



UNODC / A

Connections of State Power related to illegal substances, arms trafficking and their links to non-governmental organizations.

INTRODUCTION

This Committee deals with illicit drugs, international crime and terrorism that are a threat for the entire international community and seeks out for solutions in order to preserve the security regime.

In the past decade, there has been an important growth in the illegal substances and illicit arms. Trafficking in these commodities is generally characterized by high levels of organization and the presence of non-governmental organizations that affects countries and citizens by threatening their peace and security through violence and lack of respect to human rights and ultimately social development of societies in the world.

This activities have an important relevance in the actuality since it has been reported that in 2009, the value of illicit substances and firearms trade around the globe has increased at least a 30% compared to past years.

The illegal substances have severe implications because of the actual situation about the distribution of illegal substances in poor countries often ends in internal conflicts and a massive corruption in police, army and government circles and all of the above can wreck a country's entire potential in order to have a better development and a considerable reduction in poverty. Some of these revenues can end up in belic conflicts chests of international terrorist groups, or even it can finance an entire rogue state.

Unfortunately the actual situation about the distribution of illegal substances in poor countries often ends in internal conflicts and a massive corruption in police, army and government circles and all of the above can hulk the entire country's potential in order to have a better development and a considerable reduction in poverty. In countries whose citizens consume these illegal substances, health

is one of the main concerns. A number of studies reported that over 29 million of people that consume this kind of substances are suffering from consumption disorders and it has caused the death of more than 207,400 people since 2014. At the same time this issue promotes the criminal activities around the “drug trade” provoking shoplifting, burglaries, and sexual assault.

The unauthorised movement of arms across international borders represents a significant problem since in the actuality it has a big impact because it supports conflicts and human rights abusing regimes. In the actuality countries that constantly lives in belic conflicts zones are the ones who suffer more from this issue since they introduce all kind of weapons that unfortunately contribute to making peaceful areas and conflict zones far more dangerous, and the resulting instability creates a cycle of high demand for weapons from both sides of the party. The total value of the global market for arms is estimated to be \$60 billion per year, with 10-20% of that being illicit trade.

Considering all of the above issues that have affected the international community. Currently this committee is looking forward to seek for new solutions that can reduce the level of illicit substances and trafficking in order to maintain the international security.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Along the history, starting in the sixteenth century, European traders began trafficking arms into American, African and later they extended to Asian markets. There was a considerable trade of firearms in the West European countries since they emerged as the main sources of arms illegal trafficking across Europe and at the same time the Portuguese started distributing to Africa and the north of Asia thanks to their global trade networks.

On the seventeenth century Germany was the leading arms exporter in which they supplied France, England, Sweden, Poland, Russia, Venice and Morocco.

As we come forward in 2002 the improvement in the industrial mass production has yielded vast quantities, and the supply and demand have both increased over the last couple years. On the supply side new illegal markets have entered on the market since the implementation of new technologies and as a consequence has cause the volume of firearms to continually increase.

Unfortunately Illicit arms trafficking leads to civil violent conflicts, elevates the crimes rates and supplies the arsenals of the different non-governmental groups.

In 2002, was the lowest year reported that all this kind of weapons

had a considerable decrease from at least 25% according “to the annual reports provided by UNODC”, but this decline has reversed, and the volume of international transfers have had an incredible rise of 38% in 2005.

Furthermore in 2007 according to the publication of ITAR “Difficult to control and measure” specifies that the five largest traders are United States (30%), Russia (23%), Germany (11%), France (8%) and the United Kingdom (4%) in which collectively gives 76% of the exports.

In addition, it was known that in 2009 any other non-governmental groups are looking forward to produce their own arms industries and later on export them to different parts of the world that clearly these actions have had a limited success. Fortunately in the same year the UN took actions because they implemented better controls and they stopped sending arms supplies to zones, and not less different countries are contributing to this initiative so they are sending their army to improve the illegal arms trafficking.

In regard to drug trafficking this conflict it has been a major issue since the fifties, but unfortunately the global production of all this kind of substances had a severe increase since several countries reported a massive production in South-West of Asia. In which the early nineteenth century, an illegal drug trade in China emerged and as a result it was a high demand in opium that was exported to Europe, and finally in America and by the time of the 21st century there was a considerable trade in Europe and America in which the drug demand was based on marijuana and cocaine. At the same time this massive trades and productions provoke the formations of international organized crime, such as Sinaloa Cartel in Mexico and Ndrangheta in Italy. In 2001 this Cartels had a big impact in the economy, insecurity patrol in the borders and the increase of drugs export all over the world.

Following there was a significant increase in 2002-2005, it was reported that the value of the global market was estimated in US\$13 billion in the production and US\$94 billion in trades. In the short term, there is a danger that the increase in cultivation in 2007 unfortunately led to a considerable increase in production in 2008. In the past years, it has become a severe issue the drug trade so in order to preserve the order since they implemented the “Anti-Drugs-Trade” that facilitates the cooperation among federal, state and local enforcement agencies, and also they provide reliable law enforcement intelligence in order to design effective strategies and operations that would help to have a better control of these illegal substances.

CURRENT RELEVANCE

In the actuality this drug issue has become critical since we come forward since the the cultivation, manufacture, distribution and sale of this substances have increased at least a 35% compare to 2015 and it is estimated that the non governmental organizations gain more than \$32 billion in the productions and distribution of these substances. Considering all of the above the global world drug market is constantly evolving since they are creating new types of drugs and unsuccessfully in 2016, global potential opium production reached 7,554 tons the second highest level reported since 1930`s.

In addition illegal cartel designed new maritime routes in order to keep increasing their distribution, besides UNODC reported that between 2015 and 2016 the average for each seizure was 365 kg, while by land it was 107 and by air 10 kg which indicates the significant impact that this transportation has in this illicit business.

The global transfer of major weapons system rose over the past five years to the highest volume since the end of the “Cold War” as the middle east nearly double its imports, according to the annual report on arms in 2017. Not less Asia was the main recipient region in the world as India dwarfed regional rivals, China and PAKistan, by accounting for 13% of the global importa. While the US and Russia together supplied more than half of all exports and bedias a consequence of the high demand of drugs the productions has expanded to countries like South Asia, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Bhutan, Maldives, Sri Lanka in which their economy depends of the selling of this illegal substances since their product in large scales for a low price.

The illicit arms trafficking brokering is now a popular method of illicit arms trade. As started 45 per cent of all arms traded are illegal in today`s world. The arms traffickers know how to avoid the restrictions and regulations in the market. Without a concrete oversight of international arms exports and imports several illicit arms dealers have managed to pass through all kind of weapons into areas that currently are in belic conflicts and to provide arms that want to purchase them.

Unfortunately the main reason why all these traffickers can function is due the lack of border and port security in which many terrorist groups brings a considerable amount of arms across the borders of neighboring countries to trade for other resources that may have. Further issues include unregistered gunsmiths who produce multitudes of arms mainly to be traded or sold locally. Even so traders are creating new ways in order to transport all of the ware that includes maritime transfers along coasts and rivers and the implementation of new routes.

With the sale of firearms is intrinsically linked to these criminal organizations and networks which are facilitators of violent crimes, as tools to perpetrate power, and as lucrative trafficking commodities, that fuels armed conflicts, crime and insecurity.

Global arms trade is now at day approaching 100 billion USD per year. SIPRI reported 58 countries as exporters of firearms, in which USA, Russia, China, Germany and France were almost 74 per cent of all arms exports. It was reported that at least 80 per cent of the arms came out from US and are exported to all south America and Europe.

In addition all this illicit firearms come from ex militaries that still have connections with their respective army which later all of these supplies are sale to terrorist groups and most of the time cartel trade drugs for arms in order to expand their territories.

Oftentimes, different forms of criminality are intertwined, such as human, firearms and drugs trafficking. So as a consequence more lives since this problem is associated with firearms violence that covers the whole spectrum of human security ranging from high levels of insecurity. In the actuality UNODC is the guardian of the United Nations Convention that is seeking for new solutions in order to maintain the international peace.

INTERNATIONAL ACTIONS/UNITED NATIONS ACTIONS

The drugs issue continues to worsen every year since international drugs cartels are becoming more violent and aggressive. Even more worrying, they are using their resources in order to interfere in the democratic and economic processes of different countries. The UNDP is looking forward to improve international cooperation to strengthen regional enforcement efforts since the traffickers are creating new ways in order to transport all kind of substances both internally and outside the borders.

Now at day different countries are committed in order to fight against this problematic, that is why Mexico and Central America created and initiative support program designed in order to reduce drug trafficking through this zone by implementing treatment providers, military security and law enforcement.

On april of 2016 the General Assembly of the United Nations held an important session (UNGASS) in order to review the progress in the new implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Actions in which they will provide assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem. At the same time UNGASS reaffirm their commitment regarding to their three main purposes that are the international drug control that includes the concern about the health and welfare, also the social and safety problems resulting for the abuse of illegal substances, and finally

to intensify and create new protocols in order to reduce the illegal trade and to decrease the crime rates.

Focusing in the arms trafficking since the 1990s, many countries have worked hard to develop an international conventions on the arms trade. In 2006, over hundred nations in the UN General Assembly (UNGA) proposed to create a possible Arms Trade Treaty (ATT). This negotiations treaty took several year, but in 2013, the UNGA passes and ATT, which made it harder for the criminals and arms traffickers to obtain weapons. The ATT works to “create an international trade in conventional arms and it also seeks to encourage transparency in order to make easier to track and catch smugglers”.

The U.N. General Assembly came with a resolution “Toward an arms trade treaty” in which their main purpose is to improve the international standards for the import, export and transfer of conventional arms and most important with these measures they want to keep arms out of the hands of terrorist and organized criminal and to reduce conflicts. So they implemented a program in different countries to encourage the citizens to surrender their armament in exchange of money, household goods or other benefits. Fortunately this program was a success because they recovered a small numbers of guns. Larger quantities tend to be recovered where the collection is part of a coherent national policy and where people perceive that local security is improving.

In addition the UN “Development Programme” help nations and civilizations deal with the effects of illegal arms trade through crisis prevention and recovery. The UNDP helps over 80 countries, including many nations that are on the verge of an armed crisis. The UNDP implements new and innovative approaches to help and rebuild nations, and end to conflict.

One NGO helped combat illicit small arms trade that is UK campaign against arms trade. This non-governmental organization is not only fight against this problematic also is a stronger peace supporter because they want to eradicate all these conflicts. The organization has a commitment to nonviolence and educates the public through campaigns focusing on different methods to propagandize security around the world, abandoning the sale of arms. For example, the Campaign against Arms Trade advises governments to not support arms trade through funds but instead search to create jobs in other areas such as green technology which would increase security and help people stay out of an illegal arms trade.

UNODC is so concern about this issues that they launched many campaigns to raise awareness of drugs and arms possession in which the aim is to increase the support in families and to keep safe the whole international community.

BULLET POINTS

Existing power links in the main organized crime groups in the world. Programs and legislations used to control and penalize the involvement of non-governmental organizations that participate and bring aid to organized crime groups.

Relevant statistics and data relating to arms trafficking, illegal substances and other activities controlled by criminal groups. Social response and participation in the conflict.

Members of the criminal groups.

People that work to end the problematic (independently or with the government) related to organized crime, arms trafficking and illegal substances consumption and dealing.

Specify all the activities of the main non-governmental organizations that have link powers with organized crime.

International policies aiming to control this problematic.

Organized crime groups that have become a social movement and how do they operate.

Presence of organized crime groups members in highly important position in diverse areas of our society and how does this generate a power link. Could be: government institutions, non-governmental organizations, big corporations, etc.

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