

XXXVII

TECMUN

Commission on Narcotic
Drugs

XXXVII TECMUN
Session Schedule

Monday, April 15th

Registration	8:00 – 9:00 h.
Opening Ceremony	9:00 – 10:00 h.
Break	10:00 – 10:30 h.
First Session	10:30 – 12:30 h.
Break	12:30 – 13:00 h.
Second Session	13:00 – 15:00 h.
Meal	15:00 – 16:00 h.
Third Session	16:00 – 18:00 h.

Tuesday, April 16th

Master Conference	8:30 – 9:30 h.
Break	9:30 – 10:00 h.
Fourth Session	10:00 – 12:30 h.
Break	12:30 – 13:00 h.
Fifth Session	13:00 – 15:00 h.
Meal	15:00 – 16:00 h.
Sixth Session	16:00 – 18:00 h.

Wednesday, April 17th

Seventh Session	8:00 – 9:30 h.
Break	9:30 – 10:00 h.
Eighth Session	10:00 – 12:00 h.
Break	12:00 – 12:30 h.
Ninth Session	12:30 – 14:40 h.
Meal	14:40 – 16:00 h.
Closing ceremony	16:00 – 18:00 h.

XXXVII TECMUN
General Agenda

Secretary General: Santiago Gutiérrez Caycedo

GENERAL COORDINATION

Subsecretary of General Coordination: Lía Naomi Mejía Vargas

*Supervisor of General Coordination for Media Content: Celic Regina Ramírez
Garduño*

*Supervisor of General Coordination for Co. Secretariat: Samuel Alejandro Herrera
Tapia*

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Subsecretary General: Monserrat Ríos Fernández

Supervisor of General Coordination: María Fernanda García Bautista

United Nations General Assembly

President: William Vázquez Hernández

- A)** Measures to prevent disagreements and warlike conflicts between the nations that border the Arctic Circle coming from the militarization and exploitation of natural resources as a consequence of climate change in the region of the Arctic.
- B)** Strategies to halt the violation of human rights to the Uyghur Muslim ethnic minority in the Xinjiang province in the region of the People's Republic of China with emphasis on the concentration camps referred to as vocational education centers.

Fourth Commission of Special Political and Decolonization

President: Miranda Senties Carmona

- A)** Strategies to consolidate the Independence of Western Sahara after the territorial conflict with the Kingdom of Morocco, emphasizing the maintenance of peace and the protection of the human rights of civilians.
- B)** Measures to assure the national security in New Caledonia due to the protests caused by the political instability, prioritizing its total sovereignty.

Sexta Comisión Jurídica

Presidente: María Sigaru Alcántara Nieva

- A) Mecanismos para contrarrestar el uso inadecuado de inteligencia artificial en los Estados Unidos de América y el Estado de Israel con enfoque en los ataques cibernéticos Stuxnet, Equifax y Solarwinds a fin de instaurar disputas legales.
- B) Estrategias para reforzar el sistema legal internacional con el objetivo de erradicar las redes globales de prostitución de mujeres y niñas, con énfasis en la República Federal de Nigeria y la República de Níger.

Alto Comisionado de las Naciones Unidas para los Derechos Humanos

Presidente: Gael Santiago Pérez Guzmán

- A) Medidas para salvaguardar los derechos humanos en América Latina y el Caribe, con énfasis en las recientes protestas en la República de Nicaragua, la República de Perú, la República de Colombia, la República de Chile, la República de Honduras, los Estados Unidos Mexicanos, entre otros.
- B) Medidas para frenar las infracciones de derechos humanos en el continente africano respecto a la mutilación genital femenina, haciendo énfasis en la región de la República Democrática Federal de Etiopía.

United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

President: Yamir Bandala González

- A) Strategies to prioritize the education and health of refugees in the Near East following the Israel-Palestine conflict in Gaza.
- B) Actions to enhance the internal infrastructure for post-pandemic established refugees in Gaza and the Near East.

Liga de los Estados Árabes

Presidente: Jorge Roel Rodríguez Alcántara

A) Acciones para contrarrestar el aumento de secuestros y decesos en la República Democrática de Somalia debido a la presencia del grupo extremista Al-Shabaab, enfocándose en la protección de civiles.

B) Mecanismos para contrarrestar el Tráfico de Armas hacia los Hutíes con énfasis en la protección de la población de Yemen ante la aún presente Guerra civil.

Counter-Terrorism Committee

President: Aranza Rodríguez Chagoya

A) Measures to halt the growing menace of attacks with chemical components in the Middle East, focusing on the Syrian Arab Republic.

B) Strategies to control attacks caused by cybernetic interventions in the Middle East, with an emphasis on the Islamic Republic of Iran.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Subsecretary General: Catherine Romina Espinoza Mora

Supervisor of General Coordination: Emilio Guillen López

Entidad de las Naciones Unidas para la Igualdad de Género y el Empoderamiento de las Mujeres

Presidente: Mariana Carolina Guerrero Zárate

A) Estrategias para frenar la mutilación de genitales a niñas y mujeres de África Occidental a causa de la creencia de salvaguardar su castidad y reprimir su deseo sexual con énfasis en la República Democrática de Somalia y la República de Mali.

B) Medidas para erradicar cualquier sistema de tortura a las mujeres en el Medio Oriente con un énfasis en el Reino Hachemita de Jordania.

Commission on Narcotic Drugs

President: Sofía Juanico Ocegüera

A) Measurements to manage the production of narcotic drugs and alteration of fentanyl-based medication in the United Mexican States, with distribution to the United States of America.

B) Actions to eradicate drug trafficking in the Middle East to minimize the misuse of drugs for medical and recreational purposes.

Consortio Internacional contra los Delitos de la Vida Silvestre

Presidente: Laura Mariana González Beltrán

A) Estrategias para frenar la caza furtiva del elefante africano y el comercio ilegal de marfil en la Sabana africana, con énfasis en la promoción del desarrollo económico y social en las comunidades colindantes.

B) Acciones para frenar el comercio ilegal de especies en los Estados Unidos de América y Latinoamérica, haciendo hincapié en las especies de aves, reptiles y anfibios que habitan la región del Pacífico y la Amazonia.

Department of Peace Operations

President: Paulette Mayen Álvarez

Unique Topic) Measurements to counteract violence towards the civilians from the Republic of Cambodia to safeguard them from the communist regime.

United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

President: Frida Michelle Valadez García

A) Measures to improve access to humanitarian aid for the communities of Ituri and North Kivu following the rising wave of violence caused by armed groups in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

B) Actions to optimize humanitarian aid intervention during epidemics in developing African countries with emphasis on the cholera infection.

Organización para la Cooperación y el Desarrollo Económicos

Presidente: Yésika Pamela García Trejo

A) Acciones para mantener el nivel de empleo y el desarrollo de las fábricas automotrices de la Unión Europea reduciendo la emisión de carbono.

B) Medidas para regular la competencia laboral enfocado en la brecha de género situada en la República de Turquía y en los Estados Unidos Mexicanos.

**Comité de Expertos en Transporte de Mercancías Peligrosas y en el Sistema
Globalmente Armonizado de Clasificación y Etiquetado de Productos Químicos**

Presidente: Valeria Arroyo Jerez

- A) Medidas para moderar el uso de las sustancias perfluoroalquiladas y polifluoroalquiladas en las industrias Europeas debido a su impacto negativo en el medio ambiente y la salud humana.
- B) Estrategias para prevenir los accidentes ferroviarios y carreteros de transporte de mercancías peligrosas con énfasis en los Estados Unidos de América.

Historical Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

President: Paulo Souto Núñez

- A) Strategies to mitigate tensions between the extremist group Al Qaeda and the United States of America, following the onslaughts held against the United States of America, emphasizing on the prevention of crime through terrorist attacks. (1998 - 2001).
- B) Measures to eradicate the extremist criminal behavior of the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA), addressing the attacks of the organization inside the territory of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. (2000 - 2011).

SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND REGIONAL ORGANISMS

Subsecretary General: Bruno Ramírez Barcelata

Supervisor of General Coordination: Brenda Noreña Mejía

Comunidad Caribeña

Presidente: María José Parra Meza

- A) Medidas para contrarrestar la violencia y salvaguardar los derechos humanos de los habitantes de la República de Haití, con énfasis en el tráfico de armas, tráfico de narcóticos y corrupción en la región del Caribe.
- B) Estrategias para frenar el reclutamiento de menores para el turismo sexual con énfasis en la región del Caribe.

North Atlantic Treaty Organization

President: Regina Covarrubias Rosales

- A)** Fostering defense capacity programmes for NATO's partners, such as the Republic of Moldova, emphasizing on Transnistria's occupation by Russian forces regarding the Ukrainian conflict.
- B)** Perspectives on reinforcement for seabed warfare, undersea infrastructure and security, ensuring NATO's members safeguard regarding the damage made to Finland-Estonia submarine pipeline.

Conseil de l'Europe

Président: Sofia Dominique Morin Anguiano

- A)** Renforcement des mesures de prévention du trafic humain concernant la route du Nigeria vers l'Europe Occidentale.
- B)** Actions pour arrêter le blanchiment des moyens financiers en Europe.

Organización de las Naciones Unidas para Asuntos del Espacio Ultraterrestre

Presidente: Abril Victoria Rodríguez Aguirre

- A)** Acciones para responder al cambio de paradigma y sistema internacional en materia de los tratados de no proliferación del armamento espacial con énfasis en las normas y regulaciones de estos con el fin de prevenir la militarización del espacio y desarrollo e implementación de armamento en el mismo.
- B)** Medidas para facilitar el acceso equitativo y sostenible al espacio y sus recursos con énfasis en garantizar la inclusión de las naciones y el aprovechamiento de los recursos y la tecnología por medio de prácticas sostenibles.

Security Council

President: Aranza Michelle Castro Rivero

- A)** Actions to stop armed attacks on civilians in the Gaza Strip due to the conflict between the State of Israel and the State of Palestine.
- B)** Measures to avoid the indiscriminate use of weapons, violent clashes and reincorporation of armed groups in the region of Tripoli after the civil conflict in the State of Libya.

Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General for Children in Armed Conflict

President: Arantza González de la Peña

- A) Strategies to cease the recruitment of children in armed forces in the Syrian Arab Republic as a consequence of the civil warlike conflict, as well as ensure the fulfillment of the human rights of the affected children residing in the country.
- B) Actions to put an end to the exploitation and abuse of children in the Democratic Republic of the Congo due to the ongoing conflict and state of anarchy in the country, while ensuring the fulfillment of their human rights and basic needs.

United Nations Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect

President: Sara Sofía Govantes Cruz

- A) Strategies to curb incitement of genocide and inter-ethnic violence by armed groups, due to the multifaceted crisis in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
- B) Measures to slow down genocidal practices towards the Uyghur community in the People's Republic of China, along with the repercussions it brings.

Corte Africana de Derechos Humanos y Personas

Presidente: Beatriz Mena Torres

- A) Dominick Damian v. República Unida de Tanzania.
- B) Samia Zorgati v. República de Túnez.

Background

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) is composed of 53 Member States, founded by the Economic and Social Council in 1946. The purpose of this commission is to review, supervise and modify international narcotic substances control policies during annual regular meeting sessions between various regional groups, and it completes its function through resolutions, which are intended to enhance international or regional cooperation, coordinate regulations and identify potential changes that could improve the control of psychotropic stimulants. The CND is divided in two segments, a normative and operational fragment, which consider administrative, budgetary and active matters; it also functions as the governing body of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. The commission can add or remove drugs from international control, with the assistance of non-governmental, governmental and intergovernmental organizations, under the Psychotropic Drugs Convention (1971), with the basis of advice from the World Health Organization and the International Narcotics Control Board.

Faculties

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs is entitled to:

- Implement, modify and alter policies and legal practices to decrease the effects of narcotic substances in individuals while enhancing current security methods and regulations.
- Provide support for international non-governmental as well as government organizations, to apply norms and create programs through the creation of forums, in order to improve the efficiency of existing protocols, or create alternative procedures.

- Create expert groups of narcotic substances which disseminate, address, investigate, analyze, disclose and report data on psychotropic drugs through international governmental assemblies and conventions. By finding emerging issues and forms of drug trafficking.
- Reform existing drug regulations using legal instruments, collaborating with intergovernmental organizations and implementing drug trafficking prevention strategies, in order to prevent the increase of narcotics production and consumption.

Topic A

Actions to eradicate drug trafficking in the Middle East to minimize the misuse of drugs for medical and recreational purposes

Background

In the Middle East and North Africa, drug regulations are meticulous¹ and strict. Recently, the 22 Arab countries members of the League of Arab States (LAS) have been committed to abolish any non-medical use of narcotics or illicit drugs. Through the Permanent Anti-Narcotics Bureau of the LAS, established in 1950, and various conventions that have elaborated different international agreements against narcotic consumption and psychotropic² substances trafficking, as well as implementing independent national laws. However, chronic substance use disorders in the Middle Eastern region are a rising global concern due to an increase in the use of heroin, amphetamines and other addictive substances.

Consequently, the problem of substance abuse persists as a worldwide unease³. It is considered pertinent by the United Nations (UN) to explore different approaches to the matter, also due to the fact that the region is composed of countries with distinct cultural, legal, and social frameworks. Furthermore, conservative religious traditions play an important role in substance regulations and society's attitudes towards narcotics use. Despite the strict rules these countries are subject to, this increased focus is a direct response to the alarming surge in drug consumption and trafficking that transcend national borders. The complex combination of societal, geopolitical and economical factors contributes to the difficulty of regulating substance intake.

Although a considerable segment of the Middle East has agreed on implementing international regulations on the use of drugs and medication, the rising statistics of addiction in the continent continue to be a problem. Extremist groups like *Hezbollah* and *Al-Qaeda* have continued to facilitate drug trafficking in the region. The involvement of such groups

¹ **Meticulous:** overcareful about minute details, overscrupulous (Oxford English Dictionary, n.d)

² **Psychotropic:** Of a drug, plant: affecting the mind. (Oxford English Dictionary, n.d)

³ **Unease:** Want or lack of ease; discomfort (Oxford English Dictionary, n.d)

adds additional complexity to the issue, since trafficking not only represents a direct threat to national and regional security, but also because it heightens substance abuse percentages and makes narcotics available to a broader consumer panorama. The region faces a challenge to decrease persistent high addiction rates, and although stakeholders⁴ have collaborated to formulate more efficient policies that address substance use, it is important to note the underlying societal values and geopolitical factors that contribute to difficulties in the matter.

The League of Arab States recognizes the need to address drug-related issues in order to create effective regulations. These regulations serve as a safeguard to the population's health, meanwhile upholding the values of Middle Eastern society, as well as its cultural and religious heritage. With this, many Arab States have applied severe punishments to individuals involved in drug trafficking, smuggling⁵ and consumption⁶, in order to deter⁷ and discourage engaging in illicit substance trade or consumption. However, the enforcement of these regulations has resulted in international tensions due to excessive use of the execution penalty and other harsh punishments.

Drug abuse and misuse of medication

Drug abuse poses a significant challenge worldwide. In the Middle East, many Islamic countries such as the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Republic of Iraq and the United Arab Emirates forbid the use of illicit drugs. Within the religious and federal context of these nations, which also include the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the consumption of narcotics is strictly prohibited, constituting a criminal offense which is often harshly punished.

⁴ **Stakeholders:** A person with a concern or interest in ensuring the success of an organization. (Oxford English Dictionary, n.d)

⁵ **Smuggling:** To convey (goods) clandestinely into (or out of) a country. (Oxford English Dictionary, n.d)

⁶ **Consumption:** The action or fact of using up something in an activity. (Oxford English Dictionary, n.d)

⁷ **Deter:** To discourage; to restrain or keep back from acting. (Oxford English Dictionary, n.d)

Furthermore, addictive behavior in Islamic nations is highly frowned upon, as it represents disrespect to certain religious beliefs. Regardless of legal and societal repercussions, drug consumption in the Arab States has seen an exponential increase in the last few decades, with high levels of amphetamine seizures, predominantly coming from tablets.

With that, an article published by the UN mentioned that amphetamine was the main component of Captagon tablets, which were found in common consumer markets of the Middle East, and mostly in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The reports also argued the traffic routes of such drugs, which come from South-East Europe and facilitate consumption owing to the fact that these kinds of narcotics can be found in seemingly non harmful products to consumers. Other drugs such as cannabis and opiates have also seen an increase in consumption in the past few decades, which further complicates efforts by authorities to address and counteract the issue of drug abuse in many of these nations. On the other hand, balanced regulations on opiates are a recurring matter, given their medicinal effects and diverse reactions.

Moreover, recent research in Jeddah shed a light on the initial patterns of substance in a broad public, including adults and adolescents, where it was discovered that individuals addicted to illicit substances often started their addictions utilizing tobacco, amphetamines and inhalants, subsequently progressing to more neurologically invasive narcotics such as *mariguana* and cocaine. These findings underscore the prevalence of narcotics use within the region. Notably, males and females were both prone⁸ to start their practices as soon as they enter high school. Reasons behind initiating substance use come from a range of situations, including societal pressure and anxiety as primary factors. Besides, the same research identified a connection between cocaine consumption and the manifestation of certain

⁸ **Prone:** Reference to a disposition to a particular action, behavior, mental attitude, etc. (Oxford English Dictionary, n.d)

psychotic symptoms which related to amphetamines. On the other hand, opioids present a common issue in the region. Naturally derived from plants, opioids can serve as medicine for specific health matters, but they also carry euphoria inducing components, making the consumers more prone to addiction. This duality of purposes raises difficulty to properly regulate the narcotic's use, as well as finding a balance between making accurate prescriptions⁹ of the drug and considering risks related to its misuse.

While some opioids have efficient medical utility, the potential for addiction and misuse underlines future efforts to find a suitable balance. Furthermore, according to a study conducted by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the patterns of substance abuse in the Asian population supported by addiction treatment revealed distinct statistics. In the surveyed group, 12.2 % of cannabis consumers, 61.8 % were opiate users, and 21.3 % used amphetamines. Although there were variations in the percentages of each substance, amphetamines and opiates were at their highest rates in the Syrian Arab Republic, with 94.9 % of opiate consumption, and 55.8 % of cannabis consumers in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. On account of drug trafficking, availability, religion, cultural influences, amount of demand, law enforcement and flawed regulations, which are some of the factors that contribute to such differences in consumer patterns, emphasizing the need for an improved approach and change in perspective in order to address actual substance abuse issues.

Political Context

In the past century, the Middle East has become a highly violent region. Overall political stability and security have significantly regressed, especially since the Islamic attack on the

⁹ **Prescription:** A doctor's instruction, for the composition and use of a medicine. (Oxford English Dictionary, n.d)

World Trade Center in New York in September 2001. In the past two decades, conflicts have escalated to seemingly endless wars and tense international relations in the territory. Additionally, underlying jihadist currents and radical islamist beliefs have led to repressive and authoritarian governments, which have further aggravated social tension in society.

Moreover, fifteen out of the twenty-two member states of the League of Arab States apply the Sharia Law, which consists of rules derived from the Quran, Islam's holy book. Countries such as the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Republic of Iraq are subject to the Sharia Law. Although not all fifteen countries fully enact legislation according to these regulations, many of the penalties dictated by the Islamic law imply imprisonment, fines or the capital punishment. In the modern world, Sharia is seen as a controversial legal system because of its implications, which often include corporal penalizing and focus more on individual misdemeanors than major crimes.

Furthermore, according to an article posted by the UNODC, consistent conflicts and violent events have caused surges¹⁰ of drug trafficking to be more common. Ongoing wars and instability in the Republic of Iraq and the Republic of the Sudan, as well as continuing disturbances between the State of Israel and the State of Palestine have led to a violent environment where drug trafficking and other crimes thrive. Narcotic related issues additionally extend outside of their borders as they bring negative consequences to countries in the same area. Conflicts in these nations make the region more prone to transnational¹¹ crime and it provides extremist groups the opportunity to keep committing crimes.

Organized crime and drug trafficking

The presence of extremist groups, such as Al-Qaeda and ISIS, has significantly impacted stability in the region, as they have become primary drug suppliers. Captagon, an

¹⁰ **Surges:** A sudden large increase (Oxford English Dictionary, n.d)

¹¹ **Transnational:** Extending beyond national bounds or frontiers. (Oxford English Dictionary, n.d)

amphetamine pill, has emerged as the most popular drug in the Middle East, particularly in the Gulf States, leading to a substantial increase in the market. This has posed a considerable challenge in addressing the threats posed by these groups, prompting authorities to actively act towards limiting their influence and mitigating the consequences of their actions. Furthermore, the presence of Hezbollah Al-Hejaz, a violent party founded in 1987, adds to the complexity of imposing enhanced regulations in the region. The active engagement of authorities reflects their intention to address and counteract the challenges posed by these extremist groups and violent entities, striving for improved stability and security.

Moreover, opium and methamphetamines production in the Middle East has become an international concern due to the narcotics' global trajectory. Organized criminal organizations in the region play an important role in the distribution of such substances, which present a potential threat to transnational relations. Ultimately, weak drug regulations, supervision policies and the Middle East's geographical location contribute to situations where organized crime groups are benefitted and are presented with opportunities to keep committing illicit activities without the proper sanctions. The concentration of drug seizures in the region, as well as the government's inefficient management of drug-related crimes expose the population to a higher availability of amphetamines and heroin.

Implemented measures

A segment of the Middle East has implemented various measures in order to prevent the misuse or abuse of psychedelics and narcotic drugs, which include methods to educate healthcare professionals about proper use of medications, risks, and potential side effects. All healthcare providers and physicians must adhere to strict rules and guidelines at the moment of prescribing medications, in order to avoid over-prescription that could lead to potential addictions or improper use of certain medications, particularly the ones that have a high risk

of becoming addictive. Additionally, supervision measures in certain international frontiers have been implemented in order to have improved control of imports and exports. Meanwhile, there are ongoing efforts to implement monitoring systems in political borders and healthcare centers in order to identify drug trafficking and consumption patterns that may emerge.

Some of the implemented programs and conventions specifically on the region are the following: the 2011 Regional Programme on Drug Control, Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Reform, the 2010 Terms of Reference for a Regional Programme Steering. These programs were held with expert delegates from the Ministries of Interior of all 18 countries. The purpose of such conventions was to address or encounter evolving threats by revising and promoting the use of regulations and sustainable development. However, according to the summary of the Regional Programme on Drug Control of 2011, border supervision and drug control continue to be inefficient. The United Nations recognizes the importance of encountering and dismantling criminal organizations in order to dissipate¹² consumption rates.

These conventions have shown ineffective solutions and weak border control has presented itself as an obstacle. Consequently, criminal groups can have consistent narcotic drug trafficking routes and narcotics smuggling is increasing in the area. Another issue of these agreements is the incapacity of some Member States to share relevant information, which results in little to no development. Due to this, the convention considers international cooperation necessary to make progress in criminal matters and, therefore, decrease both, narcotic use and consumption. However, there are currently five consistent programmes through which the Commission on Narcotic Drugs supports the Middle East and combats

¹² **Dissipate:** to dispel. (Oxford English Dictionary, n.d)

illicit activities like drug trafficking, such as: strengthening the capacity of the national criminal justice systems in selected countries and supporting regional entities against narcotics to investigate and prosecute criminals. These conventions have resulted in functioning supervision programmes, however, difficulties in regional communication have led to inefficient management of control systems.

Bibliography

1. *INCB, WHO and UNODC statement on access to internationally controlled medicines during COVID-19 pandemic.* (n.d.). United Nations : Office on Drugs and Crime.
<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2020/August/incb--who-and-unodc-statement-on-access-to-internationally-controlled-medicines-during-covid-19-pandemic.html>
2. *CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA JEDDAH, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.* (n.d.). Kementerian Luar Negeri Republik Indonesia.
<https://www.kemlu.go.id/jeddah/en/news/25992/harsh-punishment-for-drug-dealers-in-saudi-arabia#:~:text=138%20dated%2020%2F06%2F1407,deportation%2C%20imprisonment%20to%20death%20penalty.>
3. *Saudi Arabia and terrorism today | Brookings.* (2022, March 9). Brookings.
<https://www.brookings.edu/articles/saudi-arabia-and-terrorism-today/>
4. *Saudi Arabia - United States Department of State.* (2023, December 7). United States Department of State.
<https://www.state.gov/reports/country-reports-on-terrorism-2020/saudi-arabia/>
5. Vohra, A. (2021, December 20). Saudi Arabia is the Middle East's drug capital. *Foreign Policy.*
<https://foreignpolicy.com/2021/12/20/saudi-arabia-is-the-middle-east-s-drug-capital/>

6. *International Narcotics Control Strategy Report -- Volume I: Drug and Chemical Control.* (n.d).
<https://2001-2009.state.gov/p/nea/ci/sa/80181.htm#:~:text=The%20Saudi%20Government%20places%20a.social%20or%20law%20enforcement%20problems.>
7. Almoteiry, K., Alharf, A., Al Hammad, B., Aljuffali, I., Al-Azemi, N., Al-Ghaith, T., Alhomidi, S., Alshehri, A., Seiter, A., Herbst, C., & Pisani, E. (2022). National medicines policy development, Saudi Arabia. *Bulletin of the World Health Organization*, 100(8), 511–519. <https://doi.org/10.2471/BLT.22.287936>
8. Oficina de las Naciones Unidas contra la Droga y el Delito (2010) *Informe Mundial Sobre las Drogas 2010: Principales drogas de consumo entre las personas tratadas por problemas de adicción en Asia.*https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/WDR2010/Informe_Mundial_sobre_las_Drogas_2010.pdf
9. Mohammed, F. Ahmed, E. Heba, A. et-Al (2019) *Substance abuse among Saudi population*
<https://www.bibliomed.org/mnsfulltext/51/51-1573839276.pdf?1703143966>
10. United Nations : Office on Drugs and Crime. (n.d.). *Middle East and North Africa*
<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/drug-trafficking/middle-east-and-north-africa.html>
11. Dagres, H. (2023, August 30). *No quick fixes for the Middle East's Captagon crisis.*
Atlantic Council.
<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/menasource/middle-east-captagon-crisis/>

12. United Nations : Office on Drugs and Crime. (n.d.). *Regional Programme on Drug Control, Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Reform in the Arab States*
<https://www.unodc.org/romena/uploads/documents/RegionalProgrammes/RPArabStates.pdf>
13. Weyman, B. (2013) *A comparative analysis of drug-trafficking trends in the Middle East/Central Asia and East/Southeast Asia: Regional Trends.*
<https://ir.library.louisville.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1024&context=honors>
14. Rodríguez, E. B. (n.d.). *Medio Oriente: inestabilidad y crisis del orden regional.*
<https://www.redalyc.org/journal/586/58667106003/html/>
15. Freedom House. (n.d.). Freedom improved in the Middle East, but authoritarian repression persists. *Freedom House.*
<https://freedomhouse.org/article/freedom-improved-middle-east-authoritarian-repression-persists>
16. Nejad, K. M., & Hashemi, S. H. (2018). Status of narcotic drugs in Islamic jurisprudence and foundations of Islamic Laws. *Beijing Law Review*, 09(03), 401–424. <https://doi.org/10.4236/blr.2018.93025>
17. Robinson, K. (2021, December 18). Understanding Sharia: the intersection of Islam and the law. *Council on Foreign Relations.*
<https://www.cfr.org/background/understanding-sharia-intersection-islam-and-law>
18. Diana. (2023, 25 agosto). *Drug trafficking and terrorism in the Middle East.* *Dyami.*
<https://www.dyami.services/post/drug-trafficking-terrorism-middle-east>

Topic B

Measurements to manage the production and smuggling of narcotic drugs and alteration of fentanyl-based medication in the United Mexican States, with distribution to the United States of America

Background

Fentanyl is a drug approved by the Food and Drug Administration for its use as an anesthetic, aiding in pain relief. However, the alarming surge in mass overdoses, particularly in countries like the United States of America, has raised significant international concerns that have been addressed by the United Nations through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, which include: transnational disagreement conflicts, unregulated drug production, alteration and other narcotic-related crimes. The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has actively acknowledged this issue and communicated its apprehensions¹³ through letters to federal states, expressing its concerns about the escalating worldwide occurrence of mass overdoses related to fentanyl. Subsequently, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has become particularly attentive towards drug trafficking and other illegal activities involving criminal organizations originating from the United Mexican States.

This matter has caused numerous conflicts across various nations in South and Central America, such as: the Republic of Peru, the Plurinational State of Bolivia and the Republic of Colombia, and resulted in adverse consequences worldwide. The primary concern lies on the current impact narcotics have in the United States of America and its potential implications for diplomatic relations with the United Mexican States, the increasing production of fentanyl in the southern country, but likewise the rising addictions in the United States of America. Furthermore, according to research published by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, most psychotropic substances distributed throughout American territory originated from the United Mexican States and crossed the Southwest border, mostly due to the amount of goods transported between the two countries everyday. Subsequently, drug availability in the northern country has become a serious problem, according to an article published by the

¹³ **Apprehension:** fear as to what may happen; dread. (Oxford English Dictionary, n.d.)

United States of America's National Center for Drug Abuse Statistics, 50 % of people over twelve years old have used illicit substances at least once, and more than 700 thousand people have passed away due to a drug overdose since 2000. In the case of adolescents, according to research published by the National Institute on Drug Abuse, more than 30 % of teens between the ages of fifteen and eighteen report drug use in the past year, which further highlights the country's need to improve supervision and control policies on importations.

In view of the fact that the government of the United States of America was not able to focus solely on frontier security through FBI conventions, the DEA created a sub-office security organization called El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC), established in 1974, with the purpose of providing adequate and relevant information to national law enforcement. Since then, EPIC has become an important center for national security in the United States of America, focusing on identifying possible threats to national security, emphasizing on the Southwest border. Additionally, EPIC provides data to international law enforcement organizations, with the interest of collaborating with surrounding governments. The center also examines illicit activities such as human trafficking, illicit trade and smuggling¹⁴, in order to find the criminal organizations responsible.

Furthermore, in December of 2023, the president of the United States of America, Joe Biden and the president of the United Mexican States, Andrés Manuel López Obrador agreed on implementing more control measures in the region. Both countries have acknowledged the need to apply new control policies in order to analyze the recent surge of illegal activities on the border. The Mexican government created the Specialized Prosecutor's Office in Matters of Organized Crime in 2003, in order to coordinate national forces against criminal

¹⁴ **Smuggling:** To convey (goods) clandestinely into (or out of) a country or district, in order to avoid payment of legal duties. (Oxford English Dictionary, n.d.)

organizations. However, the United Mexican States government has been unable to properly address narcotic production and distribution through its borders, which has resulted in difficulty for neighboring countries to regulate drug trafficking.

Psychotropic substance distribution

The Southwest border of the United States of America is the principal arrival zone for most of the illicit drugs smuggled into the country. Consequently, that area in the frontier has become the main area for drug distribution all throughout the American country. According to an article about drug seizure data published by El Paso Intelligence Center, most cocaine, foreign-source *marihuana*, methamphetamine, and Mexican-source heroin available in the United States of America is smuggled into the country across the southwest border. Once at the border, Mexican traffickers use diverse methods to smuggle drugs into the nation, such as: backpackers, aircrafts, couriers¹⁵, horses, mules, maritime vessels¹⁶, rail, tunnels and vehicles.

Illegal drug trade costs have been estimated at \$70 billion each year only in the United States of America. According to an article published by the FBI, Mexican drug cartels and criminal organizations are the primary source of transportation and smuggling of the majority of psychotropic substances into the United States of America. Each of these transportation methods have been used by such groups to ship illicit substances and other illegal products across the border. For instance, a tractor-trailer transporting legitimate cargo or commercial products may also contain hidden bales¹⁷ of *marihuana* and other narcotics; a legal immigrant might carry concealed parcels of heroin through a border checkpoint; or a

¹⁵ **Courier:** A person who, or company which, transports packages and documents on a commercial basis. (Oxford English Dictionary, n.d.)

¹⁶ **Maritime vessel:** Any structure designed to float upon and transverse the water for the carriage of persons or goods; a craft or ship of any kind. (Oxford English Dictionary, n.d.)

¹⁷ **Bale:** A large bundle or package of merchandise, originally of more or less rounded shape. (Oxford English Dictionary, n.d.)

common passenger vehicle may contain bags of cocaine in a tire or other secret compartments

Current estimates suggest that approximately 93 % of the cocaine leaving South America for the United States of America moves through the United Mexican States. However, according to inter-agency statistics, the majority of cocaine stops first in Central and South American countries such as: the Republic of Colombia, the Plurinational State of Bolivia and the Republic of Peru, before exporting shipment to the United Mexican States. The Latin American country is also the number one foreign supplier of methamphetamine to the United States of America. Although the Mexican government has made enormous strides in controlling, even banning, the importation of methamphetamine precursor chemicals, Mexican methamphetamine producing and trafficking organizations are proving to be extremely resourceful in circumventing¹⁸ the strict regulatory measures.

Furthermore, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) published a World Drug Report, in which the Regional Programme for Central America was created with the purpose of analyzing current action plans and strategies. As a result of this programme, the Member States in the region of Central America established the “Programme of UNODC for the Reinforcement of the Security Action Plan in Central America and Mexico”, which contained policies adopted by the Latin American nations. This, among other drug conventions in the continent, are intended to complement current drug control policies such as the Central America and Mexico Security Strategy Action Plan. Through the conference, State Representatives highlighted the need to design adequate regulations and implement improved policies in order to address the problems of drug trafficking and other transnational crimes perpetrated by criminal groups.

¹⁸ **Circumvent:** to get the better of by craft or fraud; to overreach, outwit, cheat. Also, to evade or find a way around. (Oxford English Dictionary, n.d.)

Fentanyl-based medication availability

Altered medication availability in the United States of America is becoming a serious issue fueled by drug smuggling. One of the reasons that preventing drug consumption and trafficking in the border between Mexico and the United States of America is such a challenge, is the fact that a large amount of fentanyl and other illicit substances can be hidden in basic prescription medicine. For instance, the increase in drug addiction in the northern country is defined by illicit fentanyl produced in the United Mexican States or the People's Republic of China, and then smuggled into the northern country. According to a study published by the Council on Foreign Relations in 2023, analysts state that the opioid crisis started with pain medications over 20 years ago and it has intensified recently due to the effortless and cheap ways in which heroin, fentanyl and other psychotropic substances can be obtained. This crisis has had many rebounds¹⁹ in the past decades, with an increased amount of casualties caused by opioid overdose due to opioid-based medications. Currently, the rise of illicit heroin and synthetic opioids have increased overdose statistics since 2013.

Additionally, the study published by the Council on Foreign Relations mentions the spiraling amount of fentanyl related casualties since the beginning of COVID-19. The pandemic caused common drug supply chains to be disrupted, forcing drug users to try other narcotics available in the market, synthetic opioids included. Illustrated by the Council on Foreign Relations, "along with the pandemic, the growing availability of illicit fentanyl, often disguised by drug cartels to appear as legal prescription opioids, has exacerbated the crisis." (Klobucista, C. 2023). Although the United States of America has repeatedly transformed their policies on the prescription of such narcotics, the fact that Mexican drug cartels have found ways to disguise large amounts of synthetic opioids in legal prescriptions has led the

¹⁹ **Rebound:** to spring back, as from a sudden impact. (Collins Dictionary, n.d)

American government to have more difficulties in the matter. For instance, the DEA found about fifty million altered prescription pills containing lethal amounts of fentanyl in 2022, further implying the northern country has been able to find and dismantle drug smuggling operations more than it has prevented issues and the matter altogether.

Implemented measures

The United Mexican States has implemented various legal measures to counteract mostly drug possession. However, narcotic consumption is not penalized in the country, it is only seen as a matter of public health. According to an article published by the National Commission of Human Rights in The United Mexican States, the country has implemented conventions and programs established by the United Nations General Assembly to deal with drug trafficking and drug misuse, with the following examples: Political Declaration of Global Drug Control (1998) and the United States Convention Against Illicit Narcotic and Psychotropic Substance Trafficking (1988). Despite being a Member State of such programs and having legal policies against narcotic trafficking, the Mexican government has not been able to establish proper control over illicit activity related to narcotics. Substance trafficking has been linked to corrupt government governors and other national authorities.

In contrast, the United States of America has put into effect many control policies on the Southwest Border as well as implementing drug-prevention and investigation organizations, such as: the United States Drug Enforcement Administration, National Institute on Drug Abuse and the National Institute of Mental Health, which are all meant to research narcotic use, trafficking and production. The nation has also created a more specialized governmental organization focused solely on the matter of control policies in the Southwest Border called El Paso Intelligence Center, which collaborates with the Federal Bureau of Investigation in order to provide support to federal and international law

enforcement organizations. Along with other governmental organizations, the United States of America has applied measures in order to manage and confront transnational crime, such as: enhancing intelligence, building international cooperation and strengthening imports supervision policies. Moreover, the nation has applied many local programs with the intention of preventing and treating individuals with narcotic substance disorders, also, the northern country is a Member State of the following United Nations conventions against narcotics: The United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (1988) and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971. However, even with past efforts to reduce the severity of the matter, the United States of America has not been able to fully balance medication use and the alteration of fentanyl based pills due to the narcotic's medical properties. The matter has caused a strained relationship between the United Mexican States and the United States of America, and their current inability to fully disclose the conflict has propelled the number of casualties caused by fentanyl-laced pills and other psychotropic substances.

References

1. *EPIC's mission*. (n.d.). DEA. <https://www.dea.gov/epic/epics-mission>
2. *The Controlled Substances Act*. (n.d.). DEA.
<https://www.dea.gov/drug-information/csa>
3. *Home | DEA.gov*. (n.d.). <https://www.dea.gov/>
4. *Día Internacional de la Lucha contra el Uso Indebido y el Tráfico Ilícito de Drogas | Comisión Nacional de los Derechos Humanos - México*. (n.d.).
<https://www.cndh.org.mx/noticia/dia-internacional-de-la-lucha-contr-el-uso-indebido-y-el-trafico-ilicito-de-drogas-1>
5. *Medidas contra la criminalidad transnacional y sanciones a personas implicadas en el tráfico ilícito de drogas a nivel global - United States Department of State*. (2021, December 16). United States Department of State.
<https://www.state.gov/translations/spanish/medidas-contr-la-criminalidad-transnacional-y-sanciones-a-personas-implicadas-en-el-trafico-ilicito-de-drogas-a-nivel-global/>
6. Bustamante, J. (2023, January 1). *NCDAS: Substance Abuse and Addiction Statistics [2023]*. NCDAS. <https://drugabusestatistics.org/>
7. *Drug trafficking violence in Mexico: implications for the United States*. (n.d.). FBI.
<https://archives.fbi.gov/archives/news/testimony/drug-trafficking-violence-in-mexico-implications-for-the-united-states#:~:text=Each%20of%20the%20four%20major,derived%20from%20drug%20trafficking%20activities>

8. *Reported drug use among adolescents continued to hold below pre-pandemic levels in 2023* | *National Institute on Drug Abuse*. (2024, January 5). National Institute on Drug Abuse.
<https://nida.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/2023/12/reported-drug-use-among-adolescents-continued-to-hold-below-pre-pandemic-levels-in-2023#:~:text=The%20percentage%20of%20adolescents%20reporting,to%20the%20latest%20results%20from>
9. Klobucista, C. (2023, December 22). Fentanyl and the U.S. opioid epidemic. *Council on Foreign Relations*.
<https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/fentanyl-and-us-opioid-epidemic#:~:text=Along%20with%20the%20pandemic%2C%20the,amount%20seized%20the%20prior%20year>.
10. *Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean*. (n.d.). United Nations : Office on Drugs and Crime.
<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/drug-trafficking/mexico-central-america-and-the-caribbean.html>
11. Finckenauer, J. (2007) *Mexico and the United States: Neighbors Confront Drug Trafficking: Nature of Mexican drug trafficking*
<https://www.ojp.gov/pdffiles1/nij/218561.pdf>
12. Pérez, C. (2016, March) *Procesamiento de los delitos contra la salud en México*.
https://www.senado.gob.mx/comisiones/relext_orgint/ungass/docs/presentaciones/Catalina-Perez-Correa-senado-UNGASS.pdf

XXXVII TECMUN
Glossary of Forbidden Words

Forbidden Words

Defined by the United Nations, are non diplomatic terms participants must avoid to mention during their speeches on the debate and in the writing of resolution projects.

Forbidden Words	Permitted equivalents
First world countries	Developed countries
Third world countries	Developing countries
Gay	Member of the LGBTIQ+ community
War ²⁰	Belic conflict
Rape	Sexual Harassment
Terrorist	Extremist
Kill or murder	Deprive someone of their life
Death	Casualties
Assassination	Homicide
Army	Military forces
Money	Economic resources
Poor	Lack of resources
Okay	Yes or agree
Black ²¹	African American

²⁰ The word war can be used in order to refer to historical contexts, such as the Cold War, the First World War, etc. It can only be used in the Security Council to refer to armed conflicts.

²¹ The word black, with regard to race, is not forbidden but it is recommended to limit its use and refer to this sector as African American or Afrodescendants.

XXXVII TECMUN
Glossary for Resolution Projects

Preambulatory Phrases

Preambulatory Phrases are used at the beginning of every Resolution Paper in order to give context about the resolutions made for the topic. Preambulatory Phrases must be written in italics followed by a sentence that gives said context. For each Resolution Paper there must be five sentences beginning with a Preambulatory Phrase.

Affirming	Desiring	Noting with deep concern
Alarmed by	Emphasizing	Noting with satisfaction
Approving	Expecting	Noting further
Bearing in mind	Expressing its appreciation	Observing
Believing	Fulfilling	Reaffirming
Confident	Fully aware	Realizing
Contemplating	Further deploring	Recalling
Convinced	Further recalling	Recognizing
Declaring	Guided by	Referring
Deeply concerned	Having adopted	Seeking
Deeply conscious	Having considered	Taking into consideration
Deeply convinced	Having examined	Taking note
Deeply disturbed	Having received	Viewing with appreciation
Deeply regretting	Keeping in mind	Welcoming

XXXVII TECMUN
Glossary for Resolution Projects

Operative Clauses

Operative Clauses are used at the beginning of every resolution within the Resolution Paper on the debated topic. They must be written in italics and bold.

Accepts	Endorses	Notes
Affirms	Draws the attentions	Proclaims
Approves	Emphasizes	Reaffirms
Authorizes	Encourages	Recommends
Calls	Expresses its appreciation	Regrets
Calls upon	Expresses its hope	Reminds
Condemns	Further invites	Requests
Confirms	Further proclaims	Solemnly
Congratulates	Further reminds	Affirms
Considers	Further recommends	Strongly
Declares accordingly	Further requests	condemns
Deplores	Further resolves	Supports
Designates	Has resolved	Takes note of
		Transmits
		Trusts

