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**DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL
SECURITY COMMITTEE**

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INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMITTEE

Ban Ki Moon once said “the burden for achieving disarmament cannot be borne by peace groups alone. Everybody, regardless of age, income, profession, gender or nationality, has a stake in this quest.”¹ Disarmament and security have been a core aspect of the United Nations since its foundation. This emphasis on these two core aspects has led to the Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC) being at the forefront of that battle. Following the damage and atrocities, that was a result of the two World Wars, the United Nations’ Member States took to the Charter to maintain international peace.² Thus, this committee responds to the need to discuss, find solutions for disarmament and the guarantee of international security.

DISEC is the United Nations General Assembly’s First Committee and was created in 1946.³ The committee resolves issues related to disarmament, global challenges and international security. Moreover, it cooperates with the United Nations Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament (UNDC and UNCD).⁴

There are often questions as to what DISEC can do what the Security Council could not do.⁵ While the Security Council has more means at their disposal, the main difference comes in the process in which both operate.⁶ Due to the fact that it is a General Assembly committee, it has a wider range of countries present since it is not limited to 15 members.⁷ Furthermore, there are no vetoes, which means that the resolutions must be passed with majority.⁸

Another way that DISEC and the Security Council differ is in their mandates. DISEC is ordered to focus purely on security and disarmament issues; and works closely with the above mentioned UNDC and UNCD, both of which are highly specialized organs, providing them with up to date data and information.⁹ Therefore, while the DISEC cannot instruct peacekeeping missions to be formed, they can coordinate current peacekeeping missions sin regard to security and anti-terror measures.

Through discussion and cooperation, DISEC delegates will take appropriate measures for increasing the capacity for international response to cyber warfare and managing the issue of counter terrorism in the Sahel region.

¹ United Nations, “Charter of the United Nations,” Chapter 4 24 October 1945

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid.

TOPIC A: COUNTERTERRORISM IN THE SAHEL REGION

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Throughout the past two decades, the international community has been struggling with the ethics and morality of the “war on terror”¹⁰. With the rise of terrorist organizations, like ISIS and the continued activity of al-Qaeda, the questions raised about the war on terror are still being answered. Issues like the civil war in Syria and Yemen, the activity of Iran, and Saudi Arabia in terrorist funding seem to dominate the news and international community.¹¹ However, there is another area of the world that has been rocked by terrorism. This area stretches from Mauritania, to the coast of Eritrea.¹² Identified by the dry savannah landscape, and vast swathes of ungoverned land, this region has no shortage of political instability.¹³

During European colonial periods the Sahel areas, and the countries within it, had been left with weak governmental systems, a scattered cultural identity and an overall lack of oversight and infrastructure.¹⁴ When the countries of Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria and Sudan became independent, these countries were internally unstable from the beginning.¹⁵ Due to misrepresentation of ethnic minorities within countries, uprisings and insurgencies have been commonplace in this region. In combination with western powers influencing these countries as external factors, this makes this area an ideal location for terrorist organization and militant groups.

Since 2012, with the civil war in Mali, international attention has been drawn to the situation in the region.¹⁶ The international community stepped in to put an end to the civil war. They helped arm, train and provide logistical assistance to the government of Mali, which allowed for the insurgency by berber and taureg rebels in the north of the country was quashed.¹⁷ Since then, Mali has been a key strategic location for both regional and international actors. Due to the influence of foreign powers and international organizations within the country, it acts as a main location for troops and military personnel controlled by the United Nations (UN) and other Member States.¹⁸

Throughout the region, organizations like Boko Haram commit terrorist acts on an interstate level. Though there are many calls to address these issues, they are often only approached by the G5 of the Sahel -- consisting of Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger -- or by French speaking States who are assisted by the French government.¹⁹ However, on a truly international level there has been little action.²⁰ This is what the committee must find a solution to as it is important to take a comprehensive anti-terrorist approach for the Sahel region.

¹⁰ Alta Grobbelaar “The Origins, Ideology And Development Of Al-Qaeda In The Islamic Maghreb,” *Africa Review*, 17 April 2015

¹¹ János Tomolya, Larry White “Terrorist Threats In North Africa From A NATO Perspective.” IOS Press, 2015

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Alta Grobbelaar “The Origins, Ideology And Development Of Al-Qaeda In The Islamic Maghreb,” *Africa Review*, 17 April 2015

¹⁴ János Tomolya, Larry White “Terrorist Threats In North Africa From A NATO Perspective.” IOS Press, 2015

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ *Alta Grobbelaar* “The Origins, Ideology And Development Of Al-Qaeda In The Islamic Maghreb,” *Africa Review*, 17 April 2015

¹⁷ Maria Sousa Galito “Terrorism, Ethnicity and Islamic Extremism in Sahel,” *Janus.net*, 2012

¹⁸ János Tomolya, Larry White “Terrorist Threats In North Africa From A NATO Perspective.” IOS Press, 2015

¹⁹ Office of the United Nations Secretary General. “Joint Force Of The Group Of Five For The Sahel: Report Of The Secretary-General”. 2018

²⁰ Ibid.

1.1 COUNTERTERRORISM IN THE SAHEL REGION

1.2 ONGOING ISSUES REGARDING TERRORISM IN THE SAHEL

MISMANAGEMENT OF REGIONAL COOPERATION

While there is no lack of regional bodies doing work in the Sahel region, these organizations are plagued by misuse of funds and corruption.²¹ The African Union (AU) and the G5 Sahel (G5S) are both actively working to make headway with the region, however, their actions have not been very effective in the field.²² These organizations often use the help of UN organizations or Western nations.²³ However, this help either does not arrive or is purely monetary.²⁴ This assistance often does not result in actual progress in the field²⁵ due to the problems mentioned above. Because of these shortcomings other solutions are necessary, whether this is through the restructure of these regional bodies or funding of different organs²⁶ remains to be seen and needs to be discussed by the committee.

UNGOVERNED AREAS AND POOR BORDER CONTROL

One of the main factors that contribute to how easily terrorist organizations can carry out their operations on an interstate level: is the lack of oversight on the vast areas of wilderness in the Sahel.²⁷ Even national borders are not enforceable over such vast areas due to lack of infrastructure and harsh climate.²⁸ These areas are, therefore, perfect for terrorist organizations to operate since timely military response is almost impossible.²⁹ These Sahel areas also include many towns, which are often plagued by terrorist acts for religious, social, or economic reasons. These attacks often lead to these towns taking up arms to protect themselves because they are not protected by the central government of their respective country. This leads to “competition” between terrorist groups, which will be outlined below.

COMPETITION BETWEEN TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS

As stated above, towns in ungoverned areas often rise up to protect themselves. The group that attacks them is generally either associated with one or two major overarching terrorist groups.³⁰ These groups are al-Qaeda supported groups or supported by a branch of the Islamic State, or Boko Haram depending on specific areas within the Sahel.³¹ This can be seen specifically in Nigeria around the Lake Chad region.³² With the rise of Boko Harm, another group formed to offer “protection” from Boko Haram, known as “the Islamic State of West Africa” linking itself quickly to the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria.³³ These two groups, while fighting each other, also

²¹ Maria Sousa Galito “Terrorism, Ethnicity and Islamic Extremism in Sahel,” Janus.net, 2012

²² *Alta Grobbelaar* “The Origins, Ideology And Development Of Al-Qaeda In The Islamic Maghreb,” *Africa Review*, 17 April 2015

²³ *Ibid.*

²⁴ *Ibid.*

²⁵ Maria Sousa Galito “Terrorism, Ethnicity and Islamic Extremism in Sahel,” Janus.net, 2012

²⁶ János Tomolya, Larry White “Terrorist Threats In North Africa From A NATO Perspective.” IOS Press, 2015

²⁷ Office of the United Nations Secretary General. “Joint Force Of The Group Of Five For The Sahel: Report Of The Secretary-General”. 2018

²⁸ *Alta Grobbelaar* “The Origins, Ideology And Development Of Al-Qaeda In The Islamic Maghreb,” *Africa Review*, 17 April 2015

²⁹ Maria Sousa Galito “Terrorism, Ethnicity and Islamic Extremism in Sahel,” Janus.net, 2012

³⁰ *Alta Grobbelaar* “The Origins, Ideology And Development Of Al-Qaeda In The Islamic Maghreb,” *Africa Review*, 17 April 2015

³¹ *Ibid.*

³² Arthur Boutellis “Can the UN Stabilize Mali? Towards a UN Stabilization Doctrine?” *Stability: International Journal of Security and Development*, June 25, 2015

³³ *Ibid.*

attack embassies and foreigners in their actions.³⁴ Similar situations emerged in Mali, Libya and Somalia after their respective interventions.³⁵

FOOD EMERGENCIES IN THE REGION

Alongside ungoverned areas and a general lack of security, people of the Sahel are faced with some of the worst conditions in regard to food security. These conditions often lead to higher rates of radicalization, giving these organizations more power and recruiting possibilities.³⁶ Without a government helping people here the problem will never be solved.

1.3 UN BODIES AND OTHER LEGAL PRINCIPLES

MINUSMA

The United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission (MINUSMA) in Mali was set up by the UN Security Council in 2013 as a measure to create lasting peace with assistance from UN peacekeepers and other military personnel.³⁷ This mission is also often used to help Sahel governments with military operations and aid transport.³⁸ The mandate for this military mission has been extended to April 2019, which means the committee can call for peacekeepers through this approved mission.³⁹ This mission is used for many other actions including electoral assistance, justice and corrections, and land mine removal, among many other tasks.⁴⁰ While the mandate of this mission is broad, the actions undertaken by this body have mainly been seen as positive, providing security and safety in the governed areas of Mali. However, one of the large drawbacks of this programme is the lack of resources dedicated to northern areas, where Taureg and Berber minorities in Mali (more can be read on these minorities in the encyclopaedia Britannica excerpt in the recommended readings) feel excluded from the benefits. The committee can discuss better conducting of the mission in the country.

G5 SAHEL AND AFRICAN UNION

G5 Sahel (G5) and African Union (AU) are the two regional organizations that are doing work in the Sahel region and facilitate inter-governmental actions.⁴¹ While this is not the committee we will be simulating, it is possible to and essential to include them in any solution proposed. The African Union specifically can create military and developmental missions to assist any solutions proposed.⁴² These missions are often not successful on anything except military aspects. The G5 has worked with the AU to devise the AU Strategy for the Sahel Region adopted in 2014; and the Nouakchott Process in 2013. These two initiatives aimed to bring together the military and political spheres within the G5 countries. While this has worked with security actors, political efforts have reaped little results, with corruption and mismanagement still being a huge problem

³⁴ Maria Sousa Galito "Terrorism, Ethnicity and Islamic Extremism in Sahel," Janus.net, 2012

³⁵ *Alta Grobbelaar* "The Origins, Ideology And Development Of Al-Qaeda In The Islamic Maghreb," *Africa Review*, 17 April 2015

³⁶ Arthur Boutellis "Can the UN Stabilize Mali? Towards a UN Stabilization Doctrine?" *Stability: International Journal of Security and Development*, June 25, 2015

³⁷ *Alta Grobbelaar* "The Origins, Ideology And Development Of Al-Qaeda In The Islamic Maghreb," *Africa Review*, 17 April 2015

³⁸ János Tomolya, Larry White "Terrorist Threats In North Africa From A NATO Perspective." IOS Press, 2015

³⁹ Arthur Boutellis "Can the UN Stabilize Mali? Towards a UN Stabilization Doctrine?" *Stability: International Journal of Security and Development*, June 25, 2015

⁴⁰ *Ibid.*

⁴¹ János Tomolya, Larry White "Terrorist Threats In North Africa From A NATO Perspective." IOS Press, 2015

⁴² *Ibid.*

with the initiatives launched by these bodies.⁴³ The committee should discuss how cooperation with the AU could be better conducted to make the missions more productive.

EU EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE

In June of 2018, the European Union External Action Service (EUEAS), the foreign policy organ of the EU, announced the dedication of 400 million euros to establish a joint mission to train military units and provide civilian assistance to countries in the region.⁴⁴ This marks the beginning of a new policy in regard to anti-terrorism in the region and should be taken into consideration by European members of the DISEC committee.⁴⁵

1.4 CONCLUSION

In conclusion, while there has been some work done by separate agencies on the issue of counter terrorism in the Sahel, efforts have often been too restricted to military capacities or made too broad in conceptualizing the missions.⁴⁶ The committee must remember that the solution has underlying social issues and economic underpinnings, which also must be addressed before a long lasting solution can be implemented.⁴⁷ Cooperation between organizations has been minimal and not effective in its current state.⁴⁸

While debating delegates should remember that this topic effects an area of the world with millions of people. The security of civilians is something that DISEC is always invested in. With an area of weak political systems and many militant groups, this problem requires a comprehensive solution. As is within DISEC mandate, an anti-terror strategy is the first priority. This strategy must protect civilians, support government initiatives and not block future action. Secondly a social and economic solution should be discussed. Food security, medical support, shelter, infrastructure and education are some of the aspects that must be considered when thinking about a long lasting strategy for the issue.

1.5 RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. How can we the committee assist in regard to the ungoverned areas of the Sahel?
2. What missions currently in place should we use and to what capacity? Furthermore how do we include local organizations such as the AU and G5S into the solution?
3. What role do foreign powers such as the EU and nations in the west have in the solution of the topic, is military intervention a necessary evil?
4. How do we address civilian issues such as food shortages and the representation of Muslims in nations in the Sahel?
5. How do we ensure that terrorist organizations cannot exploit unenforced borders to operate throughout the region?

⁴³ Alta Grobbelaar "The Origins, Ideology And Development Of Al-Qaeda In The Islamic Maghreb," *Africa Review*, 17 April 2015

⁴⁴ *Alta Grobbelaar* "The Origins, Ideology And Development Of Al-Qaeda In The Islamic Maghreb," *Africa Review*, 17 April 2015

⁴⁵ Maria Sousa Galito "Terrorism, Ethnicity and Islamic Extremism in Sahel," Janus.net, 2012

⁴⁶ "

⁴⁷ Office of the United Nations Secretary General. "Joint Force Of The Group Of Five For The Sahel: Report Of The Secretary-General". 2018

⁴⁸ "

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https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s_res_2391.pdf

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Grobbelaar, Alta, and Hussein Solomon. 2015. "The Origins, Ideology And Development Of Al-Qaeda In The Islamic Maghreb". *Africa Review* 7 (2): 149-161. doi:10.1080/09744053.2015.1030870.

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Office of the United Nations Secretary General. 2018. "Joint Force Of The Group Of Five For The Sahel: Report Of The Secretary-General".
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Tomolya, János, and Larry D White. n.d. *Terrorist Threats in North Africa from a NATO Perspective*. Ios Press, 2015.

TOPIC B: INCREASING THE CAPACITY FOR AN INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE TO CYBER WARFARE

2.0 INTRODUCTION

“Few technologies have been as powerful as information and communications technologies (ICTs) in reshaping economies, societies and international relations. Cyberspace touches every aspect of our lives. The benefits are enormous, but these do not come without risk. Making cyberspace stable and secure can only be achieved through international cooperation, and the foundation of this cooperation must be international law and the principles of the UN Charter.....Our efforts in this realm must uphold the global commitment to foster an open, safe and peaceful Internet. In that spirit, I commend this Report to the General Assembly and to a wide global audience as a crucial contribution to the vital effort to secure the ICT environment.”⁴⁹

- Ban Ki-Moon, the Secretary-General of the United Nations

Cyberspace has had a rapid development in the last decade; bringing with it great possibilities, chances and risks. A 2011 Norton study has shown, that in the preceding year, roughly one million users have fallen victim to cybercrime events⁵⁰. The combination of all possible global security leaks might have created a rift between citizens and their government. This begs the question, whether there is a need for an implementation of rules for data protection and privacy in the internet, improving the international response to cyberwarfare.

Similarly, data protection in the internet should be regarded as a major component for international peace. Malware from other territories disrupt international peace, as it might hamper with security problems – from governmental institutions to private organisations. International leaks might interfere with peace relations between the nations, while cyberspace could be seen as the new battleground for terrorism. Cyberwarfare potentially infringes international law and, thus, disrupts international bonds between countries.⁵¹ Furthermore, a resolution by the Inter-Parliamentary Union acknowledges that “the use of the Internet by terrorists or terrorist organizations for illegal activities, in particular to raise funds, enlist members or publish ideas inciting people to violence and hatred” is needed to be addressed quickly.⁵² The concern has inspired former Secretary-General of the United Nations Ban Ki-Moon to assemble 15 experts from different countries to discuss the underlying problems addressing cybersecurity and cyberspace.⁵³

To this date, although the use of the internet has been proposed as a human right by the United Nations (UN) Special Rapporteur⁵⁴, the only article abstractly referring to cyberspace or cybersecurity by the UN is the article 51 in the UN Charter, which reads:

⁴⁹ Ban-Ki Moon, the former UN Secretary-General on Cybersecurity. <http://www.un.org/disarmament/topics/informationsecurity/> (Retrieved on: 03.09.2018)

⁵⁰ <https://www.un.org/development/desa/en/news/ecosoc/cybersecurity-demands-global-approach.html> (Retrieved on: 26.08.2018)

⁵¹ <http://archive.ipu.org/conf-e/132/Res-1.htm>

⁵² Ibid

⁵³ https://www.armscontrol.org/act/2013_09/The-UN-Takes-a-Big-Step-Forward-on-Cybersecurity (Retrieved on: 26.08.2018)

⁵⁴ <http://www.wired.com/2011/06/internet-a-human-right/> (Retrieved on: 26.08.2018)

“Nothing in the present Charter shall impair the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence if an armed attack occurs against a Member of the United Nations, until the Security Council has taken measures necessary to maintain international peace and security. Measures taken by Members in the exercise of this right of self-defence shall be immediately reported to the Security Council and shall not in any way affect the authority and responsibility of the Security Council under the present Charter to take at any time such action as it deems necessary in order to maintain or restore international peace and security.”⁵⁵

In order to establish a safe space for both governmental and non-governmental users, a cooperation between UN countries could ensure a quick response to any threats regarding cyberspace. Although several Member States are still lacking an urgent cybersecurity plan, it should be the United Nations’ utmost urgency to address the matter adequately and swiftly⁵⁶.

2.1 INCREASING THE CAPACITY FOR AN INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE TO CYBER WARFARE

2.1.1 ONGOING ISSUES REGARDING CYBERSECURITY

The UN has been debating about cybersecurity and enhancing the pioneering information security, since 2001, when Russia requested a “Group of Governmental Experts (GGE)” to analyse and examine “potential threats in the sphere of information security”.⁵⁷ Although meetings of the GGEs failed to come up with suitable results in 2004, the following two meetings in 2009 and 2013 resulted in two consensus reports⁵⁸. The first GGE, which was adjourned in July 2015, stressed the requirement to pay attention to norms and the application of International Law to cybersecurity⁵⁹.

Year of publication	Key topics of the GGE report	Brief content-summary
2009	impact of developments in information and communications technologies and the incorporation of information infrastructures in the discussion ⁶⁰	Recommendation of norms for states to use, general definitions and elaboration on ICTs ⁶¹
2013	States exercising responsibility, importance of international (such as the UN charter) ⁶²	International law to be applied to cyberspace, UN to promote dialogue between member states, importance

⁵⁵ <http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/chapter7.shtml> (Retrieved on: 03.09.2018)

⁵⁶ <https://news.un.org/en/story/2017/07/560922-half-all-countries-aware-lacking-national-plan-cybersecurity-un-agency-reports> (Retrieved on 16.09.2018)

⁵⁷ <https://ccdcoe.org/un.html> (Retrieved on 16.09.2018)

⁵⁸ *ibid*

⁵⁹ *ibid*

⁶⁰ http://www.un.org/disarmament/HomePage/factsheet/iob/Information_Security_Fact_Sheet.pdf (Retrieved on: 03.09.2018)

⁶¹ *ibid*

⁶² <https://unoda-web.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/Information-Security-Fact-Sheet-July2015.pdf> (Retrieved on: 29.08.2018)

		of state sovereignty in relation to ICTs ⁶³
2015	Existing threats, international norms and international cooperation ⁶⁴	Condemnation of international wrongful acts using ICTs while stressing the importance of human rights in the internet, non-intervention in internal affairs of other states ⁹⁶⁵

Table 1: GGE reports and their contents

So far, the General Assembly addressed several aspects of the 2015 GGE report. Firstly, the Group of Governmental Experts have over a period of time pointed out strongly how the principles of international law are to be applied to cyberspace⁶⁶. In order for cybersecurity to be augmented, the GGE have, hence, recommended the UN Charter as the standout legal document for cyberspace⁶⁷.

Although the UN Charter greatly clarifies norms of behaviour in cyberspace, Article 51 has been interpreted controversially throughout several sources. The “use of force” has been criticised when referring to self-defence following cybercrimes against states⁶⁸, while another source claimed the wording would be too vague to justify an armed attack⁶⁹.

Governments have dealt with issues regarding cybersecurity as the victim and as perpetrators in espionage-claims⁷⁰. In 2015, there were 720 major data breaches, most of them targeting health care industries⁷¹. As a result of this, it is also stated that user data has been abused and the information provided to the culprits served as the foundation of identity theft crimes.

Whistleblowing is another part of cybersecurity and security itself, which requires attention of the General Assembly. Edward Snowden, accused of treason in the United States of America, has been of help uncovering international espionage⁷². The current legal status of Mr. Snowden is disputed worldwide⁷³.

2.2 CURRENT AREAS OF INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE TO CYBER WARFARE

⁶³ ibid

⁶⁴ http://www.un.org/disarmament/HomePage/factsheet/job/Information_Security_Fact_Sheet.pdf (Retrieved on: 03.09.2018)

⁶⁵ ibid

⁶⁶ <http://172.16.145.164/2015-un-gge-report-major-players-recommending-norms-behaviour-highlighting-aspects-international-I-O> (Retrieved on 16.09.2018)

⁶⁷ ibid

⁶⁸ <http://www.globalpolicyjournal.com/articles/global-governance/law-war-20-cyberwar-and-limits-un-charter> (Retrieved on: 26.08.2018)

⁶⁹ <http://sputniknews.com/politics/20150817/1025819426/UN-cybersecurity-report-compromises-on-self-defence.html> (Retrieved on: 26.08.2018)

⁷⁰ <http://www.forensicscolleges.com/blog/resources/cybercrime-on-rise-2015> (Retrieved on: 26.08.2018)

⁷¹ ibid

⁷² <https://www.ohchr.org/en/issues/freedomofinformation/pages/protectionofsources.aspx5> (Retrieved on: 16.09.2018)

⁷³ ibid

Having mentioned the previous danger of cyberspace, one sees the need for an international cybersecurity response, which has also been prevalent in the United Nations. Although previously discussed in several reports and UN resolutions, particular measures on improving the international reaction to cyberwarfare should still be welcome to any national and international institution. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime concretely discusses the idea of international communication in regards to cybercrime, which should improve the stability of cyberspace in general and could prevent cyberattacks directed at governmental institutions⁷⁴. It states that a key objective in dealing with cybercrime is “strengthened national and international communication between government, law enforcement and the private sector with increased public knowledge of cybercrime risks”⁷⁵.

A notion introduced the UN’s plans for the GGE, which should reinforce the approach towards cybersecurity and international cooperation in regards to that⁷⁶. However, what underlines the need for more rules and regulations on a global scale is the failure to reach consensus on the final report of the last GGE introduced in 2017⁷⁷.

The annual report from 2017 regarding cyber security further stresses the importance of cyber security and the need for more implementations to regulate and secure cyberspace internationally, as it has become an international area of concern⁷⁸. While the groundwork has been laid for a solid cooperation on the matter, the UN should see a role model for the work in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) as the Member States have worked increasingly and unitedly on legislations. The report elaborates on similar aspects, as NATO is cited several times as the foundation for future cooperation regarding cybersecurity⁷⁹. As mentioned, the NATO is one of the factions that is responsible for international response. The DISEC can take over that responsibility and implement measures, like immediate intelligence sharing or a switch to universal data encryption if needed, to improve the international response.

2.3 UN BODIES AND OTHER LEGAL PRINCIPLES CONCERNING CYBERSECURITY

The Economic and Social Committee (ECOSOC) of the United Nations has published three resolutions focusing on cybersecurity. The first resolution, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 2002, is the first resolution to specifically stress the importance of cybersecurity and presents cybersecurity as a global problem, which requires global attention⁸⁰. While it lays the foundation for future legal documents, it is the predecessor for more tangible measures and resolutions. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime has issued an extensive study on cybercrime, which provides a plethora of data regarding statistics and facts on cybercrime across the globe and the measures needed to be taken⁸¹.

⁷⁴ <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/cybercrime/global-programme-cybercrime.html> (Retrieved on 16.09.2018)

⁷⁵ *ibid*

⁷⁶ <https://www.un.org/disarmament/topics/informationsecurity/> (Retrieved on: 03.09.2018)

⁷⁷ *ibid*

⁷⁸ <http://undocs.org/A/72/315> (Retrieved on: 03.09.2018)

⁷⁹ *ibid*

⁸⁰ <https://ccdcoe.org/sites/default/files/documents/UN-011219-CriminalMisuseIT.pdf> (Retrieved on: 26.08.2018)

⁸¹ http://www.unodc.org/documents/organized-crime/UNODC_CCPCJ_EG.4_2013/CYBERCRIME_STUDY_210213.pdf (Retrieved on: 29.08.2018)

UN Body	Year of publication	Resolution Number	Topic
The Economic and Social Committee of the United Nations	2002	57/239	Creation of a global culture of cybersecurity
	2003	58/199	Creation of a global culture of cybersecurity and the protection of critical information infrastructures
	2009	64/211	Creation of a global culture of cybersecurity and taking stock of national efforts to protect critical information infrastructures
The Social, Cultural and Humanitarian Committee of the UN	2001	55/63	Combating the criminal misuse of information technologies
	2002	56/121	Combating the criminal misuse of information technologies
The High Commissioner for Human Rights of the UN	2013	N/A	The right to privacy in the digital age
The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime	2013	N/A	Comprehensive Study on Cybercrime

Table 2: Overview of relevant UN documents

2.4 CONCLUSION

The United Nations has had numerous resolutions regarding cybercrime, which stresses the urgency of the topic. Spread throughout the committees, it is a problem affecting users and governments all over the world. Different governments have different problems and the aforementioned resolutions could be a step in the right direction to promote international communication in order to solve a global issue. The documents, however, may only provide a base of what actually needs to be done for cybercrime to diminish and users to have the same rights online as they do offline.

The right to privacy and the right to freedom of expression – human rights declared decades ago become relevant dealing with cybersecurity⁸². Therefore, the First Committee of the UN General Assembly on Disarmament and International Security might consider discussing the best way to implement regulations and establish international cooperation and dialogue, so that cybersecurity will be ensured.

⁸² <http://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/>

Although the rights to privacy is important, which was discussed previously, a collective approach to cybersecurity and intelligence sharing might also be worth debating. The European Union its own solution with an intelligence sharing and cybersecurity-focused institution called ENISA⁸³. The committee might ask itself, whether the same concept can be applied internationally. Also, some countries might want to be against sharing intelligence, as they are in the faction of encrypting data rather than collecting it. It is dependent on the committee what international legislations will be proposed to reinforce cybersecurity.

2.5 RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- What role does your country play in global ICTs? How actively has your country participated in ensuring a safe online environment?
- How do the relevant documents help to shape a new and secure cyberspace?
- How has your country voted on the previous resolutions? Which position does your country represent concerning the different kinds of regulations in the internet?
- How does your country view the debate on data encryption vs. data surveillance?

2.6 RECOMMENDED READING

United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs:
<http://www.un.org/disarmament/topics/informationsecurity/>

The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs: “Cybersecurity: A global issue demanding a global approach”:
<https://www.un.org/development/desa/en/news/ecosoc/cybersecurity-demands-global-approach.html>

NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence: <https://ccdcoc.org/un.html>

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: Comprehensive Study on Cybercrime (Draft 2013): http://www.unodc.org/documents/organized-crime/UNODC_CCPCJ_EG.4_2013/CYBERCRIME_STUDY_210213.pdf

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⁸³ [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document.html?reference=EPRS_BRI\(2017\)614643](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document.html?reference=EPRS_BRI(2017)614643) (Retrieved on 16.09.2018)

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https://www.armscontrol.org/act/2013_09/The-UN-Takes-a-Big-Step-Forward-on-Cybersecurity
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Charter of the United Nations: <http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/chapter7.shtml>
(Retrieved on: 03.09.2018)

Electronic Frontiers Australia: “Internet Censorship: Law & policy around the world” (2002):
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UNODA Fact Sheet: Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the
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29.08.2018)

The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs: “Cybersecurity: A global issue
demanding a global approach” (2011):
<https://www.un.org/development/desa/en/news/ecosoc/cybersecurity-demands-global-approach.html> (Retrieved on: 26.08.2018)

The United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs: Developments in the Field of Information
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The Universal Declaration of Human Rights: <http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/> (Retrieved
on: 29.08.2018)