

Dear Delegates,

My name is Keiko Pan and I am thrilled to be your Director of the Disarmament and international Security Committee at Vancouver Model United Nations 2015. I am a senior at Port Moody Secondary School, and am currently in the IB Diploma Programme. When I started high school in grade 9, joining the MUN club was the best choice I ever made, and helped create a goal for my future. I have attended CAHSMUN as both delegate and staff, TCMUN as part of the secretariat, and of course, VMUN. I am ecstatic as the conference comes near, and I look forward to overlooking the debate that will be occurring in our large committee of DISEC.

The two topics that will be presented to you this year in DISEC are challenging, and have been disputed over for quite some time in history, with no clear solution currently as well. The first topic is the Rise of Terrorism in Africa, which will allow delegates to use evidence from historical cases and adapt solutions to solve the on-going fight against terror, pinpointed in Africa. Not only does this topic cover economic, political, and social complications, but also requires an innovative solution that will combat terrorism in a location susceptible to a power imbalance.

The second topic is the Threat of Systemic Corruption to International Security, which is a unique and controversial topic that is current in the 20th and 21st centuries. Though systemic corruption is a domestic issue, the dangers that come with ignoring the repercussions of a systemically corrupt government are immeasurable, and shown in the recent uprisings of the Arab Spring. Systemic corruption is not a simple thing to abandon either, as it is imprinted in the economy and structure of powerful nations, with examples being China, Russia, and South Africa.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. I would be extremely happy to help you with research or any inquiries about the conference in general. I will be eagerly anticipating your positions papers, and cannot wait until January.

Best regards,

Keiko Pan

Director: Disarmament and International Security Committee

Topic A: The Rise of Terrorism in Africa

Overview:

As branches of terrorist organizations are spreading continuously, several parts of Africa have become both hosts and targets of certain terrorist groups. However, because of disagreements in foreign policies, economic outlooks, and social threats, there has been no significant progress in solving the rising rate of terrorism in Africa.

Due to the broad scale in which terrorist acts are conducted, a universal agreement upon what a terrorism act consists of is required. This agreement was created in the 1995 General Assembly resolution, when the United Nations defined terrorist acts using this political description of terrorism: “Criminal acts intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public, a group of persons or particular persons for political purposes are in any circumstance unjustifiable, whatever the considerations of a political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic, religious, or any other nature that may be invoked to justify them”.¹ This definition is now applied to branches of the UN when dealing with cases of terrorism.

Adding on to the definition of terrorism, the United Nations has also agreed upon a resolution that states the condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, “by whomever, wherever, and for whatever purposes”.² Terrorism within a nation is not something that can be prevented easily due to conflicting political tensions within a single area, and the broad scale of beliefs that exist within areas. Furthermore, the existing numbers of families in poverty in regions in Africa is one of the reasons why political unrest exists heavily in these places.³ As a result, the UN requires help and assistance on a global scale to ensure justice and peaceful intervention. .

One of the largest entities that has been focused in the African region in regards to the issue of rising terrorist groups is the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF). It was established in 2005 solely for the purpose of the 31 member states that signed the agreement asserting assistance to its fellow member states in the case of combating terrorism. The mandate of this group is to enhance coordination and coherence of counter-terrorism efforts of the United Nations system.⁴ It is the leading group for the growing issue of terrorist threats, and primarily ensures that each entity that is fighting terrorism in Africa is effective and being used to its maximum ability. The CTITF includes several working groups that focus on specific aspects and regions, including peacemaking and awareness groups, and economic strategists. It does not have a physical military force, but is able to receive military help in

¹ United Nations Action to Counter Terrorism, (2014)

<http://www.un.org/en/terrorism/background.shtml>

² UN Action to Counter Terrorism (2014)

³ Mark Lowen, *Kenya al-Shabab terror recruits 'in it for the money'*, BBC News(2014)

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-25934109>

⁴ UN Actions to counter terrorism, (2014) <http://www.un.org/en/terrorism/ctitf/index.shtml>

regards to any specific case.

There are several terrorist groups that the international community are focusing on more definitively than the others. These groups pose both a local threat to regions in Africa, but have branches located outside African borders that pose an even larger threat to the rest of the international community. At this time, each of the growing terrorist groups reside in a general area, where they compromise with each other's existence, act together, or act separately with no intervention or association with their actions. The largest and recently threatening two groups include Boko Haram, in Nigeria, and Al-Shabaab, which is a branch of the major terrorist group Al-Qaida, located in the general East Africa region.⁵

Therefore, the goal of this committee regarding this topic will be to establish a method to prevent any growth of these terrorist groups in Africa, in addition to any other regions that delegates believe may be threatened. Many factors will need to be considered, including intervention of foreign nations, cooperation with local governments, protection of civilians, and economical oversights.

Timeline:

August 7th, 1998- Al-Qaida terrorists attack US embassy in Nairobi, killing 213 people and wounding 5000; also attacked Tanzania⁶

April, 2002- 21 people are killed and more than 30 injured after a natural gas truck loaded with explosives was driven in the Tunisian island of Djerba; a German national and Muslim convert named Christian Ganczarski is suspected of planning the attack

October 19, 2002- United States Africa Command (AFRICOM) establishes the Combined Joint Task Force – Horn of Africa (CJTF – HOA) in response to the 9/11 attacks, causing the focus on terrorism in Africa to be more pronounced

November 28, 2002- Israeli owned hotel and a plane belonging to an Israeli airline is attacked; the terrorist group that was responsible is believed to be Al Muhajiroun, sympathizers with Al-Qaida

May, 2003- 33 are killed and more than 100 injured by five suicide bomb attacks on “western and Jewish” targets in Casablanca; 12 out of 14 bombers who were all Moroccan and had alleged links to Al-Qaida

October 2008- United States deems Al-Shabab as a Foreign Terrorist Organization and assigns a bounty to several high ranked leaders

October 15th, 2011- Kenya launches a military offensive against Al-Shabaab militants in Somalia who had been crossing the border into Kenya to kidnap foreign tourists and aid workers for several months

⁵ John Nugent, *Six Places At Risk Of Terrorism In Africa* (2014)

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/riskmap/2014/02/06/six-places-at-risk-of-terrorism-in-africa/>

⁶ Mark Oliver, *Timeline: terror attacks in Africa*, (2007)

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2007/apr/12/alqaida.terrorism>

October 24th, 2011- Al-Shabaab launches a series of low-grade terrorist strikes in Nairobi, aimed at civilian targets. Grenades that were used were Russian made, 2 dead and 20 wounded

December 5th, 2011- A landmine targeting a United Nations convoy explodes at Ifo refugee camp in Dadaab complex, killing 1 police officer and injuring 3 others

August 28th, 2012- 3 policemen are killed and 12 wounded during riots in Mombasa following the killing of Muslim Cleric, Aboud Rogo in Mombasa; Al-Shabaab claims responsibility

September 20th, 2012- Kenyan Defense Forces (KDF) launch major operation in Garissa after the indiscriminate killing of 3 of its soldiers in AMISOM

September 21st, 2013- Armed masked terrorists kill 59 people and injure more than 175; Al-Shabaab claims responsibility

April 14, 2014- Boko Haram kidnaps almost 300 girls from Chibok, Nigeria from the Government Secondary school; Nigerian government had 4 hours of prior notice before the kidnapping but did not make efforts to intervene

Historical Analysis:

Over the past century, terrorist organizations have found Africa to be a suitable region for recruiting, storage space, and planned attacks, mainly because of its low level of security and easily accessible trafficking routes.⁷ Due to the large number of families living under the poverty line, political dissatisfaction drives many people to join terrorist organizations in hopes to bring justice to themselves and their families. The terrorist groups are aware that there are a number of African citizens who are willing to join, which helped start the rise of terrorism in Africa.⁸ These groups then settle in several abandoned rural farms⁹ and regions of unused land are places, which is how and where they plan attacks both inside and outside African borders.

However, land is not the only cause to the rise of terrorism in Africa. Increasing birthrates, lack of education, unorganized governing bodies, and even environmental degradation all account for a large factor. Due to the large increase in birth rates, the population is growing faster than development can occur. As a result, economic stability is difficult to achieve and results in a large number of families under poverty.¹⁰ Education adds to increasing birthrates, as young women do not receive sexual education and how to protect themselves. Though many countries claim to be a democracy, they are often corrupt and inefficient. Because of this, a nation's best interest may not be considered, and instead governing individuals benefit from

⁷ Princeton N. Lyman, *The War on Terrorism in Africa*, p. 3

http://www.cfr.org/content/thinktank/Lyman_chapter_Terrorism.pdf

⁸ Dr. Valentina Bartolucci, *The Spectre of Terrorism and the Islamist Challenge in North Africa*,

<http://www.diplomaticcourier.com/news/regions/africa/1477-the-spectre-of-terrorism-and-the-islamist-challenge-in-north-africa> (2013)

⁹Robert Feldman, "The Root Causes of Terrorism: Why Parts of Africa Might Never Be at Peace," *Defense & Security Analysis*, 25, no. 4 (2009): 355–372,

<http://fmso.leavenworth.army.mil/documents/Root-causes-of-terrorism.pdf> (accessed August 9, 2014).

¹⁰ Feldman, *Defense & Security Analysis*, (2009)

the wealth given to them due to their high positions. For example, in Equatorial Guinea, President Obiang has been in power since 1979. He is noted for his anti-democratic behaviour, which results in unfair rulings to laws or rulings. Lastly, environmental degradation has also contributed to the growing terrorism in Africa through the competition for lacking resources. Since environmental conditions are worsening, the lack of resources is a one of the root causes to growing conflict in Africa.

Most, but not all, of the organizations that conduct terrorist activities in Africa are from groups that are linked to Al-Qaida. For example, some terrorist groups base their narratives on the Ten Commandments and the Bible; an example of this is the Lord's Resistance Army, which operated in Northern Uganda and South Sudan. It was recognized as a terrorist organization after the September 11th attacks in the US, but has been active since 1987. They are wanted for crimes against humanity, rape, murder, and sexual slavery.¹¹ What is important to distinguish is the fact that these groups warp intrinsically peaceful religious teachings to serve their own agendas.

Boko Haram, one of the only African based organizations, was founded in the early 21st century, and resides in Nigeria¹². Most of the terrorist organizations in Africa are believed to be local political extremist groups, rather than the larger, internationally active organizations. Boko Haram focuses on similar goals to Al-Qaida and Al-Shabab, which emphasizes its hatred for westernization, and more specifically Western countries such as the United States.¹³ There is this emphasis because of the amount of power the United States holds. Because the US is involved in several aspects of many different nations, these groups target the US as a common enemy to conduct even ground on, making it possible to instigate war either on the international scale, or even on a civil scale due to the conflicting opinions regarding westernization of the people in each nation. Furthermore, the US is always one of the first to react in any situation, whether domestic or international, which is another reason as to why terrorist groups uses the US as a common enemy, as the US always takes the first step in any mishap, regardless of the controversy attached in any case.

Al -Qaida and Al-Shabab are the two most influential terrorist groups on the international scale, which is why several other nations focus their attention on combating the activities of these two groups. However, several other terrorist organizations also coexist in Africa, including (ISIS), Hezbollah, Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), and Ansar al-Sharia. These organizations reside in various areas of Africa, but have all been deemed as terrorist groups by countries including the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom.¹⁴

¹¹ Doom, Ruddy and Koen Vlassenroot. "Kony's Message: A New Koine?" *African Affairs* 1999:98(390), p.13

¹² Farouk Chothia, *Who Are Nigeria's Boko Haram Islamists?*, (2014)
<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-13809501>

¹³ Lynman, *War on Terrorism*, p. 2

¹⁴ Sven Pohle, *Islamist terror groups in Africa and Middle East* (2014)
<http://www.dw.de/islamist-terror-groups-in-africa-and-middle-east/a-17739751>

Over time, several organizations have developed in Africa that are a threat to security and the safety of the local civilians. Moreover, these organizations have extremist narratives, similar to large terrorist organizations. However, these groups are not classified as official terrorist groups because they do not focus on a specific, global target and are instead conducting violent actions for the sole purpose of creating political havoc locally. These small groups are present in many places in Africa, but should not be considered as formal terrorist organizations in the sense that they are a threat to the international community. On the other hand, these smaller organizations pose as a potential gain for international groups such as Al-Qaida for manpower and resources; speculation states that this was how Boko Haram came to be. Delegates will need to discuss whether formally recognizing these smaller terrorist organizations will bring a clearer understanding on the groups in an effort to combat them.

The rise of terrorism in Africa was not given the international spotlight until the attacks on 9/11 in the United States. There were several attacks in Africa prior to 9/11; however, the international community only started to direct its stern attention to Africa after the attacks by signing treaties and sending forces and aid. In the past, the United Nations had established the OAU (Organization of African Unity) and held a conference in 1999. Ultimately, none of the member states acted upon their ideas and proposals and little to no action was taken against terrorist organizations in Africa at the time.

Current Situation

One of the recently conspicuous issues is the condemnation of the actions of Boko Haram. After the abduction of almost 300 schoolgirls in Chibok, Nigeria in April 2014, the international community has pressured the Nigerian government to search and fight against the now-growing terrorist organization with strong links to Al-Qaida¹⁵. However, there were many instances in which the Nigerian government acted in ways that sparked outrage from the international community because of their lack of responsive forces and decisions that did not put the safety of the abducted girls first.¹⁶

Border security is another pressing issue, as many terrorist organizations look to regions in Africa to take base and conduct illegal arms and drug trafficking. The United Nations has also pledged to help Kenya and other countries in Africa to fight terrorism after a series of attacks conducted by Al-Shabab.¹⁷

¹⁵ Ian Johnston, *Kidnapped Nigerian girls' escape from Boko Haram abductors*, (2014)

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/africa/kidnapped-nigerian-girls-escape-from-boko-haram-abductors-9588251.html>

¹⁶ Brian Bennett, *U.S. officials frustrated by Nigeria's response to girls' kidnapping*, (2014)

<http://www.latimes.com/world/africa/la-fg-us-nigeria-schoolgirls-20140515-story.html>

¹⁷ *UN determined to help Africa fight terrorism*, (2014)

<http://news.yahoo.com/un-determined-help-africa-fight-terrorism-163519610.html>

Major Countries

United States

As stated before, the United States has made a clear effort to invest money into combating terrorism that is threatening Africa and the rest of the world, especially after the September 11, 2001 attacks. AFRICOM is currently the largest group dedicated towards the relationship between the United States and Africa. The focused region (regarding CJTF – HOA) is the Horn of Africa, which borders the Middle East. Most of the terrorist groups focus on anti-Westernization ideas; the Horn is the main region in which these ideas transfer between the Middle East and Africa.¹⁸ Since the United States is extremely focused on international terrorism, the Horn of Africa is one that is of high importance, especially because of its ability to connect the Middle East with another larger nation of people.¹⁹ However, many argue that the United States does not put the interests of the local government as a priority, and believe that the United States is looking to militarize several specific regions.²⁰ Furthermore, there are several cases of accusations of human rights violations during missions from US forces, pushing many to believe that the United States should not intervene as much as they are doing so currently.²¹ For example, Mohammed al-Asad, arrested in Tanzania in 2003, claims that US forces tortured him at a black site in Djibouti.

Nations in the Middle East are strengthening security on the borders as well, in hopes to prevent the spread of extreme ideologies over to Africa. For example, efforts to prevent illegal immigration and smuggling between Israel and Africa have grown significantly after physical blockades such as fences were constructed in 2012.²²

Several other nations have expressed interest in providing assistance to prevent the terrorist group Boko Haram from conducting any further practices, including China, Canada, France, and the United Kingdom. The stated methods of assistance are monetary and military aid.²³

Kenya

After the bombing of several US embassies in 1998 by Al-Qaida, which caused Kenya to suffer terrible casualties, and the 2002 attack on Israeli facilities in Mombasa, the international

¹⁸ Lyman, *War on Terrorism*, p. 4

¹⁹ Lyman, *War on Terrorism*, p. 8

²⁰ Danny Haiphong, “*Bring Back Our Girls*” Campaign: Reinforcing U.S. Imperialism, the Root of Terrorism in Africa, (2014)

<http://www.globalresearch.ca/bringbackourgirls-campaign-reinforcing-u-s-imperialism-the-root-of-terrorism-in-africa/5383216>

²¹ Jason Leopold, *Senate report set to reveal Djibouti as CIA ‘black site’*, Aljazeera America (2014)

²² Isabel Kershner, *Crackdown on Migrants Tugs at Soul of Israelis*, New York Times, (2012)

<http://www.nytimes.com/2012/06/18/world/middleeast/crackdown-on-african-immigrants-tugs-at-israels-soul.html?pagewanted=all>

community recognized that Kenya was hosting more terrorist and militant groups. After Kenya gained independence, the African population started to gain power and the economy steadily became more local. However, as living conditions started to decline due to the lack of economic stability, political dissatisfaction and unrest has grown amongst citizens who are choosing now to turn to political ideologies opposing that of their nation's. Though many countries are democracies, corruption and systematic disorganization in the governing body results in this political dissatisfaction. As a result, Kenyan citizens assisted many of these attacks, including the bombings in 1998 and Mombasa attacks in 2002 which were conducted by Al-Qaida.²⁴

Kenya is also facing problems with its border control and ownership of crucial pieces of land. The border between Kenya and Somalia are deemed almost "lawless", as stated by analysts, due to the lack of control by the Kenyan government at the borders. There are large gaps in some areas of the borders where there is little to no security at all, and there are cases in which people have crossed without going through the right security measures due to the lack of experience by border officials.²⁵ This has resulted in an increase of terrorist organizations that work with human, drug, and arms trafficking since there are large gaps and few security officials at many areas along the border.²⁶

Somalia

A group with close ties to Al-Qaida, Al-Shabab is a militant group that began in Somalia but has now stretched all across Africa, including Kenya. It is a sub-group of the Islamic Courts Union (ICU). The reason why Al-Shabab is especially a concern for international governments is because of its large number of Western and foreign members/leaders. Many Muslim Americans have been recruited since 2007, in addition to having several high ranked leaders of the group being European citizens.

The goal of Al-Shabab is to create an Islamic state in Somalia, by opposing westernization and removing any foreigners living in Somalia.²⁷ Because of its similar opposition to westernization as Boko Haram, both of these groups are now threats to regions outside of Somalia and Kenya respectively. Its targets are Western interests, which further pushes governments into refusing the help of international militaries and aid. Most of their focuses of operations lie in Somalia.

UN Involvement

Both international bodies and the UN have been consistently responding and researching into effective methods of dealing with terrorist groups. More specifically in Africa, the UN believes

²⁴ Lyman, *War on Terrorism*, p. 14

²⁵ Lyman, *War on Terrorism*, p. 14

²⁶ Lyman, *War on Terrorism*, p. 15

²⁷ ADL, Al Shabaab, http://archive.adl.org/terrorism/symbols/al_shabaab.html

that it is a region that is starting to welcome the ideologies of several terrorist organizations, and that it is not actually the battleground where the internal/external conflict will occur between local governments and civilians.²⁸ However, several instances have occurred in which many casualties occurred and clashes threatened the safety of the nation as a whole, including the shooting at a mall in Kenya.

United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy

This strategy was adopted in 2006 when all member states of the UN agreed to coordinate their counter-terrorism efforts. The strategy focuses on 4 key main recommendations for all member states to follow, including: tackling the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, preventing and combating terrorism, building countries' capacity to prevent and combat terrorism and to strengthen the role of the UN system in that regard, and ensuring respect for human rights for all and the rule of law while countering terrorism.²⁹ This strategy is currently being implemented through awareness groups, meetings between member states in enforcing militant forces and supplying aid, and signed treaties by all member states, including regions in Africa.

Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF)

This is the main body that the UN is relying on to conduct anti-terrorism practices in Africa currently. It was established as part of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism strategy. However, it is constantly stated that this single entity alone will not be able to fight terrorism effectively in many regions of Africa due to the lack of resources in local governments, and the lack the capacity to implement UN mandates, resulting in an ineffective force.³⁰ The CTITF encourages and builds a foundation for member states to ensure an effective and plausible method to combating terrorism. This includes funding, management of UN departments, programmes, etc.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime/ Terrorism Prevention Branch (UNODC/TPB)

This UN body focuses on drug trafficking between African borders, especially in the Horn of Africa region. Because it is the region separating the Middle East and Africa, it is a vulnerable place for traffickers to smuggle substances through the Horn. This UN body is currently focusing on security at the borders of nations that are in vulnerable areas, or regions that may have very little to no security measures on their borders. As a result, it is extremely easy for traffickers to access regions in Africa, creating more widespread and international terrorist groups, making it harder for local governments to control. The International Ship and Port

²⁸ Scott Stearns, UN: Fighting Terrorism in Africa Requires Coordinated Response, 2013
<http://www.voanews.com/content/african-leaders-call-for-coordinated-fight-against-terrorism-on-continent/1758154.html>

²⁹ United Nations Security Council, UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, 2013
<http://www.un.org/en/sc/ctc/action.html>

³⁰ Africa and International Counterterrorism Imperatives
<http://www.un.org/africa/osaa/reports/new-reports/OSAA-TerrorismPaper-12Nov2010.pdf>

Facilities Security (ISPS) Code also assists in border and cargo control.

Possible Solutions and Conflicts

One potential solution would be for threatened member nations to step up to the global stage and request help from both the UN and specific nations. This would result in a global effort to rid several nations of specific terrorist groups at once; once a terrorist group is removed completely, though it is not for certain the threat will not arise again, there is a relief for any nation that felt threatened by the specific organization. However, there are two problems to this method. First, since some member nations do not hope for assistance nor allow it into the country, conflicts arise once foreign policies clash. Second, due to the possibility of backlash from terrorist groups if forces are sent in, there is a threat to the safety of the civilians in the area; there is also no guarantee that every military mission will be successful.

Foreign Responsibilities

As seen in the most recent kidnapping conducted by Boko Haram in Nigeria, there is a clear conflict between the foreign policies of each member state. Though the Nigerian government was pressured into making decisions that would both ensure the safe return of the girls and satisfy the international community that was closely monitoring the actions of the Nigerian government, it was later discovered that the Nigerian government had 4 hours of prior notice regarding this kidnapping, but did not inform any forces or other nations to move in. A few days after, the Nigerian government accepted foreign assistance from several countries, including the US, Canada, France, and China.

From this incident, it is clearly shown that local governments would rather not have several military organizations from international bodies arriving in their region. They believe that there is a threat of further clashes between the international militants and local terrorist groups or disapproving civilian groups. On the other hand, it is vital to have the international community involved if the local government is incapable of handling a problem as large as an international terrorist group with links to Al-Qaida and other dangerous organizations.

As stated before, several of the terrorist organizations that are arising in Africa grow on the basis of religious ideologies, even though their actions may not reflect what they claim to believe in. The LRA, or any faction of Al-Qaida claim to fight in the name of God, while conducting crimes against humanity, which blatantly defies any religious doctrine they claim to follow. These ideologies arise because of the social construct that their society lives upon now; several countries are immeasurably richer and more powerful, creating an unfair handling in situations. Because of the power hierarchy, hatred of Westernization grows steadily in other countries that are slowly merging into the international scene, specifically Africa. However, these ideologies slowly become just a narrative and are not the sole driving force in why these terrorist groups act in the way they do. The international community can help to destroy the effectiveness of organizations' narratives by recruiting citizens who are politically unsatisfied, releasing information about cults that are especially dangerous, and warn people, especially in rural villages, about the dangers of these terrorist organizations.

Economic, political, and military ownership becomes the larger reason in why these terrorist groups would fight against their own people. For example, Al-Shabab gains much of their profit from controlling the waters near the Horn of Africa, showing the importance of land ownership.³¹ With attempts to take over lands, military strength becomes a necessity, which is another area to combat when dealing with organizations that have access to weapons through the black market, or even legal purchases in some areas. The desire for economic wealth and ownership along with unrest in their governing bodies gives the terrorist organizations their reasons for destroying their local communities and claiming lives. Political corruption is also why citizens would choose to follow these terrorist groups in the first place, which is why it is equally important for the international community to pay attention to the local governments and assist in creating satisfaction for the governing body and its citizens.

Moreover, the threat of incoming international aid from North American and European countries is dangerous for local governments due to the fear of terrorist organizations acting in a way that will be more detrimental to local civilians than if these international assistance groups did take action. One example of this situation was when American forces captured Ahmed Abu Khatallah in Libya, who was a key suspect in the Benghazi attack that killed US ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans in 2012. Shortly after the arrest, the Libya Revolutionaries' Operations Room (LROR) seized the prime minister's office in the capital, and many civilians evacuated the area near the capital for fear that it may be bombed.³² The fear of heightened hostility by the terrorist group is the main reason as to why local governments may refuse to have foreign troops assist in helping with combating terrorist groups/activities.

Discussion Questions

1. What is the principle reason as to why these terrorist activities are starting in Africa? In similar regions?
2. What methods of intervention are acceptable for countries in Africa in distributing aid and military support?
3. How is the UN able to provide these forms of intervention?
4. How will local member states assist in locating these terrorist organizations?
5. Which nations threatened by the growth of terrorism may be associated with corruption?
6. How will the UN prevent future uprisings in the same location? Can these tactics be applied to future terrorist threats in other nations?
7. What are the goals of these terrorist organizations?

³¹ Peter Biles, *Horn of Africa Drought: Why is Somalia worst affected?*, BBC (2011)

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-14143562>

³² Mohamed Eljarh, *A Terrorist's Arrest Sets off a Backlash in Libya*, Foreign Policy (2014)

http://transitions.foreignpolicy.com/posts/2014/06/18/a_terrorists_arrest_sets_off_a_backlash_in_libya

8. Is there political turmoil currently in regions of Africa? Is there a link between local political issues and terrorist groups?
9. Will suppression in specific regions assist in taking down the organization as a whole? Which countries are responsible if this is the case?

Additional Resources

Front Page Africa- The Rise of Terrorism in Africa

<http://www.frontpageafricaonline.com/index.php/op-ed/commentaries-features/665-the-rise-of-terrorism-in-africa>

United Nations Action to Counter Terrorism

<http://www.un.org/en/terrorism/>

List of Al-Qaida associated individuals and groups

http://www.un.org/sc/committees/1267/aq_sanctions_list.shtml

Current UNSC Counter-terrorism Committee news

<http://www.un.org/en/sc/ctc/news/>

The African Union Counter Terrorism Framework

<http://www.peaceau.org/en/page/64-counter-terrorism-ct>

United States' role in Africa on Counterterrorism

<https://www.ctc.usma.edu/posts/the-future-role-of-u-s-counterterrorism-operations-in-africa>

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September 23, 2013. <http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/90777/8407044.html> (accessed July 13, 2014).

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<http://www.voanews.com/content/african-leaders-call-for-coordinated-fight-against-terrorism-on-continent/1758154.html> (accessed July 18, 2014).

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<http://fmso.leavenworth.army.mil/documents/Root-causes-of-terrorism.pdf> (accessed August 9, 2014).

Topic B: The Threat of Systemic Corruption to International Security

Overview

What may seem like an individual nation's problem can escalate into a global threat of security breaches and safety boundaries broken. The United Nations General Assembly recognized in December 2000 that an international, legal instrument against corruption separate of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime was desirable, and later negotiated between January 2002 and October 2003. It was named the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and entered into force in December 2005.³³

Systemic corruption, however, does not apply to individual cases, and rather the governing body as a whole. Systemic corruption dominates and is integrated in the economic, social, and political system of the governing bodies. For example, though an individual may commit acts against the honor system of his or her position, that governing body may not be systematically corrupt. To put it simply, if an individual commits an action deemed corrupt, it cannot be classified as systemically corrupt because being systemically corrupt only occurs in a whole governing body, not an individual. On the other hand, most cases of systematically corrupt governments are branched from individuals that have committed deeds deemed to be corrupt.

An example of this is the current Chinese Communist Party Congress, whose dealings and decisions are all conducted without transparency³⁴. The Chinese government is considered a systemically corrupt government because corruption has already been embedded in the dealings of politicians in regards to social reforms and economic decisions. From the new government under leader Xi Jinping, an investigation on tackling corruption in the Chinese government has been underway for a few years.³⁵ This investigation has revealed to analysts who have argued for many years that China is systemically corrupt to be true, in the fact that so many high-profile members of government have been tried for unethical duties contrary to their positions. As a result, the problem of corruption is not just an individual case, but has now become a new reform for leader Xi to clear the issue of a systemically corrupt governing body. Some more examples of countries that have been known for systemic corruption are Afghanistan, Nigeria, Bangladesh, Greece, and South Africa.

³³ *United Nations Convention against Corruption*, UNODC (2014)

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/treaties/CAC/>

³⁴ *Something Rotten in the state of China*, The Economist (2002)

<http://www.economist.com/node/988457>

³⁵ Kenneth Courtis, *Just How Deeply Ingrained is Corruption in China?*, (2014)

<http://www.theglobalist.com/just-how-deeply-ingrained-is-corruption-in-china/>

12 out of 15 of the lowest-ranking countries on Transparency International's 2013 Corruption Perceptions Index harbor extremist groups, are currently going through political turmoil, and fighting against their own governments; this all causes a threat to international security, especially from extremist groups that do not reside in just one location.³⁶

Today, the United Nations is targeting corruption as a method to prevent high-profile international security threats before they can occur. Though political and economic corruption usually occurs in specific countries and can be dealt with locally, it can easily escalate to something as big as a security threat to another country, or to the international community as a whole. Due to political unrest, socioeconomic conditions, and post-conflict disorganization, several cases of international security threats have come from all different regions of systematically corrupt governing bodies in the world in regards to physical and technological security.

As a result, the goal for this topic is not only to address the matters of corruption in specific member states and their solutions, but also to examine the role of DISEC in the prevention and persecution of international security threats that arise from systemic corruption.

Timeline

September 11, 2001- September 11 attacks on the Twin Towers and Pentagon in Washington, DC. This is the largest known case of an international terrorist group using physical force to take revenge on a Western country, and is the main reason why the 2003 Iraq invasion occurred

January 2002- Negotiations for a new individual organization to be established apart from the UNODC, to be called the UN Convention Against Corruption

2005- Transparency International's Defence and Security Programme works with Columbia on defence integrity pacts, marking the beginning of working with specific countries in tackling defence and security integrity

December 2005- UNCAC enters into the force and begins reports

August 2006- UNCAC Coalition established and co-convened by NGO Transparency International

February 2011- First joint training session for civil society organisations on the UNCAC review process held by Transparency International together with UNODC

Spring 2011- Arab Spring begins, with countries such as Tunisia, Egypt, Syria, Bahrain, and Yemen all uprising against their own government; the main reasons are due to political dissatisfaction among citizens. All these governments are investigated to have corrupt ways of controlling their respective nations and economies

Spring 2011- Protests in Syria begin as a response to the corrupt Assad regime

³⁶ Sarah Chayes, *CORRUPTION: The Unrecognized Threat to International Security*, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (2014) p. 14

http://carnegieendowment.org/files/corruption_and_security.pdf

December 2011- United States pulls final military troops out of Iraq, ending the 9 year invasion; it was not a formal war, and is still controversial today as to whether the troops should have been sent in 2003 in the first place

November 2012- Xi Jinping becomes the leader of the Communist Party of China, when he begins his crackdown on officials who have acted corruptly in an attempt to rid China of its systemically corrupt government with the support of many Western nations

March 2013- Transparency International's National Integrity System Assessments project in the European Neighborhood East Region begins, with chapters running in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine

Systemic Corruption

There is still not a clear dividing line between a country that has several individuals that conduct dealings that are illicit or inappropriate, and a systemically corrupt governing body. However, if a government faces corrupt individuals occasionally, it is known as sporadic corruption because it does not threaten the economy, and is not crippling.³⁷ An example of a sporadically corrupt government is the United States, as they occasionally deal with individuals who commit fraud.³⁸ Because of this, systemic corruption is deemed a situation instead of a practice when used as a term according to the Asset Recovery Knowledge Centre.³⁹ This means that systemic corruption is not longer committed consciously or purposely, and rather it occurs naturally after a long period of ignored cases of corruption that build up and ultimately become a part of the nation's governing system.

As systemic corruption was analysed throughout the 19th and 20th centuries, they were separated into two rough categories. The first category is a relatively structured form of systematic governing body that work together through various organized networks that coexist naturally. An example of this type of category was Egypt under the rule of Hosni Mubarak, during the years of 1981-2011. There were two main networks that controlled most of the economy, which were the military and an accomplice capitalist network led by Mubarak's son Gamal. The main sources of power of the networks that control systematically corrupt bodies come from formal and informal forms of force, and in Egypt's case, the military.⁴⁰

³⁷ Elaine Byrne, *The Moral and Legal Development of Corruption: Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Corruption in Ireland*, (2007) <http://elaine.ie/2009/07/31/definitions-and-types-of-corruption/>

³⁸ Nate Raymond, *U.S. Seeks \$2.1 billion from Bank of America in fraud case*, Reuters (2014) <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/01/30/us-bankofamerica-hustle-idUSBREA0T12Y20140130>

³⁹ *Systemic Corruption*, Asset Recovery Knowledge Centre (2007) <http://www.assetrecovery.org/kc/node/37061ff7-bb9d-11dc-86fc-d95afdb81c71.0;jsessionid=B5B80602F4EAEFBA740A90783DC389A8>

⁴⁰ Sarah Chayes, *CORRUPTION: The Unrecognized Threat to International Security*, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (2014) p. 14 http://carnegieendowment.org/files/corruption_and_security.pdf

This category of systemic corruption has immense control over the social systems, such as the judiciaries. In Mubarak's Egypt, the judges had a significant degree of formal independence, but the rules of criminal procedure altered their decisions, resulting in an ineffective and corrupt justice system.⁴¹

The second category of systemic corruption is the less structured, less coordinated system of governing. The contrast between this category and the previous lies mainly in the fact that there is no consolidation at the top of the elite groups for this second category, compared to the organized coexisting networks consisted in the first category. Because the elite at the top of the government are not stable enough, many other groups that include the elite and the classes below compete, sometimes violently, for resources that indicate wealth. An example of this is the Ivory Coast, where competition over land and resources turned violent.⁴² Usually, this category of systemic corruption lacks the political infrastructure and prevents centralization, resulting in the disorganization of many corrupt groups.⁴³ Centralization is extremely important for a stable government, as it provides a location or storage of information with a concentrated governing body, keeping the government intact, organized, and communicated.

Since these two categories are two ends of the spectrum, several countries fall between these categories and are analysed through both lenses.

Historical Analysis

Beginning from the 20th century, cases of political corruption began gaining international attention as this issue affected multiple nations. Though different types of corruption have existed since the beginning of any form of rule, the recent decades of political corruption have spread to affect the international security, and organizations such as Transparency International were created in response.⁴⁴ Most of the aftereffects of corrupt dealings either damage the economy or ruin a political image, but many systemic governments also threatening international security. This includes militant (physical) threats to civilians by terror groups and intelligence regarding top-secret information.

Case Study: Iraq

This case study analyzes a specific example in recent history in regards to the 2003 Iraq invasion by the United States of America. While the invasion had many immediate consequences, in the long-term, it also contributed to the instability in Iraq, how its

⁴¹ Zenobia Azeem, *Egypt's Justice System on Trial*, Al Monitor (2013)

<http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2013/08/egypt-mubarak-release-justice.html#>

⁴² Chayes, *Unrecognized Threat*, Carnegie Endowment (2014) p. 8

⁴³ Chayes, *CORRUPTION*, p. 15

⁴⁴ Transparency International, (2014) <http://www.transparency.org/whoweare/organisation>

government operates today, and is one of the root causes to the rise of the terrorist group ISIS. This intervention conducted by the United States links to Iraq's systemically corrupt government, and shows how foreign intervention can end up creating an unstable environment that can harbour threats to international security.

On March 17, 2003 the United States, under the presidency of George W. Bush gave the Iraqi president Saddam Hussein 48 hours to leave Iraq as a response to its corrupt military that was threatening foreign countries.⁴⁵ This crackdown on Iraq began after the al-Qaida September 11 attacks, resulting in investigations on the "weaponry" that the Iraqi government was allegedly in control of. Another reason they intervened was due to the threat of a future attack from the terrorist group Al-Qaida, which shows the valid connection between the systemic corruption of a nation and its threat to international security. As Hussein's government did not cooperate, the US and the United Kingdom took matters into their own hands to protect the security of their nations.⁴⁶

However, this whole invasion was controversial because both Iraq and its local community believed that the true reason for Bush's invasion was for resources, such as oil. Before the invasion, many people believe that the US took advantage of the systemic corruption in Hussein's government for its own economic, political, and military agenda.⁴⁷ For example, in 1988, during Iraq's war with Iran, the United States learned through satellite imagery that Iran was about to gain a major strategic advantage by exploiting a hole in Iraqi defenses. U.S. intelligence officials conveyed the location of the Iranian troops to Iraq, knowing that Hussein's military would attack with chemical weapons, including sarin, a lethal nerve agent, which harmed and killed many Iranian civilians.⁴⁸ Though the international community may be able to help solve systemically corrupt governments, there is never a guarantee that the nation helping is not expecting anything in return, or is not using the corrupt governing system to further their own political agenda as shown with the US in the Iraq-Iran war.

Today, the terrorist group ISIS (the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria), whose security threats will be further explained in the "Solutions and Controversies" section, dominates the Iraqi region. The sectarian build-up in Iraq, which is one of the causes of the crisis, was also caused by decades of corrupt governing policies under Nouri Al-Maliki's governing party. The combination of foreign intervention, and the Iraqi government's own record of corruption, as well as a variety of other environmental, economic, and political factors helps explain the

⁴⁵ *Iraq War*, Encyclopedia Britannica (2014)

<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/870845/Iraq-War>

⁴⁶ *Iraq War*, Encyclopedia Britannica (2014)

⁴⁷ Richard Adams, *Invasion of Iraq was driven by oil, says Greenspan*, The Guardian (2007)

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2007/sep/17/iraq.oil>

⁴⁸ Shane Harris and Matthew M. Aid, *Exclusive: CIA Files Prove America Helped Saddam as he gassed Iran*, Foreign Policy (2013)

http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2013/08/25/secret_cia_files_prove_america_helped_saddam_as_he_gassed_iran

power and threat that ISIS poses today.

Corruption and International Security

A cycle occurs after a systemically corrupt government starts to become disorganized and the country does not run at a good capacity. Once public dissatisfaction from systemic corruption is reflected in poor living standards, low economic output, and controversial policies, many citizens stand up and fight for what they believe would bring their nation wealth. This results in the creation of terrorist groups or the spread of terrorist organizations into that region, as it is advantageous for a terrorist organization to recruit more people in different regions. Ultimately, as most of these outbreaks turn violent and influence regions around them, it becomes a large threat to international security.

This is what exactly happened in Egypt in 2012, when the people started fighting against the government of Mohamed Morsi. The Egyptian people were not satisfied with how the government was running the country, in addition to suspecting traces of corrupt dealings, and began protesting. Though the terrorist problem was not as big in Egypt as it was in Syria or Iraq, several terrorist groups still stayed in regions in Egypt and attempted to fight against the government along with the people, including the Muslim Brotherhood that later became classified as an official terrorist group after these protests.⁴⁹

Current Situation

Instead of just having peacekeepers attend to countries in crisis, many believe that peacekeepers should also be sent to countries that are facing corruption, as these cases of corruption have a high chance of erupting into large conflicts.⁵⁰ However, this is extremely difficult to do, as local governments may feel that there is no need for an international organization to step into matters of their own government. As a result, the current situation that has been occurring for the past 5 years includes only the UN and other member states intervening and stopping threats after they have occurred, instead of prevention.⁵¹ Furthermore, there is a long process in preventing these uprisings or threats from spreading, and is not always effective as shown with past conflicts.

Syrian Civil War

The Syrian uprising began in the spring of 2011. Protests and marches along the streets from

⁴⁹ Patrick Kingsley, *Egypt: 49 people killed in protests on third anniversary of uprising*, The Guardian (2014)

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/jan/26/egypt-49-killed-protests-third-anniversary-uprising>

⁵⁰ *UN Peacekeeping Missions Must Tackle Corruption*, Transparency International (2013)

http://www.transparency.org/news/feature/un_peacekeeping_missions_must_tackle_corruption

⁵¹ Chayes, *CORRUPTION*, p. 3

the citizens of Syria called for reform and transparency from the regime controlled by Bashar al-Assad. These protests were met with a violent response from the Assad government.

The Syrian government has always been a victim of systemic corruption since the Assad regime began in 1971. Infamous for being at the bottom of Transparency International's Corruption Index many years in a row, Syria has had a history of economic and political monopolies that resulted in social unrest within its citizens. As a result, the Syrian Civil War that was started in 2011 reflected the frustrated feelings of its citizens for the lack of reform and transparency.

As the systemically corrupt Syrian government continued to fight against its own people for several years, there were several bombings that occurred that were not detonated by the government, or by common protestors. Several terrorist organizations claimed at least 75 of the bombings that occurred during this conflict, which show how the terrorist organizations are using the turmoil at hand to do more damage and gain more attention. For example, the Al-Nusra Front claimed responsibility for two suicide bombings in Syria that killed 55 people during the Syrian war in 2012.⁵² By using the current environment the Syrian nation was in, the terrorist groups were able to achieve the international spotlight and fight for power alongside the civilians in an attempt to overthrow the government. However, if governing power fell into the hands of terrorist organizations, then it would be threatening and even more dangerous for the international community.⁵³

Currently, the estimated death toll for the 3 years the Syrian conflict has been going on is at 191,000. Navi Pillay, the high commissioner for human rights, believes the end is still far due to the "international paralysis" in response to this conflict.⁵⁴ As the conflict continues, there is a growing threat to the rest of the nations surrounding Syria, including Iraq and Lebanon.⁵⁵

UN Involvement

It was not until the 21st century that the UN started focusing on systemic corruption as the root cause for threats to international security. As a result, the only official UN body that is associated with fighting corruption is the United Nations Convention Against Corruption, as stated before. Also, DISEC has not been directly involved in this issue in the past. However, the UN always plays a significant role in cases such as the Iraq invasion, and the Arab Spring conflicts, due to its peacekeeping mandates and assessment of ethically justified interventions.

⁵² Ben Hubbard, *Militant video claims deadly Syria bombings*, Yahoo News (2012)

<http://news.yahoo.com/militant-video-claims-deadly-syria-bombings-082157372.html>

⁵³ Hubbard, *Militant video*, (2012)

⁵⁴ Nick Cumming Bruce, *Death Toll in Syria Estimated at 191,000*, The New York Times (2014)

http://www.nytimes.com/2014/08/23/world/middleeast/un-raises-estimate-of-dead-in-syrian-conflict-t-o-191000.html?_r=0

⁵⁵ Bruce, *Death Toll*, The NY Times

Furthermore, it is constantly assessing the situations in each conflicting country, and making reports appropriately.

UNCAC

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime started talks in 2000 in regards to a separate committee focusing only on corruption be established due to the growing threat of corrupt governments and how it effects the worldwide economy, sustainable development, rule of law, and international security. The United Nations Convention against Corruption was established, with 171 parties signed, including the European Union, as of April 2014.

The UNCAC promotes 4 different mandates that they hoped to achieve through the forming of the organization in 2002. They are: prevention, criminalization, international cooperation, and asset recovery.

Prevention is the most relevant to international security, as it hopes to prevent any sort of threats to both domestic and international member states before turmoil in a country may begin. This includes preventing civil wars or violent clashes between civilians and governments, and effectively taking notice of terrorist groups before they are dangerous. An example of the UNCAC's prevention activities is the work with the Russian government, as it signed the approved convention. Along with the UNCAC, the Russian government established a Conference of the State Parties to the Convention (CoSP) to review and organize activities that valued transparency and prevention, including taking appropriate measures in the fight against corruption using prevention.⁵⁶ Criminalization as a part of the UNCAC works to establish criminal offences if they are not already crimes under domestic law.⁵⁷ This effectively ensures that the tradition of systemically corrupt governments can be changed and persecuted appropriately. International cooperation helps member states cooperate when taking care of cases of corruption, in an effort to help the domestic nation in addition to making international security safer. Finally, asset recovery refers to countries that have been considered systemically corrupt for many years, and national wealth and respective economies have taken a toll because of it. This principle states that the UNCAC will work to retrieve the lost assets that governments did not take responsibility of.⁵⁸

Transparency International

Transparency International (TI) is a non-governmental organization that has promoted the importance of transparency in governments since 1993. It is not an official UN body, but

⁵⁶ *Russian Implementation of UNCAC*, Transparency International (2014)

<http://www.transparency.org.ru>

⁵⁷ UNCAC, UNODC <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/treaties/CAC/convention-highlights.html>

⁵⁸ *UNCAC Chapter V – Asset Recovery*, Asset Recovery Knowledge Center (2007)

<http://www.assetrecovery.org/kc/node/79945b10-7808-11dd-9c9d-d9fcb408dfce.0;jsessionid=B8575007B296DD8D514165C0B96448AE>

works alongside the UNCAC and supports the 4 mandates. It sponsors summits and conferences between nations to increase the importance of transparency and openness with government dealings. It also has several effective systems of ranking countries in regards to how transparent their specific dealings are, including financial and security specific scores, which is used widely across research studies and analysis.⁵⁹

Bloc Positions

North America

As both the United States and Canada are strong and wealthy countries on the international scene, they are always involved in working with fellow member states in assistance and peacekeeping. The US invasion on Iraq in 2003 is an intervention that is still mentioned today as a reminder for the damage that can be done, and what can result of an invasion. However, as the uprisings in the Middle East occur more often as they have been in the recent decade, the US and Canada have been more cautious in their actions than they have before. As a result, there is debate that there is not enough being done by the international community to help the countries in political turmoil.⁶⁰ The US and Canada do not want to face further consequences or clashes with the corrupt government or terrorist organizations that are associated with the uprisings because it may threaten the security of their own country as well as cause further damage the local area.

Middle East

As described before, the Middle East in the recent decade has faced several cases of political clashing between governments and citizens. Syria and Iraq have had the international spotlight for quite some time due to long and harsh civilian fights against their own governments, resulting in the rising threat of terrorist groups and how they are fighting for power as well. Israel is also another example of a systemically corrupt government whose humanitarian violations may have resulted in the creation of the terrorist group Hamas. Because of the conflict with Palestine at the time, the Israeli government was hoping to use Hamas as a means to stop the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and tolerated them without much thought. Furthermore, similar to ISIS and its growth in power, the issue of sectarian policies also played a part in Hamas' creation and growth in power.⁶¹

Europe and Asia

Most of the countries in the European Union have not had as big of a association as the North

⁵⁹ Transparency International, (2014) <http://www.transparency.org/whoweare/organisation>

⁶⁰ Bruce, *Death Toll*, The NY Times

⁶¹ Andrew Higgins, *How Israel Helped to Spawn Hamas*, The Wall Street Journal (2009)
<http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB123275572295011847>

American countries have in places that are dealing with corruption and political clashes, but in the recent century, corruption and protests have been occurring all throughout Western Europe. Most recently, the crisis in Ukraine is similar to the invasion of Iraq by the US, but not as military-focused. The Russian government claimed that Ukraine, specifically the Crimea, should be joined with the Russian land once again as it was before in history, which has caused a divide in the Ukrainian people.⁶² However, one of the reasons why the Ukrainian people are siding with the Russian government is because there are traces of corrupt dealings in the past Ukrainian governments.⁶³ Furthermore, several pro-Russian rebel groups are now fighting against the Ukrainian government, causing many deaths and violent outbreaks of protests and threatening domestic and international security.

In Asia, as mentioned before, Xi Jinping is monitoring his government and investigating into the cases of individuals that have committed inappropriate actions during their time in office. Though this is effective in ridding the party of corrupt individuals, it still may be hard for China's economy and social system to stand up and fight systemic corruption as a whole.

Possible Solutions and Controversies:

As this is an issue that starts in one nation or region and results in the dangers of the rest of the international community, the focus of many organizations such as TI and UNCAC are to target and find methods to get rid of systemically corrupt governments. However, because systemically corrupt governing bodies have so much control over a nation's security and economy, it is very difficult to effectively change the way a nation is run without any detrimental losses on the side. Furthermore, it is not always the international community's responsibility to intervene and deal with how another government is run, because it is a domestic issue.

Possible consequences of UN intervention/investigation

Many civilian casualties were the result of foreign intervention in places such as Iraq. As a result, terrorist groups may be angered by the fact that international forces are intervening and be forced to take more extreme actions, which may end with civilian casualties. Furthermore, if a country is systemically corrupt, it is not the responsibility of other member states to solve the issue unless it is extremely detrimental to the world economy/security. This detriment to civilians frequently occurs if the corrupt country has a local problem of dealing with terrorist groups. An example of this was when the US intervened in Iraq in 2003. When they pulled out in 2011, there was no certain end to the security threat posed by the systemically corrupt government and its terrorist groups, such as the growing terror that is branching from the

⁶² Roman Goncharenko, *Friends, Families divided over Ukraine crisis*, DW (2014)

<http://www.dw.de/friends-families-divided-over-ukraine-crisis/a-17497244>

⁶³ David Stern, *Ukraine Crisis: President calls snap vote amid fighting*, BBC News Europe (2014)

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-28931054>

Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, also known as ISIS.

Nouri al-Maliki was the prime minister of Iraq from 2006-2014. He was part of the religious group Shi'ites, and used corrupt sectarian policies that sometimes discriminated against the other major religious group, the Sunnis. ISIS used this to its advantage, and initially regained support in Iraq is because of its narrative condemning the corrupt Iraqi democracy, which they claimed favored the Shi'ites over the Sunnis. Though the Islamic State was originally established in 1999, it wasn't until 2003 during the Iraq war when ISIS formed by merging with other Sunni insurgent groups and became the Islamic State of Iraq.⁶⁴

The reason why ISIS is still strong today is due to its continuing strategic use of the people's unrest with the corrupt government in Iraq. Since the citizens of Iraq are unhappy with how their corrupt government is, ISIS gathers and rallies with the citizens to fight against the government. Similar to the terrorist groups in the Syrian War that have recently gained more power and international attention, ISIS is doing the same with the unrest in Iraq. Furthermore, after the US's invasion, which caused a lot of damage to Iraq and its citizens, many people further supported ISIS in its attempt to condemn the effects of foreign intervention⁶⁵

Domestic Investigation

As in Xi Jinping's current China, a possible solution would be to stand aside and allow the governing body to reduce the number of corrupt dealings in the government by themselves. This is a plausible solution as China has been doing this for the past few years, and it is also the least controversial since no intervention is needed. It has been effective for the past couple years in persecuting individual officials in regards to corruption, but has yet to see significant results in ridding the whole systemically corrupt government as a whole. Moreover, this is only possible if the government/leader is willing to accept change and investigate his/her own members. Furthermore, though the government may seem to be willing to do this, it is still possible that the investigation is not done transparently and instead just a fraud. Also, if there is any threat to the security of civilians, the international community should not step aside.

International Investigation

This is one solution that is a passive agreement between member states to crackdown on each nation and how it is running its own government. TI is currently conducting an investigation similar to a check up on each signed member, but is very slow because they do not have the

⁶⁴ Mohamed Bazzi, *Intimidation, Cronyism, Repression: The Unfortunate Legacy of Iraq's Nouri al-Maliki*, Defense One (2014)

<http://www.defenseone.com/ideas/2014/06/intimidation-cronyism-repression-unfortunate-legacy-iraqs-nouri-al-maliki/86956/>

⁶⁵ Oren Adaki, *ISIS photos show gains and Iraqi support*, The Long War Journal (2014) http://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2014/06/the_islamic_state_of.php

effective means.⁶⁶ An advantage to this is that each country can have the international community policing them on this report; on the other hand, the disadvantage would be that there problems of honesty and illegitimacy might arise between countries.

Active Response

This is a more forceful and involved solution, such as the Iraq invasion in 2003 by the United States. This type of solution is ideal for governments who do not intend any change, and who may currently be clashing with its civilians, such as Syria. Similar to the reason as to why the US invaded Iraq, the countries that agree to step in and help with military/peacekeeping forces act upon the belief that international security is threatened. An advantage to this solution is the active protection of civilians and transparent revelations that can help solve the problem of a systemically corrupt governing body, though it may take a long time. The disadvantage to this solution is that there may be many casualties, as seen in the Iraqi invasion, and it is very controversial since it involves breaching sovereignty. As for the situation in Syria, because there have not been any active responses from the international community, the UN can consider these different solutions and disadvantages as possible methods of intervention or investigation in order to solve the Syrian crisis.

Discussion Questions:

1. What are some prerequisites needed to establish a system in which the UN/DISEC is able to prevent threats caused by systemic corruption before they occur?
2. How will the UN deal with systemically corrupt governments if the economy is steadily controlled by this corrupt monopoly? Will there be a loss for the economy?
3. How are systemically corrupt governments detrimental in the long-term? Short-term?
4. What methods of prevention is the UN able to offer? Member states? In what stage would prevention be put forward; prevention of corrupt governments, or prevention of uprisings?
6. What are some methods in resolving nations from their systemically corrupt governments? What kind of aid will they need and for how long?
7. What are some methods in combating terrorist groups that take advantage of a nation's situation, especially during times of crisis?

Additional Resources:

Carnegie Endowment For International Peace Paper on Corruption and Security

http://carnegieendowment.org/files/corruption_and_security.pdf

Leadership Under Systemic Corruption

⁶⁶ *Evaluations*, Transparency International (2014)

<http://www.transparency.org/whoweare/accountability/evaluations>

http://www.cgu.edu/include/Leadership_Under_System_Corruption_12-04.pdf

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http://www.nytimes.com/2014/08/23/world/middleeast/un-raises-estimate-of-dead-in-syrian-conflict-to-191000.html?_r=0

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http://carnegieendowment.org/files/corruption_and_security.pdf.

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<http://www.theglobalist.com/just-how-deeply-ingrained-is-corruption-in-china/>.

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<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/870845/Iraq-War>.

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<http://www.dw.de/friends-families-divided-over-ukraine-crisis/a-17497244>.

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