

II. Measures to Strengthen International Counter-Terrorism Efforts

*“Terrorism is a significant threat to peace and security, prosperity and people. The international community continues to pursue a robust and comprehensive response. Collective efforts have disrupted attacks and disabled terrorist networks.”*¹⁹²

Introduction

Terrorism has always been a serious threat to the international community as it impacts the peace and security of states.¹⁹³ Terrorist activities also violate some of the basic principles of human rights, threaten the rule of law, and the protection of civilians that are mentioned in the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945).¹⁹⁴ Since the formation of the United Nations (UN), the international community has never fully agreed on a binding definition of terrorism, despite its prevalence.¹⁹⁵ Several attempts by the international community to define terrorism have been made, though the primary disagreements impeding consensus on its definition are whether such a definition should include states’ use of armed forces against civilians and the potential right of people under foreign occupation to resist in any means necessary.¹⁹⁶ These debates are particularly important because acts of terrorism often occur in areas with regional conflict or occupation.¹⁹⁷ The number of terrorist attacks in countries including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Egypt, Iraq, the Philippines, Syria, and Turkey has increased since 2015.¹⁹⁸ Terrorist organizations such as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and Boko Haram have been responsible for several of the terrorist attacks in Asia and Africa respectively.¹⁹⁹ Also in Europe, the number of casualties due to terrorist attacks substantially increased in 2015 compared to prior years.²⁰⁰

Despite the lack of an agreed-upon definition, significant work has been done in order to counter the spread of terrorism.²⁰¹ The UN has consistently worked on improving counter-terrorism efforts by creating frameworks where states can collaborate in order to preserve the rule of law, human rights, and protection of civilians as well as spread unity and peace nationally, regionally, and internationally.²⁰² Consequently, the General Assembly adopted resolution 60/288 of 2006 to launch the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, which establishes a common theme and method for the fight against terrorism.²⁰³ The strategy, noting that all forms and manifestations of terrorism would not be tolerated by the international community, outlines several practical procedures in order to prevent and combat these acts of terrorism.²⁰⁴ The international community has been working on an arrangement of procedures to be taken that cover and include strengthening state capacity to coordinate counter-terrorism activities with the UN.²⁰⁵

International and Regional Framework

The basis of efforts by the UN to combat terrorism can be seen in the *International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism* (1999).²⁰⁶ Article 2 specifies that acts violating this convention include those in which

¹⁹² UN Security Council, *Summary record of the 6765th meeting (S/PV.6765)*, 2012.

¹⁹³ Durmaz, *Understanding and Responding to Terrorism*, 2007, p. 66.

¹⁹⁴ *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945, Ch. I; UNFPA, *Human Rights Principles*, 2005.

¹⁹⁵ Human Rights Voices, *There is no UN definition of Terrorism*.

¹⁹⁶ UN, High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change, *A more secure world: Our shared responsibility. Report of the High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change*, 2004.

¹⁹⁷ UN General Assembly, *Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit: Note by the Secretary-General (A/59/565)*, 2004, p. 47.

¹⁹⁸ National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, *Annex of Statistical Information: Country Reports on Terrorism 2015*, 2016.

¹⁹⁹ *Ibid.*

²⁰⁰ DataGraver, *People killed by terrorism per year in Western Europe 1970-2015*, 2015.

²⁰¹ Human Rights Voices, *There is no UN definition of Terrorism*.

²⁰² UN CTITF, *UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*, 2015.

²⁰³ *Ibid.*

²⁰⁴ *Ibid.*

²⁰⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁰⁶ UN General Assembly, *International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism (A/RES/54/109)*, 1999.

funds are collected in full or in part toward the financing of terrorism or terrorist activities.²⁰⁷ Additionally, the *International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism* (2005) aims at preventing anyone from acquiring or possessing nuclear material with the intent to do harm or threaten international peace.²⁰⁸ The General Assembly previously adopted the *Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons* (1973), which summarizes the codes of protection of diplomats from kidnapping and murder in any context.²⁰⁹ In 1979, taking steps toward the development of a comprehensive legal framework on international counter-terrorism, the General Assembly adopted the *International Convention against Taking of Hostages* and in 1997 the *International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings* noting that these actions are a matter of international concern as they threaten international peace and security.²¹⁰

In 2003, the UN adopted the *United Nations Convention against Corruption*.²¹¹ This convention addresses issues such as abuse of power and corruption in private sectors while calling on Member States to ensure transparency.²¹² Required mechanisms of prevention include the establishment of anti-corruption bodies, the criminalization of corruption in all its forms, and the establishment of offices ensuring that terrorist organizations are not being supported by any means including financially.²¹³ Terrorist groups often benefit from high levels of corruption in a country due to impeded rule of law, which facilitates money laundering and the formation of terrorist groups, making anti-corruption efforts an important aspect of counter-terrorism.²¹⁴ Furthermore, the convention calls for international cooperation in terms of providing legal assistance and gathering and transferring.²¹⁵

The Secretary-General established the United Nations' High-Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change in 2003 to conduct a study and provide key insight into the threats to international peace and security.²¹⁶ In the resulting report (A/59/565), the panel recommends establishing a comprehensive strategy against terrorism and finalizing a definition for terrorism.²¹⁷ In 2005, the international community took a united stance condemning of all forms of terrorism at the World Summit.²¹⁸ In that context, former Secretary-General Kofi Annan published the 2005 report on "Uniting against terrorism: recommendations for a global counter-terrorism strategy" (A/60/825) in which he hoped that terrorism would be fought on a global level, uniting governments and international organizations on matters of preventing the support for terrorism and defending human rights.²¹⁹ Following this report, the General Assembly adopted resolution 60/288, establishing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.²²⁰ The strategy consists of four main pillars, which include addressing the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism; preventing and combating terrorism; building Member States' capacity and strengthening the role of the UN in the fight against terrorism; and ensuring human rights and the rule of law.²²¹ In his report 66/762 to the General Assembly on implementing the strategy, the Secretary-General expresses his support for the victims of terrorism and stresses the importance of global counter-terrorism efforts.²²²

²⁰⁷ Ibid.

²⁰⁸ UN General Assembly, *International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism* (A/RES/59/290), 2005, pp. 2-3.

²⁰⁹ UN General Assembly, *Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents* (A/RES/3166 (XXVIII)), 1973.

²¹⁰ UN General Assembly, *International Convention against the Taking of Hostages* (A/RES/34/146), 1979; UN General Assembly, *International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings* (A/RES/52/164), 1997.

²¹¹ UN General Assembly, *United Nations Convention against Corruption* (A/RES/58/4), 2003.

²¹² Ibid.

²¹³ Ibid.

²¹⁴ UNODC, *UN Instruments and Other Relevant International Standards on Money-Laundering and Terrorist Financing*.

²¹⁵ UN General Assembly, *United Nations Convention against Corruption* (A/RES/58/4), 2003.

²¹⁶ UN General Assembly, *Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit: Note by the Secretary-General* (A/59/565), 2004.

²¹⁷ UN General Assembly, *Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit: Note by the Secretary-General* (A/59/565), 2012.

²¹⁸ UN DPI, *The 2005 World Summit High-Level Plenary Meeting of the 60th session of the UN General Assembly*, 2005.

²¹⁹ UN CTITF, *UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*, 2015.

²²⁰ Ibid.

²²¹ Ibid.

²²² UN General Assembly, *United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy: activities of the United Nations system in implementing the Strategy: Report of the Secretary-General* (A/66/762), 2012, p. 8.

Role of the International System

In 1994, the General Assembly adopted resolution 49/60 on the *Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism*, leading to the establishment of the Ad Hoc Committee on Terrorism in 1996 as a supplement to the declaration.²²³ Following the declaration, Member States reached a common understanding allowing counter-terrorism measures to consistently be discussed and for appropriate actions to be taken, including the adoption of the *International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings*.²²⁴ The *Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism* is a proposed convention that has been in deadlock discussion since 1996, which would finalize an internationally agreed-upon definition of terrorism and address all terrorist acts.²²⁵ In 2012, the General Assembly Sixth Committee urged Member States to complete the draft for this convention.²²⁶

One of the main outcomes of cooperation between Member States on terrorism has been the adoption and the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (2006).²²⁷ The main objective of the strategy is to preserve human rights while preventing terrorist attacks.²²⁸ In addition to this, in January 2016, the Secretary-General drafted a *Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism*, which was discussed in the context of both the Geneva Conference on Preventing Violent Extremism and the General Assembly's Fifth Review of Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.²²⁹ The Plan of Action calls upon Member States to set out a plan to combat extremist terrorist organizations such as ISIL and Boko Haram nationally and regionally.²³⁰ The Plan of Action works in a very broad manner focusing not only on improving security but also identifying and preventing people from being exposed to radical content and eventually joining an extremist group.²³¹ Likewise, in 2016, the General Assembly adopted resolution 70/291 in which it calls upon all entities working on combating terrorism including Member States and regional and international organizations to enhance its efforts toward implementing the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.²³²

In 1998 the Security Council adopted resolution 1189, condemning the impacts of terrorism on international relations and calling for the cooperation and support of international institutions to aid the governments of Kenya and Tanzania, which had both recently suffered from a terrorist attack.²³³ Due to the increase in the number of terrorist attacks in 1998, the Security Council also adopted resolution 1269, which condemned terrorism in all its forms and characterized it as a crime threatening international peace.²³⁴ The resolution called upon all Member States to fully implement all counter-terrorism conventions.²³⁵ In 1999, the Security Council took a firm stance against the terrorist organization Al-Qaida and adopted resolution 1267, which was an attempt to weaken and stop their terrorist activities through a sanctions regime.²³⁶ This resolution, which was the first of its kind, declared Osama bin Laden and his associates as terrorists and set in place an air, financial, and arms embargo.²³⁷ In 2017, the Security Council adopted resolution 2368, which states that all Member States should impose the asset freeze, travel

²²³ UN General Assembly, *Measures to eliminate international terrorism (A/RES/49/60)*, 1994; UN Office of Legal Affairs, *Ad Hoc Committee and established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996*, 1996.

²²⁴ UN Office of Legal Affairs, *Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996*, 1996.

²²⁵ UN DPI, *Legal Committee Urges Conclusion of Draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (GA/L/3433)*, 2012.

²²⁶ *Ibid.*; Livemint, *What is the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism*, 2016.

²²⁷ UN CTITF, *UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*, 2015.

²²⁸ *Ibid.*

²²⁹ *Ibid.*

²³⁰ UN General Assembly, *Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism: Report of the Secretary-General (A/70/674)*, 2015.

²³¹ UN CTITF, *Plan of Action to prevent violent extremism*.

²³² UN General Assembly, *The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy Review (A/RES/70/291)*, 2016.

²³³ UN Security Council, *On the International Terrorism (S/RES/1189(1998))*, 1998.

²³⁴ UN Security Council, *On the responsibility of the Security Council in the maintenance of international peace and security (S/RES/1269 (1999))*, 1999.

²³⁵ *Ibid.*

²³⁶ UN Security Council, *Afghanistan (S/RES/1267 (1999))*, 1999.

²³⁷ *Ibid.*, pp. 3-4.

ban, and arms embargo against ISIL, Al-Qaida, and any associated individuals or groups from resolutions 1333 and 1390.²³⁸

Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) established the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) which works on criminalizing financing of terrorism, improving information sharing between governments, and preventing any means of assistance for terrorist organizations.²³⁹ The Security Council is also concerned with the proliferation of weapons of mass destructions as related to terrorism, which is why the Security Council, in 2004, adopted resolution 1540 establishing the 1540 Committee.²⁴⁰ The committee is focused on four aspects: monitoring and national implementation; assistance; cooperation with international organization and other UN bodies; and transparency and media outreach.²⁴¹ Under this resolution, Member States are obliged not to cooperate with or support any non-state actors in obtaining, developing, or transporting nuclear, chemical, or biological weapons.²⁴² In addition to that, in 2004 the Security Council adopted resolution 1566 to establish the 1566 Working Group that takes actions against entities that are involved in terrorism but are not subjected to the mandate of the 1267 Committee, which deals with the Al-Qaida sanctions regime.²⁴³ This includes examining measures to be implemented upon entities associated with terrorism and setting up an international fund for the financial aid of victims of terrorism.²⁴⁴

Money laundering and the financing of terrorism are interconnected issues and several organizations have taken steps to address it.²⁴⁵ The International Monetary Fund established the Anti-Money Laundering Initiative in 2001 for the purpose of combating terrorism.²⁴⁶ During the 1989 Group of 7 (G7) Summit in Paris, Member States formed the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) to enforce standards toward promoting legal, regulatory, and operational measures to prevent money laundering.²⁴⁷ The FATF works through a set of international standards which are designed to prevent terrorists from obtaining funds from their supporters.²⁴⁸ However, in order to ensure more effective measures against terrorist financing, more assertive legislation, enforcement capacity, and increased international cooperation are needed.²⁴⁹ The North Atlantic Treaty Organization launched the Partnership Action Plan on Terrorism (PAP-T) which focuses on the economic and financial aspects of countering terrorism.²⁵⁰ PAP-T aims at preventing the smuggling of small arms through information sharing via the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council Ad Hoc group as well as preventing the use of weapons of mass destruction.²⁵¹ The International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) has also been active in combating terrorism.²⁵² It established the Counter-Terrorism Fusion Centre that investigates terrorist organizations' hierarchies, training, financing, methods, and motives.²⁵³ INTERPOL works toward countering threats from chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive weapons by sharing information and intelligence analysis, capacity building and training, and operational and investigative support to each Member State.²⁵⁴

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has been working with the G7 and Russia to improve their counter-terrorism responsibilities toward nuclear material which covers promoting safeguards against terrorists,

²³⁸ UN Security Council, *Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts - Preventing terrorists from acquiring weapons (S/RES/2370 (2017))*, 2017.

²³⁹ UN Security Council, *Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts (S/RES/1373(2001))*, 2001, pp. 2-3.

²⁴⁰ UN 1540 Committee, *General Information*.

²⁴¹ UN 1540 Committee, *Letter dated 10 February 2017 from the Chairs of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2017/126)*, 2017.

²⁴² UN 1540 Committee, *General Information*.

²⁴³ Harvard Law School Program on International Law and Armed Conflict, *Security Council Working Group established pursuant to Resolution 1566*, 2015.

²⁴⁴ *Ibid.*, UN Security Council Subsidiary Organs, *Working group established pursuant to resolution 1566*.

²⁴⁵ Lo, *FATF initiatives to combat terrorist financing*, 2002.

²⁴⁶ IMF, *Anti-Money Laundering/ Combatting the Financing of Terrorism*.

²⁴⁷ FATF, *Annual Report 2015 – 2016*, 2017.

²⁴⁸ Lo, *FATF initiatives to combat terrorist financing*, 2002.

²⁴⁹ *Ibid.*

²⁵⁰ NATO, *Money at the root of evil: The Economics of Transnational Terrorism*, 2007.

²⁵¹ NATO, *Partnership Action Plans against Terrorism*, 2002.

²⁵² INTERPOL, *Counter-Terrorism Fusion Centre*.

²⁵³ *Ibid.*

²⁵⁴ INTERPOL, *CBRNE*.

strengthening the international non-proliferation acts.²⁵⁵ These acts include the initiatives on safe disposal of plutonium which is not needed for defense purposes.²⁵⁶ The Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons has been working on providing protection and assistance to Member States that would face the threat of chemical weapons.²⁵⁷ It hosted a workshop in 2011 about “International response and mitigation of a terrorist use of chemical, biological and toxin weapons or materials.”²⁵⁸ This aimed to strengthen the exchange of knowledge among organizations related to responding to weapons of mass destruction’s attacks.²⁵⁹

The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy

The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy is a global instrument that unifies the international efforts fighting terrorism.²⁶⁰ The first pillar of the strategy addresses the conditions which promote the spread of terrorism.²⁶¹ For the purposes of the first pillar, former Secretary-General Kofi Annan launched the UN Alliance of Civilizations in 2005.²⁶² The Alliance, initiated by the prime minister of Spain and co-sponsored by the prime minister of Turkey, began when the international community noticed that extremists had caused major instability in terms of acceptance and tolerance between cultures.²⁶³ The Alliance is composed of people with different ideologies and backgrounds striving to create a mutual understanding between people of different backgrounds.²⁶⁴

The second pillar focuses on preventing and combating terrorist attacks.²⁶⁵ Based on this pillar, the General Assembly adopted resolution 71/151 in 2016, which calls upon all Member States to join and implement the *International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombing* and the *International Convention for the Suppression Acts of Nuclear Terrorism*.²⁶⁶ In addition, it asks Member States to fully incorporate the conventions and protocols into national legislation strengthening prosecution of terrorist acts.²⁶⁷ Moreover, the CTC works to find solutions for effectively countering extreme terrorism, foreign terrorist fighters, and the financing of terrorism by, for instance, sharing intelligence and strengthening law enforcement.²⁶⁸ The CTC’s efforts to impede the financial flows of ISIL were noted in Security Council resolution 2178.²⁶⁹ However, one of the biggest issues is that the lack of coherence and effective direct communication among counter-terrorism entities leads to inefficient counter-terrorism efforts.²⁷⁰ Due to the overlapping mandates among the plethora of counter-terrorism entities, activities often run in parallel rather than in coordination with each other.²⁷¹

The third pillar aims to enhance Member States’ capacity to prevent and combat terrorism through a number of measures, including sharing information, providing technical assistance, and enhancing cooperation among UN bodies like UNODC, INTERPOL, the International Monetary Fund, and Member States.²⁷² Often times, Member States are vulnerable to terrorism because of their instability.²⁷³ The cooperation and coordination measures of this

²⁵⁵ IAEA, *G8 Backs IAEA Role in Countering Terrorism*, 2002.

²⁵⁶ Ibid

²⁵⁷ OPCW, *The OPCW’s Role in Combating Terrorism*, 2001.

²⁵⁸ UN CTITF, *Preventing and responding to WMD terrorist attacks*.

²⁵⁹ Ibid.

²⁶⁰ UN CTITF, *UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*, 2015.

²⁶¹ Ibid

²⁶² UN DPI, *Secretary-General announces composition of High-Level group of Alliance of Civilization (SG/SM/10073/REV.1)*, 2005.

²⁶³ UN DPI, *Secretary-General announces launch of ‘Alliance of Civilizations’ aimed at bridging divides between societies exploited by extremists*, 2005.

²⁶⁴ UN Alliance of Civilizations, *About Us*, 2017.

²⁶⁵ UN CTITF, *UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*, 2015.

²⁶⁶ UN General Assembly, *Measures to eliminate International Terrorism (A/RES/71/151 (2016))*, 2016.

²⁶⁷ Ibid.

²⁶⁸ UN CTC, *Focus Areas*, 2017.

²⁶⁹ UN CTC, *Terrorism financing*.

²⁷⁰ Center on Global Counterterrorism Cooperation, *International Process on Global Counter-Terrorism Cooperation*, 2008, p. 34.

²⁷¹ UN DPI, *With Global Strategy, Member States Expressed Strong Resolve to Defeat Terrorism; Now Actions, Results Needed to Free World from Scourge, General Assembly Told (GA/11259)*, 2012.

²⁷² UN CTITF, *UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*, 2015.

²⁷³ Al-Badayneh et al., *Understanding Terrorism: Analysis of Sociological and Psychological Aspects*, 2007, p. 142.

pillar are particularly important because they not only address counter-terrorism efforts but also allow for coordination between Member States in other areas that serve to improve stability within states.²⁷⁴ To that end, the General Assembly in its resolution 70/291 (2016) called for enhanced dialogue and “greater coordination and coherence among the United Nations entities and with donors and recipients of counter-terrorism capacity-building.”²⁷⁵ Examples of coordination efforts among UN bodies in the field of counter-terrorism include the World Health Organization’s provision of technical assistance to aid Member States to prevent and prepare for any biological acts conducted by terrorists and the IAEA’s efforts to build states’ capacity to prevent terrorist acquisition of nuclear, chemical or radiological materials.²⁷⁶

The fourth pillar promotes human rights and rule of law to ensure that counter-terrorism measures do not conflict with fundamental human rights and to promote the protection of victims of terrorism.²⁷⁷ In support of this pillar, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights appointed a Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism.²⁷⁸ This is done by working on developing human rights standards and providing advice on technical cooperation.²⁷⁹ The Special Rapporteur’s mandate includes making recommendations about ensuring the protection of human rights and freedom, integrating a gender perspective in all activities, and regularly reporting to the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly.²⁸⁰ The rule of law is extremely critical as its negligence can lead to corruption, which contributes to global insecurity, the violations of human rights, and the formation of terrorist groups.²⁸¹ Peace and security on an international level cannot be achieved without the adequate installment of rule of law and promoting human rights on a national level.²⁸²

Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force

In 2004, the Secretary-General noted that Member States attempting to undertake counter-terrorism activities lacked UN-facilitated technical support and instead sought bilateral cooperation in order to receive operational support for such activities.²⁸³ In response to this need for a framework that would coordinate counter-terrorism activities between UN agencies and Member States, the Secretary-General established the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) in 2005.²⁸⁴ The Task Force consists of 38 international entities which provide policy support, technical assistance, and knowledge to Member States.²⁸⁵ The Task Force’s main objective is to ensure coherence and coordination toward achieving the goals of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.²⁸⁶ Furthermore, the CTITF has fostered cooperation with several regional and international organizations such as the European Union, the Council of Europe, and INTERPOL.²⁸⁷

Following acknowledgment in resolution 60/288 (2006) that there was a need for an international body that could focus on counter-terrorism efforts, the General Assembly established the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre

²⁷⁴ UN DPI, *Conflict prevention, migration and terrorism key concerns for EU and member countries at UN*, 2017.

²⁷⁵ UN General Assembly, *Strengthening the capability of the United Nations system to assist Member States in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/RES/71/291)*, 2017, p. 7.

²⁷⁶ WHO, *Public health response to biological and chemical weapons*, 2004, p. 12; UN CTITF, *UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*, 2015.

²⁷⁷ UN CTITF, *UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*, 2015.

²⁷⁸ UN General Assembly, *Report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism*, 2010, pp. 1-2; UN OHCHR, *Human Rights, Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism*, 2008.

²⁷⁹ UN General Assembly, *Report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism*, 2010, pp. 1-2; UN OHCHR, *Special Procedures of the Human rights Council*.

²⁸⁰ UN OHCHR, *Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism*, 2017.

²⁸¹ Bistrong, *Corruption’s Impact on the Rule of Law & Security: Moving from the Vicious to the Virtuous*, 2015.

²⁸² UN Chronicle, *The Role of the UN in Promoting the Rule of Law: Challenges and New Approaches*, 2012.

²⁸³ UN General Assembly, *Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit: Note by the Secretary-General (A/59/565)*, 2004, p. 50.

²⁸⁴ UN CTITF, *About the Task Force*, 2017.

²⁸⁵ UN CTITF, *Coordination and coherence of the counter terrorism efforts of the United Nations*.

²⁸⁶ UN DPI, *Implementation the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*, 2007.

²⁸⁷ OSCE, *The Review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*, 2014, p. 4.

in September 2011 through resolution 66/10, with the mandate of working within the CTITF and Department of Political Affairs on the implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.²⁸⁸ In 2017, the General Assembly adopted resolution 71/291, combining the CTITF and UN Counter-Terrorism Centre into a single office headed by an Under-Secretary-General, known as the Office of Counter-Terrorism.²⁸⁹ This merger intends to make the CTITF more efficient as it transfers the regular and extra-budgetary resources from the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat to the Office of Counter-Terrorism.²⁹⁰ The office has five main functions which include providing leadership to the counter-terrorism mandates set by the General Assembly; improving coordination for the implementation of the four pillars of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy by managing the 38 Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task force entities; improving the UN counter-terrorism capacity building assistance for each Member State; improving the efforts of the counter-terrorism measures by increasing visibility, support and improve resources; and ensuring the effective work being done on prevention of violent extremism.²⁹¹

Conclusion

Combating terrorism has been a priority topic in the UN for over a decade.²⁹² The Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy is instrumental in the fight against terrorism, discussing several fundamental concepts of terrorism as well as the prevention of and response to terrorism.²⁹³ The UN established the Office of Counter-Terrorism to provide technical support to Member States and effectively and coherently implement the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.²⁹⁴ The UN encourages Member States and regional and international organizations to join and promote the Global Counter-Terrorism.²⁹⁵ However, the involvement of many different entities working on preventing terrorism and safeguarding human rights makes adequate coordination a serious challenge and hinders the effective implementation of the strategy.²⁹⁶

Further Research

As delegates begin research on this topic, they should consider the following questions: How can Member States further cooperate with UN entities toward the effective implementation of the strategy? How can information sharing between regions aid toward effectively stopping terrorist organizations? What more can the international community provide toward the implementation of the strategy? What procedures should be followed by the international community toward promoting the rule of law and preventing corruption? How can the UN further help the victims of terrorism?

Annotated Bibliography

International Monetary Fund. (2000). *Anti-Money Laundering/Combating the Financing of Terrorism - Topics* [Website]. Retrieved 21 August 2017 from: <https://www.imf.org/external/np/leg/amlcft/eng/aml1.htm>

The International Monetary Fund elaborates on several initiatives it has taken in order to ensure that the international community is fighting against money laundering and financing of terrorist organizations. This website also highlights the efforts being made to combat money laundering and links it to corruption, which would greatly aid delegates toward understanding its importance toward pillars 2 and 4 of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. This source is useful for delegates in understanding how collaboration between UN bodies and Member States in counter-terrorism takes place.

Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons. (n.d.). *The United Nations Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) and the Working Group on Preventing and Responding to WMD Attacks*

²⁸⁸ UN CTC, *Background*.

²⁸⁹ UN OCT, *About*, 2017.

²⁹⁰ UN General Assembly, *Strengthening the capability of the United Nations system to assist Member States in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/RES/71/291)*, 2017, p. 2.

²⁹¹ UN OCT, *About*, 2017.

²⁹² United States of America, *Country Reports on Terrorism 2016*, 2017

²⁹³ UN CTITF, *UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*, 2015.

²⁹⁴ UN OCT, *About*, 2017.

²⁹⁵ UN CTITF, *UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*, 2015.

²⁹⁶ UN Chronicle, *The Role of the UN in Promoting the Rule of Law: Challenges and New Approaches*, 2012.

[Website]. Retrieved 20 August 2017 from: <https://www.opcw.org/special-sections/ctitf-report/the-united-nations-counter-terrorism-implementation-task-force-ctitf-and-the-working-group-on-preventing-and-responding-to-wmd-attacks/>

This website highlights the ways in which the CTITF has been working on initiatives toward responding to attacks conducted by terrorist organizations using weapons of mass destruction. In addition to that, the website lists all international entities that are part of this working group and the mandate it adheres to. Delegates will find useful links to reports, resolutions, and other information regarding the CTITF's work on preventing WMD attacks.

Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe. (2012, June 28-29). *Remarks by Anti-terrorism Issues Transnational Threats Department OSCE Secretariat Mr. Thomas Wuchte on the Review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy on 28-29 June 2012, in New York*. Retrieved 22 August 2017 from: <http://www.osce.org/secretariat/91823?download=true>

Mr. Thomas Wuchte, Head of the Anti-Terrorism Issues Transnational Threats Department of the OSCE wrote this in review to the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. The organization has expressed its pledge to the strategy and has mentioned several recommendations in which the organization is willing to support the strategy. Delegates will find this source useful as it illustrates the importance of international cooperation toward combating terrorism.

United Nations, Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force. (2006). *UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy* [Website]. Retrieved 16 July 2017 from: <https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/ctitf/un-global-counter-terrorism-strategy>

This website outlines the four main pillars of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. Each pillar plays a role in addressing an aspect of elimination of international terrorism. Apart from describing and explaining each pillar, the website also states the different organizations working toward the implementation of each of the pillars. Delegates can greatly benefit from this strategy in order to develop ideas to further combat terrorism.

United Nations, General Assembly, Fifty-fourth session. (1999). *International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism (A/RES/54/109)*. Adopted on the report of the Sixth Committee (A/54/615). Retrieved 17 July 2017 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/54/109>

This Convention took effect in 2002 and it outlines legal actions applicable in the event of a person committing the crime of financing terrorism in any sense. This convention also obliges States parties to take legal actions within the laws of that state to prosecute such crimes. Delegates should review this convention to understand the importance of preventing financing of terrorist organizations and the main frame they work within.

United Nations, General Assembly, Fifty-eighth session. (2003). *United Nations Convention against Corruption (A/RES/58/4)*. Retrieved 21 August 2017 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/58/4>

This convention was adopted by the General Assembly to address the concept of corruption and also brings up the internationally binding anti-corruption agreements. The convention has seven sections, in an attempt to cover all the work done in preventing corruption. Delegates should review this document learning more about the prevention of corruption and strengthening the rule of law, which is related to the fourth pillar of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

United Nations, General Assembly, Fifty-ninth session. (2004). *Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit: Note by the Secretary-General (A/59/565)*. Retrieved 20 October 2017 from: <https://undocs.org/A/59/565>

This report of the High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change is an assessment on the current threats to international peace and security. It also includes several recommendations on improving the work of the UN system toward collective security and it provides a summary of recommendations toward prevention of usage of weapons of mass destruction and guidelines on using of force and protecting civilians during an attack. Delegates will benefit from this report as it offers a good overview on the threats of terrorism.

United Nations, General Assembly, Fifty-ninth session. (2005). *International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (A/RES/59/290)*. Adopted on the report of the Ad Hoc Committee established by General

Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996 (A/59/766). Retrieved 17 July 2017 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/59/290>

This international convention was adopted to effectively combat the use of nuclear material for terrorism purposes. It encourages and promotes police and the judicial system to aid in preventing and prosecuting such offenses. Delegates should review this convention to understand what measures have been taken in the prevention of nuclear terrorism and base any policy recommendations on the existing frameworks.

United Nations, General Assembly, Sixty-sixth session. (2012). *United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy: activities of the United Nations system in implementing the Strategy: Report of the Secretary-General (A/66/72)*. Retrieved 12 August 2017 from: <http://undocs.org/A/66/762>

This report highlights the work that has been made toward the implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. It also outlines suggestions made by the UN system concerning future plans improving upon implementation mechanisms. Delegates will find this document helpful to understand the persisting gaps in effective implementation, and think about further recommendations and initiatives to strengthen the strategy.

United Nations, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. (2008). *Human Rights, Terrorism and Counter-terrorism* [Fact Sheet]. Retrieved 11 August 2017 from: <http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/Factsheet32EN.pdf>

This fact sheet was published in order to explain human rights and its relationship to the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, especially the fourth pillar. The report provides practical suggestions for organizations dealing with counter-terrorism measures and human rights, and provides guidance toward ensuring that they work together. Delegates should refer to this document in order to understand the relationship between human rights and countering terrorism.

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