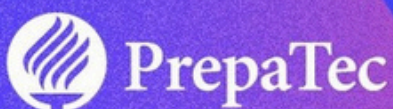




United Nations
Office on Drugs
and Crime
UNODC



MORELIA 2024



President: Sofía García Chávez

Moderator: Sofía León Voirol

Conference Officer: Sandra Natalia Hernández Escutia

Dear Delegates,

We are pleased to welcome you to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Committee at MUNMX 2024. We eagerly anticipate your participation and expect your best effort throughout the conference. The Dais is composed of Sofía García Chávez as President, Sofía León Voirol as Moderator, and Sandra Natalia Hernández Escutia as Conference Officer. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to us. We wish you the best of luck.

Committee Overview:

The aim of this committee is to address key issues such as narcotics, corruption, organized crime, terrorism, and crime prevention, while promoting criminal justice and peace. The UNODC was established in 1997 through the merger of the United Nations Centre for International Crime Prevention and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, as initiated by the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

“UNODC is committed to achieving security and justice for all by making the world safer from drugs, crime and terrorism.” (UNODC, n.d.). To achieve this, there are six key objectives that this office is carrying out: Strengthening the legislative and judicial capacity, assisting countries to reduce drug and people trafficking and controlling precursor chemicals, enhancing the government institutions to prevent drug use and spread of infections, creating awareness and promoting victim empowerment.



TOPIC A

Increase in drug trafficking due to Fentanyl and its regulatory parameters

Fentanyl, a synthetic opioid, was originally developed in 1960 as an analgesic for patients with severe pain, being 100 times more potent than morphine. For over 50 years, it was primarily used in medical contexts, but in recent years it has appeared in illegal laboratories, where it is mixed with other illicit substances. Since 2014, U.S. border authorities have intercepted increasing amounts of fentanyl, with over 27,000 pounds seized from October 2022 to September 2023.

Fentanyl abuse contributes to organized crime, insecurity, and increased human and arms trafficking, with over 55,000 overdose deaths annually in the U.S. alone.

Existing solutions:

In order to tackle this issue, several conventions have been adopted in recent years. Three conventions are considered the most impactful due to their focus on promoting international consensus and cooperation against illicit drug trafficking.

The first is the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, which aimed to consolidate other multilateral treaties and control borders by establishing the International Narcotics Control Board. Thanks to this convention, collaboration among more than 140 countries became possible. It was later complemented by the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances, which extended international control to certain drugs, such as LSD and amphetamines.

The United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 was another crucial convention, as it addressed money laundering, rerouting of precursor chemicals, and expanded control over substances used in the illicit production of controlled drugs. It also promoted the extradition of drug traffickers, controlled deliveries, and the transfer of proceedings (UNODC, 2020).

In addition to these conventions, in 2024, the USA introduced the National Drug Threat Assessment, which aims to raise awareness and provide law enforcement agencies with the tools to formulate counterdrug policies. This proposal includes enforcement operations to combat drug cartels operating in the country (National Drug Threat Assessment, 2024).

Key Questions:

- How is your delegation affected by the social and economic impacts of this issue?
- Is your delegation part of any treaties or laws addressing this issue?
- Is fentanyl produced or trafficked in your country? What are the main countries involved?
- What resources does your delegation offer to assist people affected by this issue?

Support links:

Alternatives for solutions:

ICE.(2024).ESTRATEGIAS PARA COMBATIR LOS OPIOIDES ILÍCITOS.
<https://www.ice.gov/es/features/estrategia-opioides>

Treaties, conventions and opportunities:

UNODC.(n.d). Drug Trafficking <https://www.unodc.org/e4j/zh/organized-crime/module-3/key-issues/drug-trafficking.html>

Strategies already taken:

U.S Department of Justice. (n.d).Objective 2.5: Combat Drug Trafficking and Prevent Overdose Deaths. <https://www.justice.gov/doj/doj-strategic-plan/objective-25-combat-drug-trafficking-and-prevent-overdose-deaths>

Situation with exportation in USA:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection.(2024).CBP: America's Front Line Against Fentanyl.
<https://www.cbp.gov/frontline/cbp-america-s-front-line-against-fentanyl>



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CPB America's Frontline Against Fentanyl. (2024). US. Customs and Border Protection. <https://www.cbp.gov/frontline/cbp-america-s-front-line-against-fentanyl>

Gutierrez, I. (2023). Science in Mexico is facing the fentanyl crisis. TecScience. Tecnológico de Monterrey. <https://tecscience.tec.mx/en/health/what-is-fentanyl-used-for/>

International Narcotics Control Board. (n.d.). United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988. United Nations. <https://www.incb.org/incb/en/precursors/1988-convention.html>

National Drug Threat Assessment. (2024). U.S. Department of Justice. Drug Enforcement Administration. https://www.dea.gov/sites/default/files/2024-05/NDTA_2024.pdf

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United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (2020). Drug trafficking. <https://www.unodc.org/e4j/zh/organized-crime/module-3/key-issues/drug-trafficking.html>



Dear Delegates,

We would like to welcome you to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Committee at MUN MX 2024. We look forward to your participation and expect you to give your best effort. During these sessions, the Dais will be composed of Sofía García Chávez as your president, Sandra Natalia Hernández Escutia as your moderator, and Sofía León Voirol as your conference officer. We are always available in case you have any doubts or concerns, so do not hesitate to reach out to us for help. We wish everyone the best of luck.

Committee:

The purpose of this committee is to combat narcotics, corruption, organized crime, terrorism, and to prevent crime while promoting criminal justice. We aim to promote peace by providing solutions to these threats. UNODC was created in 1997 through the merger of the United Nations Centre for International Crime Prevention and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, as established by the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

"UNODC is committed to achieving security and justice for all by making the world safer from drugs, crime, and terrorism." (UNODC, n.d.).

To achieve this, the office is focused on six key objectives: strengthening legislative and judicial capacity, assisting countries in reducing drug and human trafficking, controlling precursor chemicals, enhancing governmental institutions to prevent drug use and the spread of infections, raising awareness, and promoting victim empowerment.

TOPIC B:

Increased Migration in Latin America Due to Drug Trafficking

"The explosion in drug trafficking can be traced back to the 1980s and 1990s, first in Colombia and then in Mexico." (The Economist, 2022). After those decades, the drug trade expanded significantly, strengthening organized crime groups and consequently increasing violence along trafficking routes. By 2018, Latin America accounted for 8% of the global population but 37% of the world's homicides.

Drug violence was mostly concentrated in areas useful for gangs, but in recent years traffickers have expanded into other countries and regions. As a result, gang-related murders in Ecuador rose to 2,100 in 2021, doubling the previous year's count and accounting for 90% of deaths in the country. (The Economist, 2022).



According to Roxana Gutierrez, over the past 30 years, the number of Central American migrants has risen from 6.8 million to 12.8 million. For example, Guatemala has seen its emigration rate increase by 295%, making it the second-highest in the region. Guatemala is also a major transit country for cocaine, which allows drug organizations to control smuggling routes.

Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean are key regions for cocaine trafficking. "For the North American market, cocaine is typically transported from Colombia to Mexico or Central America by sea and then onwards by land to the United States and Canada." (UNODC, n.d.).

Drug trafficking, youth gangs, and armed conflicts are significant causes of violence, which leads to increased migration as people feel unsafe in their home countries. Migration impacts not only the migrants but also the countries they leave and those they move to. While migration creates opportunities for the migrants, it also raises poverty levels and causes environmental impacts in the countries of origin. (Demombynes, 2011).

Existing solutions:

Over the years, various conventions and initiatives have aimed to tackle these issues. The 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances introduced measures to combat drug trafficking, money laundering, and the rerouting of precursor chemicals, promoting international cooperation (International Narcotics Control Board, n.d.).

Additionally, the UNODC and INTERPOL are working on Project Turquesa, which aims to improve understanding of smuggling and trafficking trends in Latin America and the Caribbean through research and analysis (UNODC, 2023).

The OHCHR has also been working to protect migrants' human rights by promoting rights-based approaches, ensuring the inclusion of vulnerable migrants, and combating xenophobia and racism (OHCHR, n.d.).

Key Questions:

- What is the percentage of migration in your county?
- How is migration affecting your delegation economically, socially, and environmentally?
- To which countries do most of your delegation's people migrate, and why?
- Does your delegation have any resources or organizations to help refugees and asylum seekers?

Support links:

Drug Trafficking and violence situation in Central america.

Demombynes, G. (2011). DRUG TRAFFICKING AND VIOLENCE IN CENTRAL AMERICA AND BEYOND. World Development Report 2011. <https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/fr/761351468235453648/pdf/620310WP0Drug00BOX0361475B00PUBLIC0.pdf>

Drug Situation in Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean:

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (n.d.). Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/drug-trafficking/mexico-central-america-and-the-caribbean.html>

Impact and consequences of drug conflicts in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Zepeda, R. (2023). How the drug wars impact Latin America and the Caribbean development? King's College London. <https://www.kcl.ac.uk/how-the-drug-wars-impact-latin-america-and-the-caribbean-development>

Relation on gangs, violence and migration.

The economist. (2022). How drug trafficking is (and isn't) to blame for violence in Latin America. <https://www.economist.com/the-economist-explains/2022/02/08/how-drug-trafficking-is-and-isnt-to-blame-for-violence-in-latin-america>

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Demombynes, G. (2011). DRUG TRAFFICKING AND VIOLENCE IN CENTRAL AMERICA AND BEYOND. World Development Report 2011. <https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/fr/761351468235453648/pdf/620310WP0Drug00BOX0361475B00PUBLIC0.pdf>

Gutierrez, R. (2023). Drug trafficking fuels violence leading to mass emigration: The case of Guatemala. Elsevier. https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0264999323004078?ref=pdf_download&fr=RR-2&rr=8c2e746f0903102a

International Narcotics Control Board. (n.d.). United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988. United Nations. <https://www.incb.org/incb/en/precursors/1988-convention.html>

The economist. (2022). How drug trafficking is (and isn't) to blame for violence in Latin America. <https://www.economist.com/the-economist-explains/2022/02/08/how-drug-trafficking-is-and-isnt-to-blame-for-violence-in-latin-america>

United Nation Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner. (n.d.). OHCHR and migration. https://www.ohchr.org/en/migration?gad_source=1&gclid=CjwKCAjw6JS3BhBAEiwAO9waF5Eqs2DuGdWHWXKD7dqMn2zC2ELdtLhAybAX7mGhAiZYn6Bybs-Y1BoCdnYQAvD_BwE

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United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (2023). “Americas: New joint initiative against human trafficking and migrant smuggling”. https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/press/releases/2023/July/americas_-new-joint-initiative-against-human-trafficking-and-migrant-smuggling.html

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (n.d.). Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/drug-trafficking/mexico-central-america-and-the-caribbean.html>