



## **Disarmament and International Security (First Committee)**

President: José Manuel Romero Santana

Moderator: Paola Leonor Reynaga Jasso

Conference Officer: Mariam Fernanda Hernández Lara



"Knowledge is power. Information is liberating.  
Education is the premise of progress."  
- Kofi Annan

Esteemed delegates,

It is an honor and a privilege to extend the warmest welcome to TOLMUN 2023. On behalf of Tecnológico de Monterrey and the Organizing Committee, we greet you and express our gratitude for being a part of our Model United Nations 2023.

TOLMUN has always been a unique opportunity for you, the leaders of tomorrow, to explore and address the most important and compelling global challenges of our time. Over the next few days, you will have the chance to represent different nations and play a crucial role in seeking solutions to complex international problems, harnessing the power of research and debate.

There is no doubt that the most significant aspect of a model is all of you, the delegates. Your enthusiasm for participation fosters a diplomatic and competitive environment. The best delegates are those who are committed to their goals, who advocate for their positions, and, above all, those who drive forward the ideas that will contribute to building a better world. We understand that debating and defending a position can be demanding, but your effort and willingness to do so make a difference.

The primary objective is for you to enrich yourselves with an experience that broadens your perspective on the world we live in. As delegates, you will develop diplomatic skills, make connections, and foster that much-needed spirit of global awareness in today's world. This experience will shape you as individuals and contribute to your academic and, more importantly, personal development. Although the challenges, stress, and debates may be demanding, we assure you that in the end, it will all be rewarding.

Never cease to participate, debate, listen, and, above all, learn.

On behalf of the entire organizing committee, thank you very much for your valuable participation in TOLMUN 2023. Good luck, delegates, and we wish you great success.

Sincerely,

**Juan Pablo Sánchez Saldívar**  
Secretario General

**Valeria Tapia Morales**  
Subsecretaria General



## CARTA DE BIENVENIDA A DELEGADOS DE MESA

We take great pride in assuming the role as your Presiding Chair, and we sincerely acknowledge your initiative and sense of responsibility in joining this event. Your participation marks an essential moment, one that promises to transform your perspectives on the topics that will be discussed. We cannot emphasize enough our enthusiasm for guiding you through this journey, with the hope of witnessing your future progress and determination in making a lasting impact. This accentuates the importance of research and well-founded arguments.

TOLMUN represents a distinctive opportunity that broadens our understanding of the society in which we currently live in, as we collectively strive for positive and meaningful changes. It facilitates the development of empathy towards those individuals who, due to their circumstances, are unable to raise their voices regarding their concerns. We encourage you to engage in respectful debating without hesitation.

Our shared responsibility is to extend our support to those in need, assuring them that they are not alone, and that there are people attentive to their concerns. This experience will give you a sense of humanity that no other can offer.

Representing an entire country within this model requires meaningful preparation, as it involves assuming the position of another delegation and, foremost, demands a profound level of courage.

TOLMUN offers a secure and welcoming environment, where every person is granted the opportunity for active participation. It is imperative not to be overwhelmed by the model, as even those occupying major roles were, at one point, situated in a similar position, embarking upon a journey of exploration and adaptation to a new system.

We extend our profound wishes for your greatest success throughout this edition of TOLMUN, and trust that you certainly will have a splendid and rewarding experience with us.

Sincerely,  
President, José Manuel Romero Santana  
Moderator, Paola Leonor Reynaga Jasso  
Conference Officer, Mariam Fernanda Hernández Lara



## ABOUT THE COMMITTEE

The United Nations (UN) Disarmament and International Security Committee was created as the first committee in the General Assembly in 1945 when the United Nations' Charter was signed. This committee works with topics related to disarmament, global challenges and threats to peace that affect the international community and seeks out solutions to the issues established in the international security regime.

Since the First Committee is part of the General Assembly the 193 members of it can participate, some examples of participant members are the United States of America, China, France, Germany, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, etc. nonetheless, the list of participants may change depending on what topics are being discussed.

The very first General Assembly resolution named "Establishment of a Commission to Deal with the Problems Raised by the Discovery of Atomic Energy", was adopted on recommendation by the First Committee on 24 January 1946, in London, in order to define the management of development, usage, and control of atomic (nuclear) energy for military and civilian applications.

This committee cooperates with the United Nations Disarmament Commission and the Geneva-based Conference on Disarmament.

The First Committee sessions are structured into three stages:

1. General debate
2. Thematic discussions
3. Action on drafts

This committee considers all the general principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security, as well as principles governing disarmament and the regulation of armaments. Another important point is that this committee works with the promotion of cooperative arrangements and builds up stability through lower levels of armaments.



#### References:

- DISEC: Disarmament & International Security Committee | IMUNA | NHSMUN | Model UN. (2020). IMUNA | NHSMUN | Model UN. <https://imuna.org/nhsmun/nyc/committees/disecc-disarmament-international-security-committee/>
- *General Assembly of the United Nations*. (n.d). Retrieved August 23, 2023, from: <https://www.un.org/en/ga/first/>



## TOPIC A:

### Cyber Terrorism.

According to the UNODC *“There is no consensus on a definition of cybercrime”*.

The diffusion of disinformation, the theft of confidential information and attacks on critical infrastructures are actions that are classified as cyberterrorism. Cyberterrorist attacks damage directly the security and well-being of the citizens of the country which receives the attack. Cyberterrorism also relates to the intentional deployment of digital tools with the aim of causing panic, fear or harm within society. Examples of cyberterrorism include attacks on critical infrastructure, spreading untruth, and stealing vulnerable information.

The INTERPOL's Cyber Threat Report said that in the year of 2022 there was an increase of a 64% in terrorist-motivated cyberattacks compared to the last year, on another hand, according to the UN, the Office of Counterterrorism (UNOCT) launched several initiatives in the field of cybersecurity and new technologies. Both the United Nations and INTERPOL play a crucial role in coordinating global responses.

The prevention of cyberterrorism involves technological, legislative and educational measures. Investments in cybersecurity must be implemented, the promotion of education for digital citizenship and the regulation of cyber activity. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime while certain countries have national cyberterrorism laws (e.g., India, Section 66-F, Information Technology Act of 2000; Pakistan, Section 10, Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act of 2016; and Kenya, Section 33, Computer Misuse and Cybercrimes Act of 2018), cyberterrorism is not explicitly prohibited under international law (NATO CCD COE, 2012, p. 156). In addition, openness between states and better cooperation in identifying and judging criminals should be encouraged.

According to the Europol Cybercrime is a growing problem for countries, such as EU Member States, in most of which internet infrastructure is well developed and payment systems are online. So, for reducing cyberterrorist threats, it is imperative for the countries to invest in their cybersecurity systems, this is a very complicated job for a country to do by itself which proves why it is necessary to have international cooperation to have a better development in security to decrease or even eliminate cyberterrorism. It is important to mention that any counter-terrorism measure should always respect human rights and the rule of law of the delegation these proposals are implemented to end with this threat and guarantee that new technologies are used for a positive impact rather than a negative one.



## Key questions

1. Does the delegation you represent have any established politics on how to act after a cyberterrorist attack?
2. What role does the delegation you represent assume in international cooperation against cyberterrorism?
3. Considering the position of the country you represent, which are possible plans to promote the development of cybersecurity and stop cyberterrorism?
4. Has the delegation you represent suffered any cyberterrorist attack recently or in the past years? If yes, by whom?

## References:

- *Cybersecurity and new technologies*. (n.d.). Wwww.un.org. Retrieved August 25, 2023, from <https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/cybersecurity>
- *Cybercrime*. (n.d.). Europol. Retrieved September 9, 2023, from <https://www.europol.europa.eu/crime-areas-and-statistics/crime-areas/cybercrime>
- *INTERPOL report shows alarming rate of cyberattacks during COVID-19*. (2020, August 04). INTERPOL. Retrieved August 25, 2023, from <https://www.interpol.int/en/News-and-Events/News/2020/INTERPOL-report-shows-alarming-rate-of-cyberattacks-during-COVID-19>



## TOPIC B:

Disarmament of landmines placed by non-state actors.

Paul Jefferson, one of the first humanitarian deminers, said *“A landmine is the perfect soldier: Ever courageous, never sleeps, never misses”*.

According to the definition of the Article 2° of the Mine Ban Convention; landmines are designed to detonate by the presence, proximity or contact of any presence, and that's exactly why mines can cause significant injuries or even death to those who set them off. A crucial point to take into consideration is that not only individuals are affected by these devices, the whole economy, ecosystem and society of the delegation where the landmine explosion occurred is seriously destabilized; this damage is exactly why non-state actors such as terrorists, extremist groups, and even other countries place landmines for the sole purpose of harming.

Landmines are an obstacle for progress in every aspect of development because of the long-term impact they cause in the delegation they are placed in. Most of the countries affected by this issue are located on the continents of Asia and Africa, and according to the Landmine Monitor of 2022 *“Syria recorded the highest number of annual casualties (1,227) for the third year in a row, closely followed by Afghanistan (1,074), which has had over a thousand annual casualties for more than a decade.”* These are alarming facts that call every country to take action.

Due to this critical reality the disarmament of landmines have always been a topic of world interest and on 18 September 1997 in Oslo Norway a Convention came as a result of the commitment of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and the International Committee of the Red Cross working in partnership with a core group of States which later was signed on 3-4 December 1997 in Ottawa, Canada, remaining open until the Convention entered into force on 1 March 1999, this Convention is mostly known as the “Mine Ban Treaty” or the “Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention”.

To date there are 164 States that are formally participating in this treaty, unfortunately there are still 33 delegations that haven't formally agreed to it in which the United States of America, China and the Russian Federation stand out as well as Egypt, Iran, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Republic of Korea, and Israel. These States are highlighted due to their significant international impact.

The disarmament of landmines is a very complicated process that requires a considerable number of resources which is why it is indispensable to have international support, not only to assist the most affected countries, but also to build an enduring peace.





#### Key questions:

1. According to the ideals of the delegation you represent, what is their position regarding landmines?
2. Does the delegation you represent participate in the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention? If not, explain why considering the situation and position of the delegation.
3. Has the delegation you represent been affected due to landmines placed by non-state actors in any way?
4. Does the delegation you represent have any action plan for the disarmament of landmines placed by non-state actors? How are they going to achieve it?

#### References:

- AP Mine Ban Convention. (2023). Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention. Retrieved August 23, 2023, from: <https://www.apminebanconvention.org/en/>
- Khamis, A. (2015, February 27). Minesweepers uses robotics' awesomeness to raise awareness about landmines & explosive remnants of war - Robohub. Romohub. Retrieved August 23, 2023, from <https://robohub.org/minesweepers-uses-robotics-awesomeness-to-raise-awareness-about-landmines-explosive-remnants-of-war/>
- Landmine Monitor 2022: Increase of use of landmines driven by Russia, Myanmar and non-state armed groups | HI. (2022). Retrieved August 23, 2023, from: <https://www.hi.org/en/news/increase-of-use-of-landmines-driven-by-russia--myanmar-and-non-state-armed-groups>
- Staff Reports. (2018, January 8). The Effects of Landmines in Poor Countries. BORGEM; BORGEM. Retrieved August 23, 2023, from: <https://www.borgenmagazine.com/effects-of-landmines-in-poor-countries/>



## CONTACT

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NOTE: the position sheet will have to be sent to this contact.

Submission date for review: between September 26 and 29.

Submission date to meet requirement: until before the first session on October 5