General Assembly

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Inspiring youth
to
create a better world

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Security Council

This is a special part of the United Nations. The UN created this group to try to protect peace. They decide what is a danger to peace. There are 15 members of the Security Council: 5 are permanent and 10 change every two years. The permanent members are China, France, Russia, United Kingdom and the US. The other members are Bolivia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Senegal, Sweden, Ukraine, and Uruguay.

This group helps peace in several ways. They ask states to solve problems peacefully. They also advise states to do something different or offer ways to resolve the situation. If a problem becomes bad the Security Council recommends sanctions. This means other states will punish the country in a non-violent way. An example might be not buying the country's products or not allowing a country's sports teams to compete internationally. If things get really bad the Security Council recommends the use of force to bring back international peace and security. All the states of the UN must follow what the Security Council decides.

All the permanent members of the Security Council get a veto. This means no resolutions can pass unless all the permanent members agree. All the other members get one vote. They have passed resolutions on peacebuilding, the situation in Western Sahara, and starting peacekeeping operations.

Threats to International Peace and Security Caused by Terrorist Acts

Background

Terrorism is the use of violence to change politics. The word comes from the Latin word *terrere* (to frighten). This is what terrorism is trying to do. It is trying to scare people into doing what they want. For this reason, terrorism is sudden, directed towards civilians, and shocking. It is not usually done by states. It is done by groups who want to force states to change. Terrorist groups can have one person or thousands. This makes it hard for states to stop.

Terrorism upsets the international community. In 1936, the League of Nations started to create a convention. This convention was going to punish people involved in terrorism. As you can see, the world has wanted to do something for many years. The convention was never ratified. Since 1963, there have been 15 conventions about counter-terrorism. These conventions cover hostages, financing, hijacking planes, and other situations.

Terrorism is a focus of the Security Council. It became more of an issue on September 11th. On September 11th 2001, the terrorist group Al-Qaeda attacked the US. Terrorists destroyed the Twin Towers in New York City. 2977 people died. This started the Global War on Terror. The United States and other states began a new effort. They searched for terrorists and tried stop them. This resulted in the invasion of Afghanistan and the Iraq War.

In 2013 US President Obama said the War on Terror was over. He said states should focus on specific targets and not terrorism in general. Other states agree. States need to work together to stop terrorism. Terrorism is a global problem and a "war" cannot stop it. It is much better to cut their sources of money. Although countries have been working together there were over 1000 terrorist attacks in 2016.

Since 2001 the Security Council has passed 32 resolutions related to terrorism.

The UN created the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in 2006 to help stop terrorism. There are four things that it focuses on:

1) Stopping the root causes of terrorism

2) Actions to stop terrorism

3) Strengthening countries so they can stop terrorism

4) Protecting human rights and the rule of law

The Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force works to implement this strategy. They help states reach the four goals and run projects to meet these ends.

Recent Developments

States with a lot of deaths from terrorism create refugees. Syria has 4 million refugees. Many of these people are in refugee camps or trying to reach Europe. Some states are afraid to take in these people because they think they might be terrorists. However, the West has less to worry about when it comes to terrorism. Since 2000, only 2.6% of total deaths from terrorism have been in the West. A lone wolf attack is when one person does a terrorist act alone. This is the most common type of terrorist act in the West.

Although terrorism seems like it is happening everywhere, 72% of deaths happen in just five countries: Iraq, Pakistan, Syria, Nigeria and Afghanistan. Also 74% of deaths are due to only four groups: ISIS, Boko Haram, the Taliban and Al-Qaeda. There were 270 other groups that did an attack in 2015. The cost of all these terrorist attacks was US$89.6 billion. Imagine what else that money could have been used for.

Turkey and France are two countries that have seen a sudden rise in terrorism in 2016. ISIS is a terrorist group acting in Turkey. The Kurdistan Workers' Party is another terrorist group attacking Turkey in order to get their own country. Together they increased the number of terrorism-related deaths in the country from 20 to 337. Since the November 2015 terrorist attacks in Paris, France has been in a state of emergency. Many people in the Muslim community in France feel their rights are being violated. The state of emergency allows the police extra powers to search and arrest people.

The Financial Action Task Force works with states to help stop terrorists from raising money. This is one of the most important ways to stop terrorism. However, some countries support terrorists. They do this because the terrorists might attack a country they see as an enemy. The US says Sudan, Iran and Syria have supported terrorist groups.

Key Topics

Financial Support of Terrorism

In 1999, the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism was created. It asks states to stop groups or people from raising money for terrorism by saying they are a charity. In 2001, the Security Council asked the world to do more. It wants states to create strong laws to stop terrorists from getting money. This means freezing the bank accounts of terrorists. They also want states to stop the transfer of money across borders.

Key Topics

Foreign Terrorist Fighters

Terrorists need new members all the time. They are always recruiting. One of the biggest problems is people moving from one state to another in order to be involved in terrorism. They can get training and become very dangerous. It is believed that over 30 000 people from 100 countries have left to pursue terrorist actions. Many are young people. Both men and women are convinced that becoming a terrorist is a good thing. Another problem is these fighters eventually returning to their home countries and committing terrorist acts.
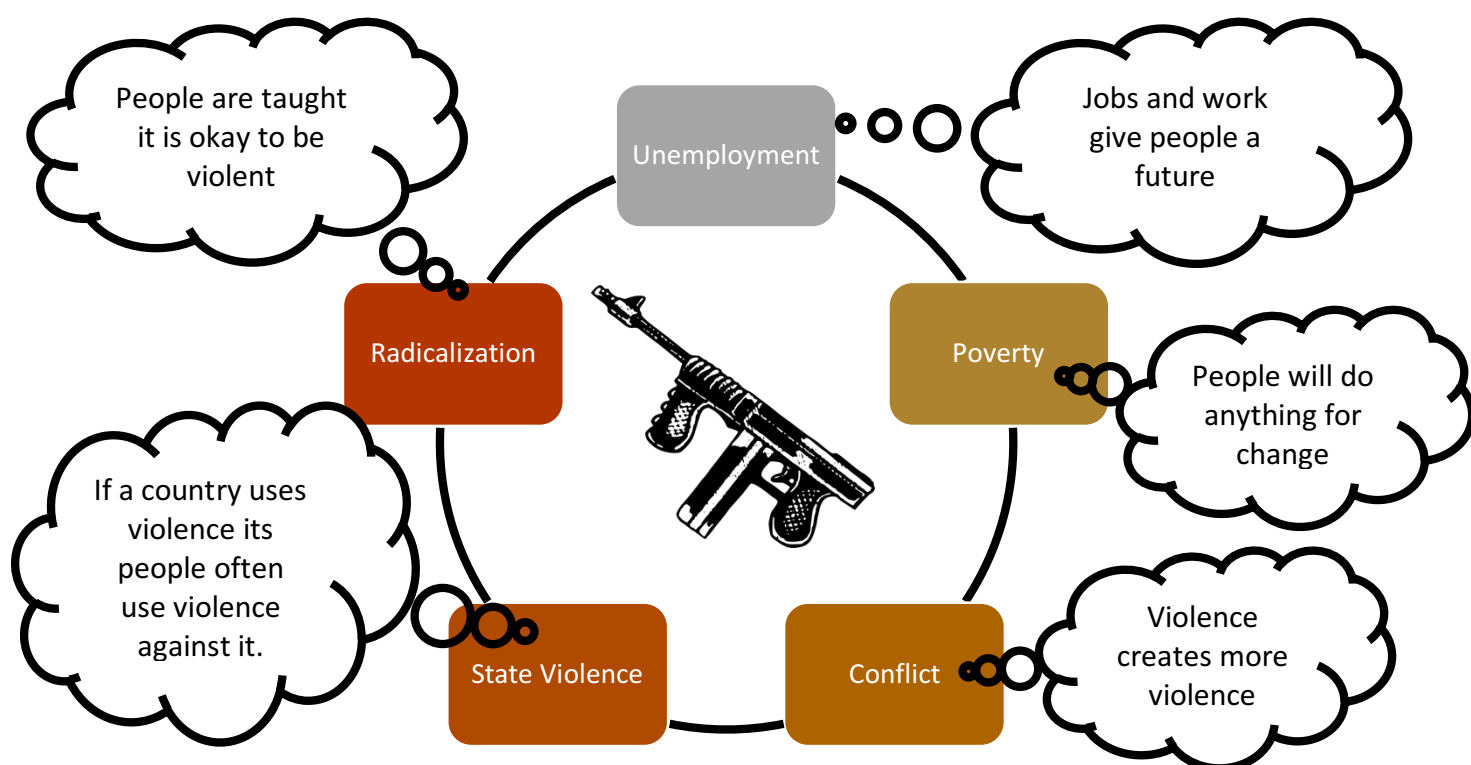
Sharing Information

If countries work together they can do more to stop terrorism. The Security Council would like states to improve how they communicate and work with one another to stop terrorism. However, some people do not think this is always a good thing. There is a group called Five Eyes (FVEY). This is made up of Canada, the UK, Australia, New Zealand and the U.S. They share information, monitor cell phones and the internet. A lot of people think they get too much information and do not always have a good reason to share it. However, their work probably stops some terrorist acts.

Definition of Terrorism

One of the major problems with fighting terrorism is not having a clear definition. The UN has never created an official definition of what terrorism is. Some countries disagree on what a terrorist is. Many countries in the Middle East believe that people fighting to create a homeland for their ethnic group should not be labelled terrorists. Many Western countries believe that all armed groups that target civilians should be called terrorists.

Root Causes of Terrorism

People are taught it is okay to be violent

Unemployment

Jobs and work give people a future

Radicalization

Poverty

People will do anything for change

If a country uses violence its people often use violence against it.

State Violence

Conflict

Violence creates more violence

Guiding Questions

1. Does your country have a problem with terrorism? Its neighbors?

2. How do you think the word terrorism and terrorist should be defined?

3. What are the reasons some states have a lot of terrorism and some do not?

4. Look at the root causes of terrorism. What can be done to solve each of these problems?

5. How can states work together to stop international terrorism?

6. How can people most at risk be protected?

7. China, Russia, France, the UK and the US all have vetoes. What can they agree on? What will they disagree on? How can they work together?

8. Does the problem exist in your community?

9. Who is working on it? NGOs, not for profits, other groups or individuals?

10. Knowing about this problem, how does it impact your world view?

11. How could you make an impact on this issue through your life choices?

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Resources

Title	Hyperlink	How is it helpful?
Security Council	http://www.un.org/en/sc/	UN main page about what the Security Council does.
What We Investigate: Terrorism	https://www.fbi.gov/investigate/terrorism	The FBI's website on terrorism and their role in investigations.
Counter Terrorism Committee	https://www.un.org/sc/ctc/	UN committee on how to stop terrorism. Includes information on some of the focus areas.
2016 Terrorist Attacks	https://storymaps.esri.com/stories/terrorist-attacks/?year=2016	An interactive map that shows all the terrorist attacks in 2016.
Global Counterterrorism Forum	https://www.thegctf.org/	A group of 29 countries and the EU working to end Terrorism.
Global Terrorism Index 2016	http://economicsandpeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Global-Terrorism-Index-2016.2.pdf?utm_content=buffer93890&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer	A very large report about terrorism in 2016. There are some helpful graphics and bulleted information which can be helpful for research.
Globally, Terrorism is on the Rise	http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-11-17/global-terrorism-index-increase/6947200	Australian newspaper article looking at some of the trends in terrorism.
French Parliament Votes to Extend State of Emergency	https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/dec/14/french-parliament-votes-to-extend-state-of-emergency-until-after-2017-elections	The Guardian article about how France has been under a state of emergency for the last two years.
What We Do: International Terrorism	https://www.mi5.gov.uk/international-terrorism	Official website of MI5 (UK Security Service). It highlights how they combat international terrorism. A lot of background information.

Security Council

Resolution 2341 (2017)

Adopted by the Security Council at its 7882nd meeting, on 13 February 2017

The Security Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1373 (2001), 1963 (2010), 2129 (2013) and 2322 (2016),

Reaffirming its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming its respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of all States in accordance with the United Nations Charter,

Reaffirming that terrorism in all forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security and that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable regardless of their motivations, whenever, wherever and by whomsoever committed, and *remaining determined* to contribute further to enhancing the effectiveness of the overall effort to fight this scourge on a global level,

Reaffirming that terrorism poses a threat to international peace and security and that countering this threat requires collective efforts on national, regional and international levels on the basis of respect for international law, including international human rights law and international humanitarian law, and the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming that terrorism should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group,

Stressing that the active participation and collaboration of all States and international, regional and subregional organizations is needed to impede, impair, isolate, and incapacitate the terrorist threat, and *emphasizing* the importance of implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (GCTS), contained in General Assembly resolution 60/288 of 8 September 2006, and its subsequent reviews,

Reiterating the need to undertake measures to prevent and combat terrorism, in particular by denying terrorists access to the means to carry out their attacks, as

outlined in Pillar II of the UN GCTS, including the need to strengthen efforts to improve security and protection of particularly vulnerable targets, such as infrastructure and public places, as well as resilience to terrorist attacks, in particular in the area of civil protection, while recognizing that States may require assistance to this effect,

Recognizing that each State determines what constitutes its critical infrastructure, and how to effectively protect it from terrorist attacks,

Recognizing a growing importance of ensuring reliability and resilience of critical infrastructure and its protection from terrorist attacks for national security, public safety and the economy of the concerned States as well as well-being and welfare of their population,

Recognizing that preparedness for terrorist attacks includes prevention, protection, mitigation, response and recovery with an emphasis on promoting security and resilience of critical infrastructure, including through public-private partnership as appropriate,

Recognizing that protection efforts entail multiple streams of efforts, such as planning; public information and warning; operational coordination; intelligence and information sharing; interdiction and disruption; screening, search and detection; access control and identity verification; cybersecurity; physical protective measures; risk management for protection programmes and activities; and supply chain integrity and security,

Acknowledging a vital role that informed, alert communities play in promoting awareness and understanding of the terrorist threat environment and specifically in identifying and reporting suspicious activities to law enforcement authorities, and the importance of expanding public awareness, engagement, and public-private partnership as appropriate, especially regarding potential terrorist threats and vulnerabilities through regular national and local dialogue, training, and outreach,

Noting increasing cross-border critical infrastructure interdependencies between countries, such as those used for, inter alia, generation, transmission and distribution of energy, air, land and maritime transport, banking and financial services, water supply, food distribution and public health,

Recognizing that, as a result of increasing interdependency among critical infrastructure sectors, some critical infrastructure is potentially susceptible to a growing number and a wider variety of threats and vulnerabilities that raise new security concerns,

Expressing concern that terrorist attacks on critical infrastructure could significantly disrupt the functioning of government and private sector alike and cause knock-on effects beyond the infrastructure sector,

Underlining that effective critical infrastructure protection requires sectoral and cross-sectoral approaches to risk management and includes, inter alia, identifying and preparing for terrorist threats to reduce vulnerability of critical infrastructure, preventing and disrupting terrorist plots against critical infrastructure where possible, minimizing impacts and recovery time in the event of damage from a terrorist attack, identifying the cause of damage or the source of an attack,

preserving evidence of an attack and holding those responsible for the attack accountable,

Recognizing in this regard that the effectiveness of critical infrastructure protection is greatly enhanced when based on an approach that considers all threats and hazards, notably terrorist attacks, and when combined with regular and substantive consultation and cooperation with operators of critical infrastructure and law enforcement and security officials charged with protection of critical infrastructure, and, when appropriate, with other stakeholders, including private sector owners,

Recognizing that the protection of critical infrastructure requires cooperation domestically and across borders with governmental authorities, foreign partners and private sector owners and operators of such infrastructure, as well as sharing their knowledge and experience in developing policies, good practices, and lessons learned,

Recalling that the resolution 1373 (2001) called upon Member States to find ways of intensifying and accelerating the exchange of operational information, especially regarding actions or movements of terrorist persons or networks; forged or falsified travel documents; traffic in arms, explosives or sensitive materials; use of communications technologies by terrorist groups; and the threat posed by the possession of weapons of mass destruction by terrorist groups and to cooperate, particularly through bilateral and multilateral arrangements and agreements, to prevent and suppress terrorist attacks,

Noting the work of relevant international, regional and subregional organizations, entities, forums and meetings on enhancing protection, security, and resilience of critical infrastructure,

Welcoming the continuing cooperation on counter-terrorism efforts between the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) and International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in particular on technical assistance and capacity-building, and all other United Nations bodies, and *strongly encouraging* their further engagement with the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) to ensure overall coordination and coherence in the counter-terrorism efforts of the United Nations system,

1.   *Encourages* all States to make concerted and coordinated efforts, including through international cooperation, to raise awareness, to expand knowledge and understanding of the challenges posed by terrorist attacks, in order to improve preparedness for such attacks against critical infrastructure;

2.   *Calls upon* Member States to consider developing or further improving their strategies for reducing risks to critical infrastructure from terrorist attacks, which should include, inter alia, assessing and raising awareness of the relevant risks, taking preparedness measures, including effective responses to such attacks, as well as promoting better interoperability in security and consequence management, and facilitating effective interaction of all stakeholders involved;

3.   *Recalls* its decision in resolution 1373 (2001) that all States shall establish terrorist acts as serious criminal offences in domestic laws and regulations,

and *calls upon* all Member States to ensure that they have established criminal responsibility for terrorist attacks intended to destroy or disable critical infrastructure, as well as the planning of, training for, and financing of and logistical support for such attacks;

4. *Calls upon* Member States to explore ways to exchange relevant information and to cooperate actively in the prevention, protection, mitigation, preparedness, investigation, response to or recovery from terrorist attacks planned or committed against critical infrastructure;

5. *Further calls upon* States to establish or strengthen national, regional and international partnerships with stakeholders, both public and private, as appropriate, to share information and experience in order to prevent, protect, mitigate, investigate, respond to and recover from damage from terrorist attacks on critical infrastructure facilities, including through joint training, and use or establishment of relevant communication or emergency warning networks;

6. *Urges* all States to ensure that all their relevant domestic departments, agencies and other entities work closely and effectively together on matters of protection of critical infrastructure against terrorist attacks;

7. *Encourages* the United Nations as well as those Member States and relevant regional and international organizations that have developed respective strategies to deal with protection of critical infrastructure to work with all States and relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and entities to identify and share good practices and measures to manage the risk of terrorist attacks on critical infrastructure;

8. *Affirms* that regional and bilateral economic cooperation and development initiatives play a vital role in achieving stability and prosperity, and in this regard calls upon all States to enhance their cooperation to protect critical infrastructure, including regional connectivity projects and related cross-border infrastructure, from terrorist attacks, as appropriate, through bilateral and multilateral means in information sharing, risk assessment and joint law enforcement;

9. *Urges* States able to do so to assist in the delivery of effective and targeted capacity development, training and other necessary resources, technical assistance, technology transfers and programmes, where it is needed to enable all States to achieve the goal of protection of critical infrastructure against terrorist attacks;

10. *Directs* the CTC, with the support of the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED) to continue as appropriate, within their respective mandates, to examine Member States efforts to protect critical infrastructure from terrorist attacks as relevant to the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) with the aim of identifying good practices, gaps and vulnerabilities in this field;

11. *Encourages* in this regard the CTC, with the support of CTED, as well as the CTITF to continue working together to facilitate technical assistance and capacity building and to raise awareness in the field of protection of critical infrastructure from terrorist attacks, in particular by strengthening its dialogue with States and relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and

working closely, including by sharing information, with relevant bilateral and multilateral technical assistance providers;

12. *Encourages* the CTITF Working Group on the Protection of Critical Infrastructure including Vulnerable Targets, Internet and Tourism Security to continue its facilitation, and in cooperation with other specialized United Nations agencies, assistance on capacity-building for enhancing implementation of the measures upon request by Member States;

13. *Requests* the CTC to update the Council in twelve months on the implementation of this resolution;

14. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

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