can be shared with police and government authorities.<sup>177</sup> The Polaris Project expanded its outreach to include a global hotline in 2013 through grants from organizations focusing on anti-trafficking efforts in Europe and Southeast Asia. The global hotline has been adding additional members since its inception.<sup>178</sup> While many other organizations have focused anti-human trafficking efforts in governmental agencies, the Polaris Project and other anti-trafficking NGOs utilizes communities to help alleviate the humanitarian crisis.

In recent years, the advent of the Internet has exponentially expanded the scope of the fight against human trafficking. Advertisements for services are publicly available, although most of the content is hidden in the deep Web where typical search engines do not index. To address this newer avenue to human trafficking, the US' Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency launched **Memex**,

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<sup>175</sup> - "The Global Slavery Index," *UN.GIFT*, 2013, [http://www.ungift.org/doc/knowledgehub/resource-centre/2013/GlobalSlaveryIndex\\_2013\\_Download\\_WEB1.pdf](http://www.ungift.org/doc/knowledgehub/resource-centre/2013/GlobalSlaveryIndex_2013_Download_WEB1.pdf).

<sup>176</sup> - Heather Clawson, Megan Cummings, and Nicole Dutch, "Law Enforcement Response to Human Trafficking and the Implications for Victims: Current Practices and Lessons Learned," *Caliber*, October 2006, <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/216547.pdf>.

<sup>177</sup> - "National Human Trafficking Resource Center," *Polaris Project*, <https://polarisproject.org/national-human-trafficking-resource-center>.

<sup>178</sup> - "Polaris Project Launches Global Human Trafficking Hotline Network," *Polaris Project*, April 9, 2013, <https://polarisproject.org/news/press-releases/polaris-project-launches-global-human-trafficking-hotline-network>.

a program designed to search all parts of the Internet, including the deep Web, to uncover human trafficking activities. Memex is allowing the government and law enforcement authorities to organize much of the Internet's data that was previously untouched.<sup>179</sup> The ability to prosecute digital offenders has been enriched since Memex and other technologies have been developed. Because more activities are discovered, there is more information that can be used to criminalize and mitigate much of the industry.

European states have also created various organizations to combat human trafficking, including the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), which has promoted security across the continent for more than 40 years. The OSCE specifically protects victims' rights and ensuring that adequate legislation is in place across Europe. Additionally, there are several ongoing missions in Eastern European countries to help local governments directly address the trafficking threat.<sup>180</sup> Because Europe is an interconnected continent economically, socially, and politically, conflicts surrounding human trafficking in one state often affect other states. Transnational trafficking in Europe is prevalent, with many victims in Western Europe originating from poorer Eastern European nations.

In 2005, the Council of Europe issued Treaty No. 197 at the **Convention on Action Against Trafficking in Human Beings**. The treaty prioritized the protection of victims as well as the prosecution of offenders by enhancing existing legal systems. The Council of Europe, which is comprised of most of the states in the continent, held the convention as an action of solidarity and unification to address the growing concerns of human trafficking.<sup>181</sup> Increased coordination and collaboration prove to be of paramount importance to quell human trafficking since the industry takes advantage of transnational market demands and transportation channels. INTERPOL can help by serving as a medium of exchange and organization for the various regional and state-specific efforts already in place.

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<sup>179</sup> - Larry Greenemeier, "Human Traffickers Caught on Hidden Internet," *Scientific American*, February 8, 2015, <http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/human-traffickers-caught-on-hidden-internet/>.

<sup>180</sup> - "Combating Human Trafficking," *Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe*, <http://www.osce.org/what/trafficking>.

<sup>181</sup> - "Details of Treaty No. 197," *Council of Europe*, <http://www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list/-/conventions/treaty/197>.

## Possible Solutions

Now that past actions at the state, regional, and international level have been detailed, this section will focus on courses of action that the committee may decide to take. This list is not exhaustive nor does it offer solutions that demand implementation. Rather, this section serves as a guide to member states so that they can think about various ways to address the humanitarian crisis that is human trafficking.

The first and most important step is identifying the root causes of human trafficking, as laid out in the *Statement of the Problem*. Once the problem has been fully understood, delegates may consider the US' three-pronged system of prevention, prosecution, and protection. Prevention concerns bolstering government and policing authorities to inhibit criminal activities and networks within their borders. Prosecution involves the creation and revision of legal systems so that states can adequately punish offenders. Protection ensures that victims are safe after they are freed and aims to reduce the number of people who enter the industry. The three-pronged system is a solid framework because it addresses the multi-faceted nature of human trafficking. Delegates may use this approach or devise a system that they think best mitigates the devastating impacts of the human trafficking industry.

One subset of the fight against human trafficking is the focus on sexual exploitation. Many people believe sexual exploitation to be one and the same as human trafficking because they are unaware of the endurance of forced exploitation for labor.<sup>182</sup> Roughly 25% of all victims of human trafficking are subject to sexual exploitation, meaning that the other 75% of victims do not receive the same attention from the general public. By bringing more attention on all victims of trafficking, the public can help support all victims of the crime of trafficking.

### Increased Standardization and Coordination

Because human trafficking affects all states and often involves the crossing of state borders, all member states have a stake in solving the human trafficking problem. Since many cases of trafficking involve more than one state, coordinating efforts between the international community

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<sup>182</sup> - Melissa Grant, "The truth about trafficking: it's not just about sexual exploitation," *The Guardian*, October 24, 2012, <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2012/oct/24/truth-about-trafficking-sexual-exploitation>.



will prove paramount. Past efforts show that international cooperation is necessary because trafficking is rarely contained in one geographical area (see INTERPOL-directed operation in Central/South America detailed in the *Past Actions* section).

Information gathering is the first and most essential aspect of combating human trafficking. Without intel about illicit activities and humanitarian crimes, INTERPOL and other police authorities cannot take the necessary steps to shut down traffickers and free victims from enslavement. To ensure the detection of trafficking, it is important that local authorities utilize INTERPOL technology and databases: The I-24/7 is important for data exchange and communication, the MIND/FIND background check system helps detect offenders and victims attempting to cross borders, and the Stolen and Lost Travel Documents (SLTD) database allows authorities to check the validity of traveler documentation.<sup>183</sup><sup>184</sup><sup>185</sup>

Broader use of these tools will help standardize the anti-human trafficking effort. At MUNUC XXIX, INTERPOL can design resolutions that maximize usage of these systems. Many highly publicized terrorist and trafficking events have caused international condemnation when states failed to use INTERPOL's stolen document database, which would have prevented offenders from carrying out a criminal act. In 2013, INTERPOL Secretary Ronald Noble stated that of the 1.2 billion air travel passengers, one-third of them were able to board a plane without being checked against INTERPOL's SLTD database. Furthermore, of INTERPOL's 190 member states, fewer than 10 actively use the technology to conduct screenings—in fact, the US, Great Britain, and the United Arab Emirates conduct over half of all checks.<sup>186</sup> Making sure that member states use the systems will ensure the discovery of criminal activities. The committee can create a resolution that provides a method for ensuring compliance of member states, which may outline potential incentives and/or punishments for members.

## Improved Technological Capabilities

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<sup>183</sup> - "Data exchange."

<sup>184</sup> - "Notices."

<sup>185</sup> - "Stolen and Lost Travel Documents Database," *INTERPOL*, <http://www.interpol.int/INTERPOL-expertise/Border-management/SLTD-Database>.

<sup>186</sup> - Adam Minter, "Who's Checking Your Passport? Hardly Anyone," *Bloomberg*, May 1, 2014, <https://www.bloomberg.com/view/articles/2014-05-01/who-s-checking-your-passport-hardly-anyone>.

While INTERPOL offers a wide-variety of technologies to assist member states, there is still a lot more that can be done to improve the operations of each member state. For example, technologies have been used to train police officers, often through interactive television and online modules. New training technologies foster a greater understanding of the human trafficking industry so that authorities will be better equipped to deal with the threat in their communities. The available programs are tailored to the locale of the individual trainee but also emphasizes the transnational aspects of human trafficking so that the trainee can comprehend the issue at a more macro level.<sup>187</sup>

Advanced technology is also important for reducing document falsification. Many states utilize high-technology passports to prevent fraud and rapidly access archive systems like INTERPOL's STLD, but these technologies are not accessible across the globe. Developing states with poorer infrastructures lack the resources to implement and sustain such programs.<sup>188</sup> For example, countries in sub-Saharan Africa lack the policing capabilities and the government oversight to properly comply with UN resolutions and INTERPOL technology. In order for human trafficking to be abated, all states need effective and efficient ways of restricting the activity. INTERPOL in particular is very useful in this regard, since it operates with authorities across the globe to ensure that all members have adequate resources. In committee, members can create resolutions that address the resource and technology disparity between states, which prevents some authorities from keeping their communities safe from trafficking.

### **Harsher Sentencing**

While INTERPOL cannot mandate policies, it can serve as a forum of suggestion and advocacy. Committee can suggest harsher punishments for trafficking offenders so that people will be deterred from participating in the industry. However, it is important to note that harsher sentences often result in harsher exploitation of victims as the industry is pushed further underground to avoid detection.<sup>189</sup>

Reduced cooperation with authorities is one potential consequence of harsher punishments. Many victims become less likely to open up to police in fear of being punished themselves. Traffickers often inflict more abuse on victims when there are harsher punishments in order to deter victims from

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<sup>187</sup> - "2017 Workshop: Technology and Human Trafficking," *UNODC*, February 2008, <https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/2008/BP017TechnologyandHumanTrafficking.pdf>.

<sup>188</sup> - *Ibid.*

<sup>189</sup> - Yasmine Ergas, "The Great Debate: Is law enforcement alone enough to reduce human trafficking?" *Columbia University Journal of International Affairs*, December 4, 2012, <http://jia.sipa.columbia.edu/online-articles/great-debate-law-enforcement-alone-enough-reduce-human-trafficking/>.

aiding law enforcement.<sup>190</sup> Furthermore, some policies that increase punishments for trafficking offenses unfairly punish victims of trafficking for crimes committed while exploited and coerced.<sup>191</sup> Thus, suggesting stricter sentencing is not void of consequence. Any resolution must consider all facets of human trafficking so that punishments target the right people, increase victims' awareness of what policies protect them, and refrain from losing valuable victim cooperation in investigations.<sup>192</sup>

Resolutions must consider all parts of the human trafficking industry, including both demand and supply chains. While harsher punishments and more police investigations prove crucial in abating the problem, law enforcement-focused policies are not enough. It is imperative that the complicit demand for trafficked products and services is reduced. One such model to reduce demand was the state of California's Transparency in Supply Chains Act of 2010. The legislation required that businesses doing business in California remove slavery and human trafficking from their production processes.<sup>193</sup> Committee may decide to create a similar resolution but should also consider how such resolution can be enforced and what potential backlash to such reform might be.

### **Recommending Sanctions**

Ensuring compliance of member states to any agreed upon resolution is one of the best ways to make sure that resolutions are effectively implemented. While INTERPOL resolutions are not legally binding, member states can independently or collectively choose to take action against states not fulfilling obligations and duties that INTERPOL deems necessary. For example, if INTERPOL at MUNUC XXIX passes a resolution that requires member states to use the INTERPOL SLTD database that many have failed to consistently use, committee can include a provision that recommends sanctioning non-abiding member states. Safeguard measures like this can be a good way to increase compliance by member states that otherwise may abstain from participation. Safeguards that protect the legitimacy of resolutions also increase the authority of INTERPOL as a commanding international body.

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<sup>190</sup> - Ibid.

<sup>191</sup> - Ivy Suriyopas, "More penalties for prostitution won't help victims of human trafficking," *The Guardian*, January 20, 2014, <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/jan/20/prostitution-human-trafficking-victims-penalties-law>.

<sup>192</sup> - Ergas.

<sup>193</sup> - "California Transparency in Supply Chains Act Takes Effect January 1, 2012," *JD Supra Corporate Law Report*, December 9, 2011, <http://corporatelaw.jdsupra.com/post/california-transparency-in-supply-chains-takes-effect>.

## Bloc Positions

The position a country's government takes on human trafficking is influenced by several factors that can oftentimes be at odds. A country's domestic and global involvement in the fight against human trafficking depends on its economic well-being and its government's focus on the specific issue. Over 90% of nations have directly criminalized human trafficking. Even within this group, however, legal regulations and the rate of enforcement of these laws varies greatly.<sup>194</sup> It is important to note that human trafficking is a very international problem: over 60% of all victims cross at least one national border.<sup>195</sup> These victims are moved from a group of origin countries to a group of destination countries. The general status of a country as an origin or endpoint can help guide policy making and international alignment because each group has a differing set of problems to deal with in regards to human trafficking. This certainly should not be a hard division of countries into blocs since 40% of trafficking victims remain in their original country. In the context of INTERPOL, it helps to take an international perspective.<sup>196</sup>

### Origin Countries

*Russia, India, Brazil, Kenya, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Mexico, Djibouti, Afghanistan, Ukraine, Romania, Chile, Vietnam, Nigeria, Sudan, South Africa, Pakistan, and Thailand*

Countries where traffickers entrap victims tend to have large populations of socioeconomically disadvantaged or often repressed people. These factors play into the hands of traffickers who lure such people into modern slavery with the promise of jobs, money, or education.<sup>197</sup> It must be noted that just because these countries are considered origin countries does not mean they do not have their own domestic trafficking problems. Indeed, China, Russia, and Thailand are common endpoints where both domestic and international victims are trafficked.<sup>198</sup> Their position in this bloc makes sense because these countries have great outflows of victims. Victims of trafficking who are brought into these countries tend to be from neighboring countries, with over 94% of all victims in these countries

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<sup>194</sup> - "Global Report on Trafficking in Persons."

<sup>195</sup> - Ibid.

<sup>196</sup> - Ibid.

<sup>197</sup> - "Who are Human Traffickers?" *Human Rights First*, 2014, <http://www.humanrightsfirst.org/resource/who-are-human-traffickers>.

<sup>198</sup> - "Global Report on Trafficking in Persons."

coming from the same region.<sup>199</sup> This bloc's policy stance would tend toward stopping the entrapment of victims as well apprehending criminal trafficking networks. A distinct problem for this bloc is identifying victims of trafficking because victims are often from the region and the labor abuse among the poor population is common. As such, the policy focus leans toward identification, strengthening/enforcement of existing laws, and stopping the trafficking of victims out of the country.<sup>200</sup>

## Endpoint Countries

*United States, France, United Kingdom, Canada, Germany, Australia, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, Japan, Belgium, Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, Iran, South Korea, Argentina, and Panama*

Endpoint countries generally tend to be more well off economically for the same reason that origin countries are not: there are fewer disadvantaged people for traffickers to take advantage of.<sup>201</sup> However, these countries still have a presence of human trafficking because of continued illicit demand. In these countries, over 40% of trafficking victims are not from the same region or country.<sup>202</sup> This is a substantially higher proportion than in origin countries. The problems these countries face overlap with those faced by origin countries but are unique because it is difficult to identify victims and help them without causing them harm by prosecuting them for crimes they may have committed or deporting them.<sup>203</sup> This is one of a few key conflicts between origin and endpoint countries because victims of trafficking can be classified as illegal immigrants. Endpoint countries may push for a greater impetus from origin countries to prevent trafficking from happening because it would reduce the burden on law enforcement in endpoint countries.

On average, origin countries face greater problems with government and law enforcement corruption which endpoint countries could push to resolve. On the other hand, origin countries may pressure endpoint countries to more closely scrutinize businesses known to take advantage of victims of trafficking. Both of these actions can be undertaken through coordinated recommendations for international sanctions as discussed in the *Possible Solutions* section.

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<sup>199</sup> - Ibid.

<sup>200</sup> - "Trafficking for Forced Labor," *UN Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking*, 2016, <http://www.ungift.org/knowledgehub/en/about/trafficking-for-forced-labour.html>.

<sup>201</sup> - "2015 Trafficking in Persons Report," *US State Department*, 2015, <https://www.state.gov/documents/organization/245365.pdf>.

<sup>202</sup> - Ibid.

<sup>203</sup> - "Global Report on Trafficking in Persons."

## Special Cases

### *China, Italy, and Greece*

A few countries cannot be categorized neatly as either origin or destination countries because they share characteristics of both. In fact, there are only three countries but they are worth noting because their situations are different enough that their policy stances do not necessarily align with those of other countries. China is both an origin and endpoint country; thousands of victims are brought into the country from Southeast Asia and thousands of Chinese victims are brought to Western Europe and North America.<sup>204</sup> Italy and Greece are the other two special case nations. These countries are endpoints for human trafficking but they also serve as transit points from where traffickers bring victims into other countries in Europe.<sup>205</sup> The consequences are complex and significant for the positions China, Italy, and Greece will take.

China has maintained a generally anti-interventionist stance in foreign policy, focusing instead on its own sustained economic growth and its influence in the region.<sup>206</sup> While it has prosecuted trafficking within its borders and harshened sentencing for criminals, it has not significantly influenced world policy except when it is directly involved.<sup>207</sup>

Italy and Greece face enormous problems with refugees arriving from Islamic State-afflicted areas as well as from North Africa.<sup>208</sup> Italy itself received over 150,000 asylum seekers by sea in 2015 who are particularly vulnerable to becoming victims of trafficking. Greece received nearly 900,000 refugees in 2015.<sup>209</sup> Both countries are listed as compliant with the UNODC's standards for combatting human trafficking especially as members of the EU.<sup>210</sup> However, the sheer numbers of refugees they

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<sup>204</sup> - "Global Report on Trafficking in Persons."

<sup>205</sup> - Ibid.

<sup>206</sup> - Andrew Nathan, "Principles of China's Foreign Policy," *Asia for Educators*, 2009, [http://afe.easia.columbia.edu/special/china\\_1950\\_forpol\\_principles.htm](http://afe.easia.columbia.edu/special/china_1950_forpol_principles.htm).

<sup>207</sup> - "2016 Trafficking in Persons Report: China," *US State Department*, 2016, <http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/countries/2016/258744.htm#>.

<sup>208</sup> - "2016 Trafficking in Persons Report: Italy," *US State Department*, 2016, <http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/countries/2016/258790.htm>.

<sup>209</sup> - "2016 Trafficking in Persons Report: Greece," *US State Department*, 2016, <http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/countries/2016/258774.htm>.

<sup>210</sup> - Ibid.

face make it difficult to handle the problem. For refugees who do receive asylum, they are generally able to travel throughout the European Union which means they are particularly attractive targets for criminals. These two countries' policies focus on managing refugees and investigating trafficking networks targeting refugees.<sup>211</sup>

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<sup>211</sup> - Ibid.

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