

**XXXVII**

**TECMUN**

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United Nations

Interregional Crime and

Research Institute

XXXVII TECMUN  
**Session Schedule**

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**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**

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*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 United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) is constituted by a total of 193 member states. It originated in 1967 as a Resolution of the Economic and Social Council resolution 1085 B of 1965. Its focus relies on the assistance to non governmental, intergovernmental and governmental organizations by taking action over crimes directly related to environmental threats, criminal policies, justice, reforms, corruption, drug abuse, illegal trafficking and violent extremism. By implementing administration policies for the improvement of jurisdiction and crime prevention, this institute conducts research and analysis of fields with the intention of improving and training personnel worldwide and the support of policy formulation on issues of social concerns.

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## Faculties

With the following strategies, The United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) assists the Member states as well as other institutions to make advancements on crime prevention and to protect human rights:

- Creates and encourages programs with the aim of preventing, detecting and controlling specific crimes by organizing meetings, where the Member States can analyze and eradicate criminal activities to contribute to the socioeconomic development and the guarantee of human rights;
- Promotes and supports the international investigation of environmental threats, criminal policies, justice, reforms, corruption, drug abuse, illegal trafficking and violent extremism in order to provide a database of information;

- Designs advanced education with the cooperation of educational institutions to provide specialized courses for law enforcement members, judges, lawyers, and other
- justice personnel aiming for the effectiveness against criminal activities.

# Topic A

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Measures to prevent and reduce human trafficking with emphasis on vulnerable children and women that suffer from sexual and labour exploitation in Southeast Asia

## ***Introduction***

Southeast Asia is considered one of the most complex regions regarding human trafficking since “the Asia region has the highest number of victims of forced labor” (The Exodus Road, 2023). The alarming prevalence of these criminal activities affects mostly vulnerable groups, including children and women, for both sexual and labor exploitation since criminal groups are financed<sup>1</sup> by this. This illicit<sup>2</sup> activity is carried out in other countries such as Japan or the The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, not exactly within the states being, with the primary destination being the Middle East. A study ran by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) revealed that trafficked people from low-income countries are transferred into developed countries, like Europe. Because of the destination, the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) has reported difficulty to track these felonies<sup>3</sup> due to the routes taken to carry them out; not to mention that it’s affecting the economy of the region, its security, the physical and mental wellbeing of the victims, the judicial and legal systems, and its health parameters.

Human trafficking in Southeast Asia has as its purpose not only sexual and labor exploitation but also forced marriage and organ trafficking. The cause comes from the scarcity<sup>4</sup> of economic development and opportunities each location has. Although both low and high-income countries are very likely to participate in these activities, those with low incomes are the most susceptible to having a higher rate of child trafficking since “the undeveloped conditions prevail throughout the Southeast Asian region leaving people incredibly desperate and susceptible to human trafficking” (Connecticut, H, 2016). Countries such as the Republic of India, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Kingdom of

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<sup>1</sup> **Financing:** To provide the money needed for something to happen. (Cambridge Dictionary, 2023).

<sup>2</sup> **Illicit:** Unlawful or not permitted. (Cambridge Dictionary, 2023).

<sup>3</sup> **Felonies:** Serious crime that can be punished by one or more years in prison. (Cambridge Dictionary, 2023).

<sup>4</sup> **Scarcity:** Situation in which something is not easy to find or get. (Cambridge Dictionary, 2023).

Cambodia, the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal, the People's Republic of Bangladesh, the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the People's Republic of China, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and the Republic of the Philippines “maintain some of the highest rates of human trafficking cases as well as some of the worst human rights violations” (US State Department, 2015). It has been highlighted by the US State Department that the operatives are thoroughly carried out taking into account that “victims of human trafficking are not even aware that they are victims” (The Exodus Road, 2023), making the investigation and prosecution<sup>5</sup> challenging for local authorities.

### ***Background of human trafficking***

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) defines human trafficking as involving the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, or receipt of persons through various means of oppression for exploitation, including forced labor, sexual exploitation, and organ harvesting. In Southeast Asia, human trafficking often manifests as forced sexual labor and forced labor in general, with different countries in the region exhibiting varying patterns of these forms of exploitation. The hidden nature of this crime, underreporting, and underprosecution contribute to its persistence. Additionally, it has been considered that “Human trafficking is one of the most profitable and lowest risk activities in comparison to other forms of trafficking, such as drug trafficking” (University of Central Florida, 2013).

Human trafficking in Southeast Asia has a complex and multifaceted history, deeply rooted in the region's socio-economic and political landscapes. Historically, the region has been a hotspot<sup>6</sup> for human trafficking due to a combination of factors, including indigency, political instability, and the demand for low-priced labor and sexual exploitation. The demand

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<sup>5</sup> **Prosecution:** The act of beginning or conducting legal proceedings against a person. (Word Reference, 2023).

<sup>6</sup> **Hotspot:** A country or region where dangerous or difficult political situations exist or may develop. (Word Reference, 2023).

for labor in both the industrial and sex tourism<sup>7</sup> sectors have surged as economies have expanded. This growth has created a conducive environment for human traffickers to exploit vulnerable individuals, particularly in impoverished areas where “in 2021, an estimated 29.3 million people were living in modern slavery in Asia that accounts for 59 per cent of the global total.” (Global Slavery Index, 2023).

In the late 20th and early 21st centuries, globalization and the rise of international tourism known as the Tourism Boom further exacerbated the issue. Southeast Asia's strategic location, shared borders, and economic disparities made it a prime area for traffickers to operate across national boundaries. Countries like the Kingdom of Thailand, the Kingdom of Cambodia, and the Republic of the Philippines became known by the *Al Qaeda* criminal network along with some Islamist radical groups for their vulnerable populations, including women and children, being trafficked for sexual exploitation and forced labor. This period, also saw an increase reflected in “a 16% of internal trafficking in the regions of Myanmar and Thailand between 2010 and 2019” (International Monetary Fund, 2018), where individuals from rural areas were transported to urban centers under false promises of employment and better living conditions, while using extortion, manipulation, coercion<sup>8</sup> and threats from criminal groups.

Unsuccessful efforts to combat human trafficking in Southeast Asia have been ongoing, involving governmental authorities that address human trafficking, including the Anti-Human Trafficking Division (AHTD) in Thailand; the National Committee for Counter Trafficking (NCCT) in Cambodia; the Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking (IACAT) in Philippines along non-governmental as the International Organization for Migration (IOM),

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<sup>7</sup> **Sex Tourism:** the act of travelling to another country for the purpose of paying to have sex, especially with children. (Cambridge Dictionary, 2023).

<sup>8</sup> **Coercion:** to persuade someone forcefully to do something that they are unwilling to do. (Cambridge Dictionary, 2023).

the Coalition Against Trafficking in Women Asia Pacific (CATW-AP) and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). These efforts include enacting stricter laws, improving cross-border cooperation, raising public awareness, and supporting victims. However, the challenges and the hidden nature of trafficking networks continue to hinder progress. The issue remains a significant concern in the region, necessitating a continued and concerted effort from all stakeholders to address and eradicate human trafficking effectively.

### ***Prosecution of this crime***

Human trafficking has garnered attention due to the fact that it is a problem that has already existed for decades and has not stopped occurring as it can be seen in the zone of Southeast Asia. It has been recognized worldwide that “the problem of trafficking in persons has increased and triggered considerable international attention” (Grozdanova, 2016). There is already an international agreement targeted towards human trafficking being the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime which is the main instrument at an international scale to address this extent of situations. It is supplemented by three protocols aiming specific areas including the one to hinder, suppress and penalize the trafficking distinctively of women and children in order to enhance the gathering of international cooperation for an optimized prosecution and investigation of cases.

“Criminal justice responses to trafficking have been criticized for their neglect of rights-based approaches” (Denney, 2023). The United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute points out that governmental and non governmental authorities that address human trafficking have shown to have a preferential inclination to addressing a major number of minor cases over complex and globally detrimental ones. To further support, investigations run by the UNICRI implicate that borders are more challenging since some countries do not recognize internal trafficking as a criminal offense (Grozdanova, 2016).



Aspects such as business interests and economic growth are prioritized causing that the main targets that are owners and employers avoid being prosecuted and punished.

### ***Relation to economy***

Factors such as a low-income, an undeveloped country and scarcity are detonators for human trafficking. The lack of education or job opportunities, low-priced labor, exploitation, and the sex industry are involved and take up a big part in human trafficking that are considered as economic factors. Another way economic aspects influence human trafficking is when criminals search and target those that are in need of an escape and are in desperate circumstances such as extreme deprivation, with these conditions people are more likely to accept risky jobs. In the past, slavery was accepted as an economic practice, furthermore, nowadays traffickers make a lot of money with minimal threat of a legal consequence. Actually, human trafficking is the second most profitable illegal industry “The International Labor Organization estimates that profits from human trafficking and forced labor are \$150 billion annually” ( *Gould, 2017*).

In terms of non developed countries, these tend to be the origin countries meaning that they are the ones that supply trafficked people in their home countries or they are taken somewhere else. Less developed countries are chosen as origin countries because traffickers find it easier to find victims by taking advantage of them and mainly their poor economic situation. They are often tricked by promising them a better quality of life, another common case in origin countries is that parents sell their children hoping they get better opportunities, in both cases they end up being deceived. In these cases, the most affected population of these countries are children, women, refugees, migrants, members of minority populations. Economic consequences of human trafficking that often occur in non developed countries are

reduced productivity, loss of human capital, increase of social costs (healthcare, law enforcement and social welfare), tourism decreases and destabilization of communities.

Contrary, developed countries often are the destination countries where the victims of human trafficking from origin countries arrive, this is possible due to the amount of resources that reside, whereas in non-developed regions it lacks, for so people are capable of purchasing the services of trafficked people. Destination countries are in many cases indirectly benefited by the economic aspects that human trafficking brings when existing in a specific region such as the improving the production of goods and services at a lower price on a larger scale as well as the access to cheap labor. Companies are the ones that are mostly benefited by all these, especially agriculture, construction, textile industries, domestic work, entertainment and sex industry are related with human trafficking “no industry or economic sector is immune to human trafficking” (UNODC, 2021). Thanks to this, corruption takes an important role since in developed countries, they try to make human trafficking less visible.

### ***International impact***

International affairs and diplomacy are the first major affected areas, since the problem of human trafficking in the countries, has brought several of the region's governments into the worldwide limelight<sup>9</sup>, straining ties with Western countries and international organizations. “It is characterized as a transnational and complex issue, affecting millions globally in forms such as forced labor, sexual exploitation, and coerced marriage. It's one of the world's most lucrative organized crimes, generating over \$150 billion annually, with a significant portion of victims in East Asia and the Pacific” (IMF, 2018). Nations that are frequently at the geographic center of trafficking networks, including Thailand, Myanmar,

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<sup>9</sup> **Limelight:** a position of public attention or notice. (Word Reference, 2023).

and Cambodia, are subject to close inspection and pressure to step up their anti-trafficking initiatives. These countries must balance their internal policy imperatives with the demands and expectations of the international community, which creates a diplomatic tightrope<sup>10</sup> walk. Their position and international diplomatic connections have been further complicated in certain instances by threats of sanctions and reductions in foreign aid due to their alleged failure in combating human trafficking.

Subsequently on a global scale, the problem of human trafficking in Southeast Asia poses important ethical and cultural issues ranging from the violations of human rights, exploitation of vulnerable populations, dehumanization, stigmatization to the lack of cultural sensitivity . It calls on the international community to face and resolve the underlying issues of indigence, gender inequality, and a lack of educational opportunities that support these kinds of practices. It also calls into question the moral obligations that nations and multinational companies have when interacting with areas where human trafficking is a problem. “The exploitation of women and children in trafficking leads to severe health outcomes, both physical and mental, such as infectious diseases, mental health conditions like anxiety and depression, and trauma-related disorders” (HHR, 2013). According to the World Health Organization's (WHO) Commission on Social Determinants of Health, addressing social determinants is a key strategy for promoting health equity and preventing human trafficking. The paradigm<sup>11</sup> proposed by the committee highlights the intricate interrelationships between the social and structural determinants of health, underscoring the necessity of tackling both.

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<sup>10</sup> **Tightrope:** a risky or delicate situation. (Word Reference, 2023).

<sup>11</sup> **Paradigm:** a model of something, or a very clear and typical example of something. (Cambridge Dictionary, 2023)



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## **Topic B**

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Approaches to prevent environmental threats with emphasis on illegal logging, deforestation and mining activities, for the preservation and protection of indigenous rights in the Amazon Basin

## ***Introduction***

The Amazon Basin is at an international scale considered the biggest drainage area in the world. It occupies a large amount of the region of the Federative Republic of Brazil and the Republic of Peru crossing as well the countries of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, Republic of Colombia, Republic of Ecuador, Plurinational State of Bolivia, Republic of Suriname, and French Guyane Française. This rainforest is home to 10% of the wildlife worldwide, it is vastly important for climate stability as well as for the ethnic groups that live there in which “47 million people live, including around 2.2 million Indigenous people” (World Wildlife Fund, 2020). Additionally, the rainforest plays an important role for the culture and the economy of this region since its biodiversity is the main source of tourism and the natural resources found there are vital for international trade.

The Amazon Basin has been jeopardized for almost 20 percent of its terrain by illicit activities, such as illegal logging, deforestation and mining activities, leaving “just over 80 percent of the rainforest coverage” (Hussain, G, 2023), as a consequence of the exploitation of the vast terrain and diversity of flora and fauna resources. These started back in 1960, when foreign landowners began excessively exploiting natural resources for commercial purposes, including in Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname, Brazil, Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, and Colombia. The deficient preservation by companies and governments of the rainforest has posed a threat to the global economy along with climate change thanks to greenhouse gas emissions. In the same way one of the most important repercussions of the exploitation of the Amazon Basin, has been the lack of protection for the indigenous’s rights, since illegal miners like the company Potássio do Brasil, have corrupted rivers in indigenous territory, brought malnutrition and disease because of the loss of natural resources, the hazard of their

cultural traditions, the disturbance of their own self-sufficient economy, as well as the destruction of these communities' homes.

The repercussions of these illegal activities in the region, have resulted in the vulnerability of indigenous communities, and the lack of interest and cooperation to be addressed properly by local and international authorities, not to mention that these minorities do not have access to proper information about their rights and how to exert<sup>12</sup> them, making the problem even more complex. The weak law enforcement, lack of surveillance and monitoring over the zone, as well as the absence of politics, are the result of the increasing vulnerability over the years, consequently affecting the well-being of this region's inhabitants. In the aspect of their cultural identity, it has been affected since the spiritual and traditional places have been deforested and turned into mined territories. Furthermore, the unauthorized appropriation of natural resources in the Amazon has challenged the preservation of a proper way of living due to the insufficient access to basics products, such as medicinal plants, food, and hunting grounds, have resulted into food insecurity, starvation and a non-controlled system over diseases, like malaria and tuberculosis, among others. Moreover, according to the Inter American Development Bank, the main economic income of the indigenous communities is known as Bioeconomy, where these groups rely on the natural resources like food, fibers, and oils, to produce basic products and practice local trade to obtain economical resources. Nevertheless, due to the uncontrolled exploitation of terrains, land erosion, deforestation and chemical waste by companies like Cargill and Bunge, these communities have been led into economic poverty.

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<sup>12</sup> **Exert:** to put into use; exercise. (Word Reference, 2023).

## *Protection of the Amazon Basin*

The protection of the Amazon has been infringed by the weak law enforcement<sup>13</sup> of the local government and foreign companies; which plays a key role in enabling illegal deforestation in the region, allowing criminal activity to continue with null consequences. As well as the limited legal resources available to law enforcement create an environment in which illegal loggers and land thieves are less likely to be detected and prosecuted. Understaffing, outdated technology, and inadequate funding contribute to the challenges law enforcement agencies face in monitoring and combating illegal activities in vast areas of the rainforest, not to mention that the corruption within regulatory and law enforcement agencies further exacerbates the problem. The World Wildlife Fund in 2020, revealed that “a cascading series of shortfalls and failures are enabling criminals to raze the world’s largest rainforest with impunity. Law enforcement misses the majority of deforestation in the Amazon.”. Additionally, the lure<sup>14</sup> financial gain from illegal activities has led to bribery<sup>15</sup> and collusion<sup>16</sup> between law enforcement officials and those involved in deforestation threatening the effectiveness of the regulatory framework that protects the Amazon, as people and companies involved in illegal logging use corrupt connections within the institutions responsible for enforcing environmental laws to evade justice.

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<sup>13</sup> **Law enforcement:** to make sure that people obey the law. (Cambridge Dictionary, 2023).

<sup>14</sup> **Lure:** anything that attracts or tempts. (Word Reference, 2023).

<sup>15</sup> **Bribery:** an attempt to make someone do something for you by giving the person money, presents, or something else that they want. (Cambridge Dictionary, 2023).

<sup>16</sup> **Collusion:** agreement between people to act together secretly or illegally in order to deceive or cheat someone. (Cambridge Dictionary, 2023).

The second major factor that has been contributing to the complexity in preserving the Amazon Basin is the great expansion of agriculture. The increasing global demand for beef and soy products has led to a significant push into the Amazon's pristine forests, resulting in widespread deforestation. Agricultural activities, driven primarily by profit motives, have become a major catalyst for habitat destruction and ecosystem disruption such as “soy production in the Brazilian Amazon that has tripled from 1990 to 2006.” (WWF, 2020). This situation is much more complicated thanks to illegal land grabs and the exploitation of indigenous territories, adding to both social and environmental concerns due to the absence of strict regulations and oversight which has allowed agribusinesses to prioritize short-term gains over the long-term health of the Amazon Basin.

### ***Indigenous population***

The UN Convention on Biological Diversity's, targets 11 aims for the conservation of “at least 17 percent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 percent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services” (Convention on Biological Diversity, 2018). This convention declared that to carry this project out, the method used would be the creation of protected areas although, as a consequence, indigenous communities have been expelled from their place of origin that had been home of past generations. The governments of Brazil, Peru, Bolivia, Colombia, Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname, French Guiana and Ecuador, who share this rainforest, have denied access to this communities to the resources they use on a daily basis as well to the sacred places where they carry out religious activities by using threats and manslaughter violating basic human rights, such as the one that establishes the Secure access to the lands and resources essential to their ways of life; Free, prior and informed consent; Right to

cultural identity; Right to life; Right to physical integrity and security; Right to non-discrimination; and Right to cultural identity.

The illegal mining of minerals has had a significant repercussion in the environment given that the increasing mercury levels in the rivers affects every type of living being that depends on the water to survive, viewing that the toxicity of this chemical stores throughout the whole food chain, damaging the biodiversity and natural habitats of this region. The Greenpeace organization carried out a research which showed that “illegal mining within the Munduruku and Sai Cinza Indigenous Lands, in the Brazilian state of Pará, had destroyed 632 kilometers of rivers in just five years.” (Greenpeace, 2023). Around 200 of the Munduruku people showed to be positive for mercury contamination which develops into neurological and psychological alterations due to the accumulation that occurs in seafood and plants that are used to feed themselves. Furthermore, in 2021 a report made by the Mapbiomas showed that the Amazon lands had been exponentially mined with a growth of 625% since 2010 of which “Indigenous Lands were the most attacked with, respectively, 11,542, 4,743 and 1,556 hectares mined within their limits.” (Greenpeace, 2023).

### ***International response to avert environmental threats in the Amazon Basin***

Several measures have been taken at international and regional levels to prevent environmental degradation and its negative impact on indigenous communities in the Amazon Basin. Among them, the efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) stand out, which works closely with countries in the region to combat environmental crimes, including activities such as illegal logging and illegal mining. The UNODC provides technical assistance, trains law enforcement officials, and helps strengthen legal frameworks and regulations related to environmental protection. Nevertheless in a

similar way, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) establishes objectives aimed at protecting protected areas and recognizes the importance of local areas in protecting biodiversity. In addition agencies such as NASA and the European Space Agency have implemented environmental monitoring programs that use satellite technology to track deforestation, air quality, and other environmental indicators, providing critical data to understand the scope of the problem and guide conservation efforts.

On the other hand, international financial institutions such as the World Bank (BM) and the Inter-American Development Bank provide financing and technical support for conservation and sustainable development projects in the Amazon region, including measures to protect protected areas and promote permaculture practices. Finally, agencies such as the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) are working to strengthen the capacity of local communities, including indigenous communities, to manage sustainable use of natural resources and adapt to climate change. However, an approach is needed to ensure that indigenous communities actively participate in decision-making and the management of natural resources in their respective territories. Moreover, in this context, the work of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Research Institute (UNICRI) becomes an important actor in the fight against environmental crimes and the protection of human rights related to the illegal use of natural resources in the Amazon region. UNICRI works to prevent environmental crimes, promote environmental justice, and strengthen institutional capacity to address the issue.

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XXXVII TECMUN  
**Glossary of Forbidden Words**

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***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.*

<b>Forbidden Words</b>	<b>Permitted equivalents</b>
First world countries	Developed countries
Third world countries	Developing countries
Gay	Member of the LGBTIQ+ community
War <sup>17</sup>	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 <sup>18</sup>	African American

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<sup>17</sup> 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.

<sup>18</sup> 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**

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***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

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**Glossary for Resolution Projects**

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***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



