



## **United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime**

President: Angélica Renata García Hernández

Moderator: Emilio Garduño Zepeda

Conference Officer: Daniela Carrillo Gómez



"Courage is the resistance to fear, the mastery of fear, not the absence of fear."  
– Mark Twain

Dear delegates,

It is an honor to welcome you to TOLMUN 2024, a particularly significant model as we celebrate its 30th anniversary, which for three decades has encouraged thousands of students to use their full potential for the well-being of the world in which we live. On behalf of the Tecnológico de Monterrey and the Organizing Committee, we extend our greetings and our gratitude for being part of this important history.

For 30 years, TOLMUN has been a place where bold and committed young people become the leaders of tomorrow to dialogue, debate, and above all, to transform the world. This model has witnessed countless ideas that have challenged the status quo, brave voices that have raised their hands in favor of justice, and the construction of a better future.

This year, more than ever, we find ourselves at a moment where you, the delegates, have the opportunity to continue the story. It is not just about representing different nations, but about expressing your way of thinking and coming together as one to solve problems.

The heart of this model is you, the delegates, who motivate us year after year with your enthusiasm, talent and commitment that allows you to continue writing the history of TOLMUN and without realizing it you are already doing something that many others do not do; raising your voice and facing the challenges of the world.

Never stop participating, debating, and above all, daring. You are already changing the world. Let's celebrate 30 years of doing it together!

On behalf of the entire organizing committee, thank you very much for your participation in TOLMUN 2024, good luck delegates, we wish you much success.

Sincerely:

Valeria Tapia Morales  
Secretaria General

Maria Fernanda Zenil Cruz  
Subsecretaria General



## Welcome letter to delegates

*Crime ends innocence to get a prize and innocence fights with all its strength against the attempts of crime”*

*- Maximilien de Robespierre*

Dear and honorable delegates, it is a pleasure for us to welcome you to the committee of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). We hope that you get involved in the most serious way possible in this committee, we want you to enjoy and learn as many things as you can about the topics that we selected for you, and last but not least, we want you to remember the marvelous experience of being part of a model of the United Nations in the UNODC committee. In the past years, UNODC has become a world leader in the fight against illicit drugs and international crime, and it is also a major factor in the implementation of the United Nations' flagship counter-terrorism program.

This is why we are pleased that you decided to join the UNODC committee. With your contributions to the debate we can accomplish to find solutions to the topics selected, and in that way we can lead the way in order to make this world a better place to live. The change starts with us. In addition to finding solutions to the topics selected, our main objective with you delegates, is to encourage your activist spirit, your critical thinking; we want to encourage you to think outside of the box, and most importantly, to increase your self-confidence. Be assured that this experience will help you in your academic and personal life in an impressive way.

We trust that this discussion will encourage your delegations to think and reflect about the best way forward for your country and for the broader global community in regards to these important matters. We encourage each delegation to take an open minded approach to the variety of opinions and perspectives present in the committee. Hopefully, you will take this as an opportunity to initiate important conversations and make the world a better place. Finally, we would like to remind you that we are at your disposal if you require a clarification on a specific subject or issue. Please do not hesitate to contact us. Our objective is to ensure that all delegations are well informed for us to make the most out of the debate.

Our best regards

The chair.

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## ABOUT COMMITTEE

UNODC was founded in 1997, and nowadays, UNODC is formed by 500 civil servants and officials all around the world. Its principal headquarters are located in Vienna, Austria, however, at present time, UNODC has 21 field offices in more than 150 countries, as well as liaison offices in New York and Brussels. All of these are in direct collaboration with governments and non-governmental organizations. The committee field staff formulate and implement the drug control and crime avoidance programmes tailored to the particular needs of countries.

The main function and purpose of this committee is to educate people of all ages and countries about everything that has to do with the dangers that are presented while using drugs, give strength to international interventions opposed to the production and traffic of illicit drugs and all related delinquency developed in society because of them. Over and above that, UNODC contributes improvement on organized crime prevention and provides help in criminal justice, reforms the rule of law, promotes stable criminal justice systems and combat the growing threats of international organized crime and corruption. All of these can make the laws against organized crime more stable and strong in order for it to become secure and powerful.

The mission of UNODC is to expand peace and global security in order for the world to become a better place to live and keep it safer from drugs, crime, corruption, and terrorism.

Currently, UNODC is considered a world leader in the fight against illicit drugs and international crime, and it is also a major factor in the implementation of the United Nations' flagship counter-terrorism program.

The committees work is guided by an extensive range of international instruments and a set of United Nations standards on crime prevention and criminal justice, such as the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC).

These two conventions are in charge of fighting against private and public corruption in national and international sectors. As well, both are responsible for going against transnational organized crime. This means and includes measures such as criminalization of participation in organized criminal groups, combating money laundering, protection and assistance to victims and witnesses, special investigative techniques, mutual legal assistance, extradition and international cooperation.

In order for UNODC to accomplish their purposes that we have stated so far, the committee has launched several initiatives, including alternatives to the cultivation and trafficking of illicit drugs, the monitoring of illicit crops and the implementation of anti-money laundering



projects. In 2002, the General Assembly approved an expanded program of activities for everything related to Terrorism Prevention Branch of UNODC. Activities focus on assisting States, upon request, in the ratification and implementation of the 18 universal legal instruments against terrorism. In addition, UNODC has a variety of projects and campaigns that have had a huge impact on the fight against drug and crime. Some of them are: World Drug Day, International Anti-Corruption Day, Blue Heart against human trafficking, World Day against Trafficking in Persons, Women In / For Justice, 20th anniversary of the UN Convention against Organized Crime (UNTO20).

The latest global report of drugs around the world that UNODC published in 2023 states that UNODC has achieved a record programme delivery in areas with border management, alternative development, anti corruption, fighting wildlife and forest crime, terrorism avoidance and money laundering. This made the committee reach an overall implementation rate of 102.7. This marks the largest expenditure by thematic area related with organized crime while supporting Member states to effectively implement the UN Convention mentioned before against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and its respective protocols.

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## TOPIC A

### **Addressing Issues involved in arms smuggling, and money laundering**

Arms smuggling has been a problem all around the globe for many decades, there are over 1 billion weapons in circulation up to this day, 85% of them are in the hands of private individuals and it is one of the major concerns for the United Nations and other international organizations. Twelve billion bullets are produced every year, ending with 600 lives everyday. 71% of homicides include a weapon or firearm.

One of the most profitable businesses worldwide is the smuggling and trafficking of arms, the identification of illegally crafted weapons is really hard to accomplish due to the fact that they are traded both licit and illicit. In 2005 the United Nations adopted the Firearms Protocol, this protocol is looking to combat and eradicate the illicit manufacturing and trafficking of small arms and light weapons, the idea was to provide measures to address its connection to organized crime. This protocol not only covers the firearms manufacturing and trafficking issue, but also the ammunition and all the weapon's parts and components.

Another instrument is the ATT (Arms Trade Treaty), this was entered into force in 2014 and even though it covers the same topics, the ATT specifies that applies particularly to: "all conventional arms within the following categories: (a) battle tanks; (b) armored combat vehicles; (c) large- caliber artillery systems; (d) combat aircraft; (e) attack helicopters; (f) warships; (g) missiles and missile launchers; and (h) small arms and light weapons" (article 2, Arms Trade Treaty).

The criminal uses money laundering to disguise their financial assets of illegal origin. This process allows those who make it to enjoy these profits without compromising the source. The UNODC estimates that between 2 and 5% of the global GDP is laundered every year. Organized crime groups place their assets into the legal economy through different networks, which need to be traced if the assets also want to be traced. In the GPLM (Global Programme against Money Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the financing of Terrorism) the UNODC seeks to provide help and assistance to countries to reinforce their anti-money laundering capacity.

GPLM has the obligation of developing effective and comprehensive natural, legal and regulatory frameworks, and the necessary infrastructure and professional skills to implement them in obedience to the UN instruments and standards. GPLM is also promoting national coordination and international cooperation on a number of issues concerning money laundering.



### KEY QUESTIONS:

1. How is your country confronting arm trafficking and money laundering? 2. Is your country doing anything to prevent these problems?
3. How does money laundering affect your country's economy? 4. What can be made to reduce the buying and selling of illegal weapons in your country?

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## TOPIC B

### **Disrupting International Drug Cartels in ensuring Political Stability**

The objective of organized crime is not to destroy the government. What they really want is to continue with their practices and to be undisturbed. However, organized criminals can harm democratic stability when they become too involved in politics.

Drug-related violence has escalated in Central America and Mexico in recent decades. Most drug trafficking is done in Latin America, however, the biggest markets for these substances are in the United States and Europe. This is because countries with weak economies can cause government instability and corruption. The earnings of traffickers are enormous, making it easy to offer large amounts of capital to high level politicians to stay quiet about certain topics.

When a government has to re-establish authority, it will most likely turn to their military as a security measure. In some countries, territory has been lost to criminal groups, and the use of armed forces becomes necessary. A clear example of this is when a military operation was launched by former Mexican President Felipe Calderon between 2006 and 2018. Despite the ongoing efforts to slow the production of these substances, the problem continues.

Attention has also recently shifted towards some African countries because of their unstable economies. Unfortunately, West Africa is one of the main targets of trafficking, with the objective to sell to the large markets in Europe. Often, African traffickers provide assistance to Cartels from Central and South America. Being one of the most unstable regions on earth makes it difficult for governments to counteract the effects of these operations.

Many of the countries that have legalized these substances have had positive effects. The prohibition of drugs has only increased their value. By making them legal and accessible, they no longer have the same significance, decreasing the demand of trafficked goods. This is one of the strategies that some countries implemented to weaken cartels.

UNODC has found that one of the main risk factors when it comes to crime prevention is substance abuse. Which can lead to poverty, unemployment, low literacy and violence. All these factors added are some of the main causes of criminal activity around the world.

#### **KEY QUESTIONS:**

1. Has your country made any efforts to combat organized crime?
2. How does drug trafficking affect your country?
3. What are the solutions that your country has implemented?
4. Are Drugs legalized in your delegation?





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NOTA: Busca en el siguiente drive el comité al que perteneces y sube tu hoja de posición ahí.

Fecha límite 1ro de Octubre.

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