



UNODC

*United Nations Office on Drugs
and Crime*

Official Study Guide



AGENDA

*Countering Violent Extremism and
terrorism by addressing youth
recruitment and online radicalization*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1 Letter from the Executive Board**
- 2 Introduction to the Committee**
- 3 List of Key Terms**
- 4 Introduction to the Agenda**
- 5 Timeline**
- 6 Case Studies**
- 7 Bloc Positions**
- 8 Past Resolutions by the UN**
- 9 Questions A Resolution Must Answer**
- 10 Sources to Use**
- 11 Preambulatory and Operative Clauses**

Letter from the EB

Dear Esteemed Delegates,

On behalf of the Executive Board, it is our honor to welcome you to this year's committee of UNODC. We are thrilled to engage with you on one of the most pressing and complex topics facing our global community today: Countering violent extremism and terrorism by addressing youth recruitment and online radicalization.

This year's committee will explore the multilayered causes, consequences, and solutions to these interconnected challenges. As future policymakers, diplomats, and advocates, you are entrusted with the task of examining how state and non-state actors exploit vulnerable youth, and how the international community can respond with policies rooted in justice, prevention, and protection.

We urge you to approach this topic with both analytical rigor and empathy. Whether representing countries heavily impacted by conflict or those leading in digital regulation and counter-extremism strategies, each of your voices will be essential to building a collaborative, action-oriented dialogue. Regardless of your experience as a delegate, we are confident that each of you will rise up to the challenge and put your best foot forward. As your Executive Board, we are here if you require any assistance and want to ensure a meaningful conference experience for each of you.

The forthcoming study guide will provide you with a comprehensive overview of the issue, key frameworks, and guiding questions to prepare for debate. We encourage you to research beyond the guide, familiarize yourselves with your assigned country's policies, and think critically about viable, ethical, and inclusive solutions.

We look forward to your insights, diplomacy, and leadership in committee. Let this experience challenge you, inspire you, and remind you of the power of international cooperation in the face of adversity.

Warm regards,

Zara Kanchwala
Director

Aarvi Jajodia
Assistant Director

Introduction to the Committee

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) was created in 1997 following the growing international concerns about the escalating problems of illicit drugs, organized crime, corruption, and terrorism. Its establishment resulted from the merger of two existing UN bodies— the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division. This move aimed to provide a more unified strategy for addressing global security challenges.

Located in Vienna, Austria, the UNODC manages a wide operational footprint. It runs over twenty field offices globally and maintains liaison teams in New York and Brussels. This structure allows the organization to stay connected to both regional realities and the international decision-making platforms where key policies are shaped.

The UNODC works under the authority of both the United Nations General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

The agency plays an active role in supporting Member States as they develop and implement crime prevention strategies, work to strengthen their justice systems, and uphold the rule of law. Additionally, the UNODC oversees how countries fulfill their obligations under key international agreements, including the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC), the three main international drug control treaties, and important components of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

The agency's activities are structured around three main pillars: health, justice, and security. Within these areas, UNODC addresses a variety of international challenges which include drug trafficking, human trafficking, corruption and terrorism. Its assistance to Member States includes technical support, legal advisory services, capacity-building programs, and facilitating cross-border cooperation. To enhance its coordination and effectiveness, UNODC works closely with other UN bodies, including the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

In recent years, the agency's involvement in counter-terrorism has expanded significantly. The widespread use of digital technology and social media platforms has introduced new challenges.

Extremist groups now rely on online forums, encrypted messaging services, and social networking sites to spread propaganda, target young people for recruitment, and coordinate activities that cross international borders. These developments have made prevention and monitoring more difficult for governments around the world.

To address this growing threat, the UNODC committee at JBCN Oshiwara MUN 2025 will focus on the agenda:

"Countering Violent Extremism and Terrorism by Addressing Youth Recruitment and Online Radicalization."

Delegates will examine the social, economic, and political factors which increase the risk of youth radicalization. Delegates will also assess how digital platforms are being exploited, and evaluate whether current national and international legal frameworks are adequate to respond to such challenges. Other

Points of discussion will also include the role of technology companies in monitoring and moderating their content, the balance between state surveillance and privacy rights, and the importance of education and community engagement programs aimed at prevention.

List of Key Terms

Extremist Organizations-

Groups that use radical ideologies to justify violence and terrorism, often recruiting and exploiting minors.

Violent Extremism-

Refers to the beliefs and actions of people who support or use violence to achieve ideological, religious, or political goals.

Radicalization-

The process by which individuals—especially youth—come to adopt extremist beliefs that justify violence.

Online Radicalization-

The process of adopting extremist ideologies via internet platforms like social media, encrypted messaging apps, online forums, or gaming communities.

Youth Recruitment-

Efforts by extremist groups to target young people for training, and participation—often because they are more impressionable, digitally connected, or vulnerable.

Propaganda-

Information, often biased or misleading, used by extremist organizations to influence beliefs and actions, especially of minors.

Countering Violent Extremism (CVE)-

A set of policies, programs, and practices aimed at preventing the spread of extremist ideologies before individuals turn to violence. Often includes education, community engagement, and online counter-narratives.

Terrorism-

The use of violence, often against civilians, to instill fear and achieve political, ideological, or religious objectives.

De-radicalization-

The process of encouraging individuals to abandon extremist beliefs, often through dialogue, education, and rehabilitation.

Reintegration Programs-

Programs aimed at helping former extremists—particularly youth—return to society through vocational training, mental health support, and community acceptance.

Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTFs)-

Individuals who travel to a state other than their own to join terrorist organizations. Many are youth radicalized online.

Algorithmic Radicalization-

The process by which social media and content algorithms inadvertently push users toward more extreme content through engagement-based recommendation systems.

Disinformation Campaigns-

Intentional spread of false or misleading information, often by extremist groups, to divide communities, recruit members, or delegitimize institutions.

Psychological Grooming-

The gradual manipulation of individuals (especially minors) into extremist mindsets through trust-building, ideological exposure, and emotional manipulation.

Counter-Terrorism-

Strategies and actions to prevent and respond to terrorist activities, including preventing the recruitment of minors.

Child Protection-

Measures to safeguard children from violence, exploitation, abuse, and neglect, including recruitment by extremist groups.

Youth Vulnerability Factors-

Social, economic, and psychological conditions—such as unemployment, marginalization, or trauma—that increase susceptibility to radicalization.

Radical Preachers-

Individuals who use religious or political platforms to promote extremist ideologies, often targeting young audiences.

Prevention Frameworks-

Comprehensive strategies aimed at addressing the root causes of radicalization before they escalate to violence.

Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTFs)-

People who travel to another country to join and fight for a terrorist group.

Security Measures-

Practical actions like border checks, police patrols, and online monitoring to stop extremist activities.

Psychological Grooming-

A slow process of building trust and manipulating someone into adopting extremist beliefs.

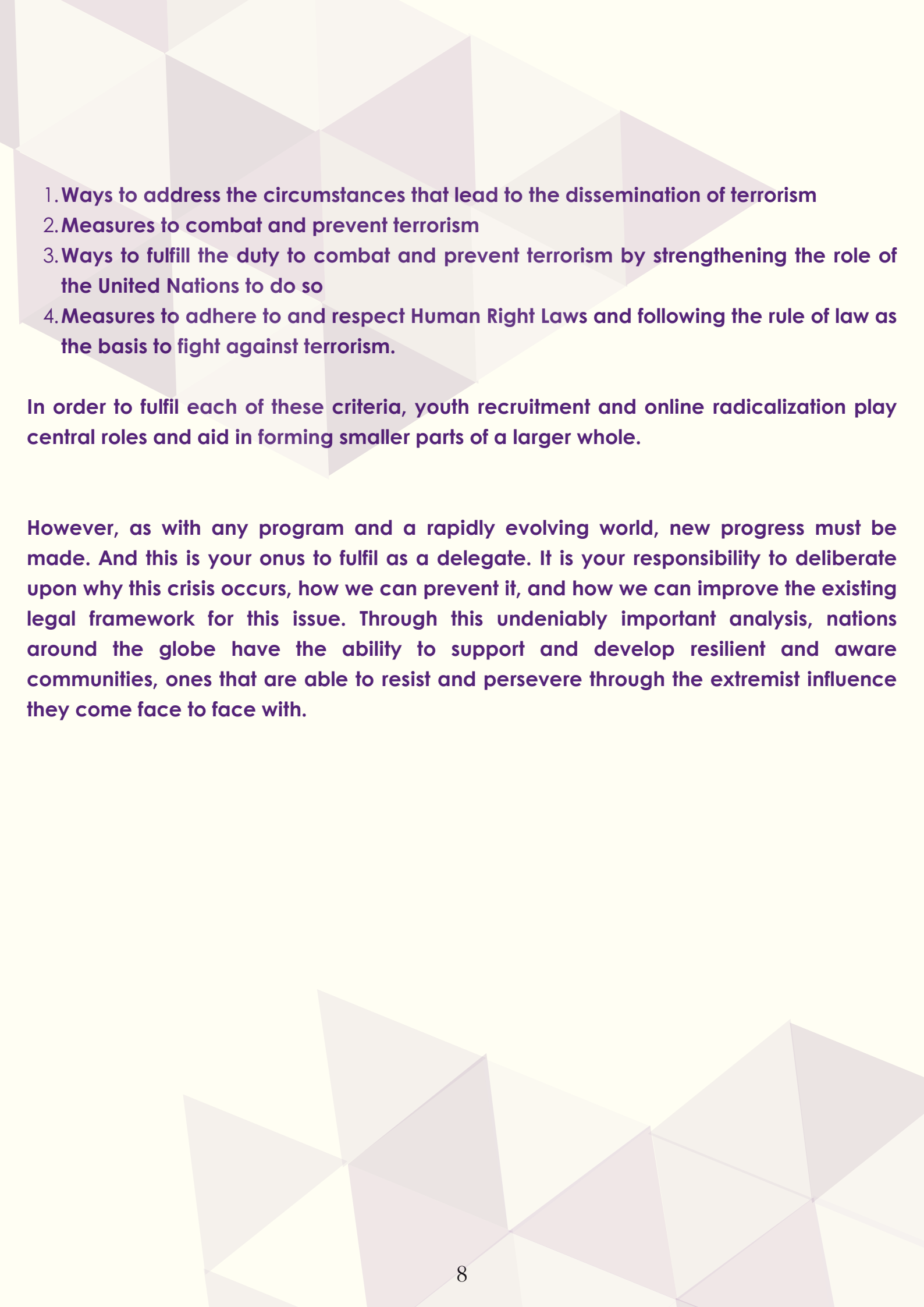
Digital Literacy-

The ability to understand, evaluate, and responsibly use online information—important for resisting extremist propaganda.

Introduction to the agenda

Violent extremism acts as an umbrella term covering a phenomenon so diverse that it lacks one particular definition. Terrorism as an action is a technique employed by propagators of violent extremism as a way to coerce and enforce, and involves the intimidation of populations or governments through threat or the perpetration of violence. Youth recruitment into extremist groups has pervaded our globe for decades and represents a grave violation of human rights that has severe implications for stability, security, and prosperity. Extremist organizations like ISIS, Boko Haram, Hezbollah, and Al-Shabaab have specifically targeted and manipulated vulnerable children and adolescents by exploiting their circumstances to further propagate their own message. In today's day and age, with the rapid advancements in technology, understanding and countering online radicalization is of utmost importance- whether this be of minors or adults. Online radicalization has emerged as a significant challenge for international peace and security especially in conflict-affected and marginalized regions. The tactics employed rely on socioeconomic vulnerabilities, ideological naivety, and the accessibility of the internet, leading to extremist sentiments being rapidly proliferated.

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) recognizes the cruciality of addressing this issue with a comprehensive and preventative approach with significant steps being taken to mitigate the crisis at hand. UNODC strives to address violent extremism and terrorism through international legal framework, protecting human rights, preventing the financing of terrorism, and relies on international cooperation. Addressing this agenda aligns with the UN's Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy along with the Global Programme on Countering and Preventing Violent Extremism (PCVE). The latter emphasizes the importance of communication through digital spaces, whether this be through international cooperation or between channels of terrorist organizations. Without effective communication, we render ourselves helpless. Furthermore, the youth play a crucial role in combatting violent extremism as they behave as powerful catalysts of change and should possess the platform to express their opinions on the matter. Lastly, the agenda plays an important role within the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Strategy, which consists of four main pillars:

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1. **Ways to address the circumstances that lead to the dissemination of terrorism**
 2. **Measures to combat and prevent terrorism**
 3. **Ways to fulfill the duty to combat and prevent terrorism by strengthening the role of the United Nations to do so**
 4. **Measures to adhere to and respect Human Right Laws and following the rule of law as the basis to fight against terrorism.**

In order to fulfil each of these criteria, youth recruitment and online radicalization play central roles and aid in forming smaller parts of a larger whole.

However, as with any program and a rapidly evolving world, new progress must be made. And this is your onus to fulfil as a delegate. It is your responsibility to deliberate upon why this crisis occurs, how we can prevent it, and how we can improve the existing legal framework for this issue. Through this undeniably important analysis, nations around the globe have the ability to support and develop resilient and aware communities, ones that are able to resist and persevere through the extremist influence they come face to face with.

Timeline of Events

Year	Event	Relevance
1979	Soviet-Afghan War begins	Commencement of modern jihadist recruitment strategies targeting young fighters; sets ideological precedent of suicide bombers; Soviet Union started the Democratic Youth Organization (DYO) with the intention of recruiting children aged 10–15 to act as soldiers.
1980–1988	Iran-Iraq War	The Basij, Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), extensively recruited child soldiers (aged 15) who played integral roles in the war.
2000	UN adopts the Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict (OPAC)	International legal framework against child recruitment in conflict or any hostilities; used in later counterterrorism (CT) and preventing violent extremism (PVE) contexts.
2001	9/11 attacks & U.S. War on Terror	Triggers global counterterrorism frameworks like the Global War on Terror (GWOT); youth increasingly recruited into extremist ideologies.

Year	Event	Relevance
2002	Establishment of the International Criminal Court (ICC)	ICC begins prosecuting war crimes, including child recruitment (e.g., Thomas Lubanga case in 2006).
2003	DESA publishes the first World Youth Report	Biennial publication that highlights current and emerging issues that are prevalent to the youth, explores youth participation in relation to economic, political, and civil aspects as the youth are identified as shaping key policies
2005	UN establishes Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM)	Key tool under UN Security Council Resolution 1612 to systematically document six grave violations against children in conflict, including recruitment and use. The data collected is represented in the annual reports of the Secretary General for international purview.
2007	Europol beings analyzing extremist propaganda	Europol began analyzing extremist propaganda under the European Counter-Terrorism Centre (ECTC), and began analyzing online extremist propaganda in 2015.

Year	Event	Relevance
2009	Boko Haram insurgency escalates in Nigeria	Although established in 2002, violent activities became exacerbated beginning in 2009. Notorious for mass child recruitment, especially girls as suicide bombers and boys as fighters.
2013–2015	Rise of ISIS and digital jihadist propaganda	ISIS begins a global online recruitment drive, including of teenagers via social media and gaming platforms.
2013–2015	UN Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace & Security	Recognizes youth as agents of peace; calls for inclusion, education, and preventing extremist recruitment.
2016	Launch of Youth Status Report (YSR)	Used by UN and NGOs to assess youth vulnerability, marginalization, and drivers of radicalization in fragile states.
2017	UNODC launches “Children Recruited and Exploited by Terrorist and Violent Extremist Groups” initiative	Begins specialized support for rehabilitation, legal frameworks, and justice reform for child recruits, emphasizes the priority of protecting children from harm.

Year	Event	Relevance
2018	EUROPOL & UNODC warn of online radicalization of minors from extremist organizations	Online radicalization of children flagged as a growing transnational threat, spread ideologies that call for mass shootings, bombings, and other acts of crime, sharing of extremely violent content can be proliferated easily
2019	ECOSOC Resolution 2019/21	Mandates UNODC to support diversion and reintegration of children; focuses on child-centered, rights-based justice and prison reform for youth recruited by extremist groups.
2020	COVID-19 pandemic accelerates youth screen time and online exposure	Surge in digital propaganda targeting isolated, vulnerable youth — highlighted in UNODC/UNOCT reports.
2021	UNODC publishes Roadmap on Treatment of Children Associated with Extremist Groups	Provides global guidance on justice, rehabilitation, and reintegration of children involved in terrorism.
2021	Project STRIVE Juvenile is implemented by the UNODC	A three year project focused on assisting governmental authorities and stakeholders to improve policies and mechanisms related to child recruitment and exploitation by terrorist groups, and strengthen the resilience of children against terrorist group agendas through various mediums.

Year	Event	Relevance
2023	UNODC strengthens partnerships with UNICEF, UNESCO, and INTERPOL	Multi-agency strategies formed to prevent recruitment and radicalization of minors.
2023	Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) publishes a handbook on using generative AI	Published a tech guide describing how to securely use generative AI tools, also associated with pro-al-Qaeda groups creating posters using generative AI that spreads misinformation and propaganda
2024	Hamas uses AI to edit photographs of injured individuals	Images depicting injured infants or young people have been manipulated and exaggerated using generative AI and spread on the internet, increases disturbing content and misinformation,
2025	ECOSOC Youth Forum	Conference about the wellbeing of the youth, and addressed how terrorist and violent extremist ideologies are propagated through online gaming platforms

Case Studies

ISIS

From 2014 to 2019, ISIS (Islamic States of Syria and Iraq) emerged as a transnational terrorist group with a strong-hold in Iraq & Syria. ISIS built one of the most advanced digital propaganda machines in terrorist history, using it as a recruiting tool and a psychological warfare weapon.

ISIS launched an aggressive online propaganda campaign which mainly targeted young individuals, particularly in Europe, North Africa, Central Asia and South-East Asia. At first, their activities resembled conventional jihadist communication channels, but then they quickly changed into an advanced media machine which made use of social media and excellent video production.

The group published thousands of high-quality videos, infographics, digital magazines (such as Dabiq and Rumiya), and social media posts in multiple languages. Visually and emotionally appealing videos and magazines depicted a utopian society where all Sunnis were prospering.

ISIS propaganda in the West mainly targeted 16- 25 year olds who were isolated from their societies and who did not have a strong sense of identity or purpose. A recent study identifies four themes ISIS uses to attract recruits: Urgency, Agency, Authenticity, and Victory.

Recruitment efforts were deeply personalized. ISIS recruiters used platforms like Twitter, YouTube, Facebook, Telegram, WhatsApp, and even PlayStation Network chats to build relationships with potential recruits. Youth were lured in with promises of community, belonging, religious duty, or in some cases, even marriage. A particularly notable trend that ISIS followed was the recruitment of teenage girls, who were often promised roles as "jihadi brides," and young boys, who were recruited to become fighters or suicide bombers.

What made ISIS different from other terrorist groups was its ability to modernize terrorism's message to adapt to the digital age. They stylized execution videos with cinematic editing, used memes to normalize violence, and mirrored influencer culture to make their propaganda more engaging and relatable to the younger audiences. This strategy proved frighteningly effective, over 40,000 foreign fighters, many under the age of 25, traveled to ISIS-held territories from more than 80 countries.

TALIBAN

The Taliban, a militant Islamic group that was founded in the 1990s, regained control of Afghanistan in August 2021 following the withdrawal of US and NATO forces from the region. Since Taliban's return to power in Afghanistan in 2021, the group has significantly expanded its use of digital platforms to spread propaganda and reinforce its rule. While the Taliban was historically reliant on physical recruitment through madrassas and community networks, they have increasingly adopted modern communication tools—including Twitter (now X), Telegram, WhatsApp, and more dedicated websites—to broadcast its messaging, and indirectly radicalize young Afghans.

The group launched a nationwide narrative campaign that was focused on normalizing the Taliban rule, appealing especially to Afghan youth through nationalist and religious messaging. Official Taliban spokespersons began using social media platforms to post statements, policy updates, videos of military parades, religious gatherings and school openings that were under Taliban oversight. They portrayed these as "charitable" acts to gain the public's support. Young people, particularly boys in religious schools, were presented with content that portrayed armed struggle as a religious obligation and showed obedience to Taliban as a form of patriotic duty. Taliban's communication strategy has adapted to include video production, targeted religious messaging that aligns with broader jihadist narratives.

Al-shaabab

Al-Shabaab, an Al-Qaeda affiliated terrorist organization based in Somalia has evolved from a local insurgency into a regional extremist network that actively recruits and radicalizes young people across East Africa.

Born out of its role as the youth militia of the Islamic Courts Union (ICU) in Somalia, al-Shabaab emerged as an established jihadi terrorist organization following Ethiopia's invasion of Somalia in 2006. Traditionally, Al-Shabaab's recruitment strategies relied on face-to-face contact through mosques, community leaders, and duqas (informal schools).

However, over the past decade, the group has significantly expanded its digital footprint. Platforms such as Facebook, Telegram and YouTube have been used to circulate propaganda videos, sermons and graphic footage of attacks, all aimed at attracting youth who feel marginalized, un-employed or neglected. Detailed observation of al-Shabaab's online behavior suggests that the group takes a tactical approach to building its network online, controlling the narrative, and adapting its approach in response to a rapidly evolving social media ecosystem.

Such a deliberate, agile, and effective strategy indicates that al-Shabaab's online presence is anchored by a centralized structure and supported by technology-based solutions to effectively control and coordinate its online activity. Al-Shabaab also uses encrypted messaging apps to communicate with recruits, plan operations and share extremist material. Usage of such platforms allows the group to avoid surveillance and expand its reach across borders.

Boko Haram

Boko Haram is a militant Islamic group accused of committing several human rights abuses against civilians. Literally translated, Boko Haram means 'Western education or influence is sinful and forbidden.' However the group prefers to call itself 'Jama'atu Ahlus-SunnahLidda'; Awati Wal Jihad', which means 'People Committed to the Propagation of the Prophet's Teachings and Jihad.'

Boko Haram became globally known in 2014, when it abducted 276 school girls from Chibok, many of whom were forced to convert and were married off to fighters. Since then, the group has consistently used abduction and forced recruitment as its strategy, targeting both boys and girls. The group uses low tech and digital tactics to spread its message. It regularly circulates propaganda videos, sermons and battle footage via Whatsapp, Facebook and even FM Radio broadcasts. This shows how even low-tech platforms can be as dangerous and effective as high-tech platforms in fragile states. Boko Haram mainly capitalizes on poverty and illiteracy, positioning itself as a provider of identity, purpose and survival. It shows how violent extremism thrives in fragile environments, using both forced and voluntary recruitment strategies.

Bloc Positions

USA

The United States of America has a strong zero terrorism rhetoric and policy, which has been viewed through its past actions. Of these, initiating the Global War on Terror (GWOT) following the September 11th terrorist attacks particularly stands out for its far-reaching effects in not only the USA and American territories, but to various other nations in the world. The USA's staunch condemnation of child recruitment into terrorism aligns with international law, and labels extremist organizations like ISIS, Boko Haram, al-Shabaab, and the Taliban as Foreign Terrorist Organizations (FTO). The U.S. Cyber Command has engaged in offensive cyber operations to disrupt online propaganda networks especially during ISIS's peak activity between 2014-2019. In 2008, under the Bush Administration, the United States federal statute signed the Child Soldiers Prevention Act into effect. The aim of the Act is to prohibit the recruitment or the use of child soldiers and to allow the deportation of persons who recruit child soldiers. Under this act, a child is a person under 15 years of age and this act requires the U.S. Secretary of State to annually publish a list of countries whose government supported armed forces recruit child soldiers. The United States Agency for International Development was enacted under President John F. Kennedy, and is the principal U.S. agency that confers assistance to countries recovering from disaster, economic crises, or political strife. Assistance can be of different forms including developmental and humanitarian assistance, and there has been noted emphasis on the USA's effort to conduct educational reforms with children in areas affected by extremist organizations, particularly the Middle Eastern and North African region. However, as of February 2025, the Trump administration has downscaled USAID's actions with the administration citing 40 billion dollars being spent as humanitarian support was a 'cost too high for gains too few.' Former presidents and international aid organizations view this with apprehension, worried of the negative consequences for global development and humanitarian efforts.

Kenya

Kenya follows a multi-faceted approach towards eliminating and tackling violent extremism along with child recruitment and online radicalization. Kenya is primarily infiltrated by the organization al-Shabaab, which is an Al-Qaeda affiliated militant group based in Somalia. The National Counter Terrorism Centre (NCTC) is the multi-agency institution which was built in order to enhance the coordination of Kenya's counter terrorism strategies. This aligns with UNODC's programs for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (P/CVE). In order to address child recruitment, the Kenyan government has published various tools for citizens to avail of like the Child Safety and Security Against Violent Extremism (CSSAVE) and the RADAR Toolkit, which particularly target safeguarding and educating the youth. Specific Kenyan counties have attempted to create an Youth E-Space to promote community-led dialogue, however, much of these interventions are limited to Westernized communities and counties of Kenya, rendering the rural and less accessible population vulnerable.

Somalia

According to the Report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict of 2022, 1161 children have been recruited into extremist organizations in Somalia. In 2012, Somalia implemented a series of action plans that were related to preventing children from being recruited into taking part in armed conflict. There were two Action Plans signed with the United Nations wherein Somalia's Transitional Federal Government (TFG) committed to ending the recruitment and use of children by the Somali National Armed Forces. The second Action Plan addressed the killing and maiming of children by the Somali National Armed Forces, and committed them to end these practices. The authorities have also implemented regular biometric screening of Somali National Army recruits, where five child soldiers were discovered in 2023, and no child soldiers were discovered in 2024. Within Somalia, emphasis has been placed on training and capacity building in order to prevent child recruitment, as well as rehabilitation and reintegration programs for former child soldiers- a crucial step to prevent possible

re-recruitment. Along with the plethora of advancements Somalia has made in its commitment against violent extremism and child recruitment, its monitoring of digital spaces is extremely stringent. In 2023, Somalia banned popular social media platforms TikTok, Telegram, and 1XBet due to claims of indecent content and propaganda being spread, a popular tactic that al-Shabaab members use to post about their activities. Despite this, Somalia lacks official documentation of online counter-radicalization efforts and there seems to be limited action implemented for digital literacy programs or even engagement with the youth.

Germany

Germany, a major nation in the European Union, is serious about tackling violent extremism and terrorism, especially when it comes to stopping young people from being drawn into dangerous ideologies online or in their communities. The 2016 Berlin Christmas market attack, which killed 12 people, showed how youth can be targeted by extremist groups, both jihadist and far-right. With about one million internet users possibly viewing extremist content each year, Germany has put strong policies in place to fight this problem.

One key law, the Network Enforcement Act (NetzDG) from 2017, requires social media companies to delete illegal content, like terrorist propaganda, within 24 hours or face fines up to €50 million. This has led to thousands of harmful posts being taken down every year.

Germany also runs the “Live Democracy!” program, which has funded over 300 community projects since 2015 to teach young people about democratic values and help them resist extremist ideas. Programs like the Violence Prevention Network have also helped around 1,000 people step away from extremism through counseling and support.

Germany also works closely with the United Nations and the Global Counterterrorism Forum to push for global rules on online platforms and share ideas on stopping radicalization.

But Germany struggles to balance tough security measures with protecting free speech. Germany wants to focus on creating global standards for online content, funding education to prevent radicalization, and tackling issues like poverty and social exclusion that make youth vulnerable.

SWEDEN

Sweden is a nation that is a staunch proponent for the protection of child rights as well as the eradication of violent extremism. The Swedish Centre for Prevent Violent Extremism (CVE) is part of the Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention, and it works to prevent ideologically motivated criminality and extremism in Sweden. This is a national effort with its actions reaching across various localities and the CVE extends its support across different levels of government and to schools and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) as well. In 2023, Sweden enacted new legislation which criminalizes the recruitment of children for criminal activity. Additionally, Sweden has also placed considerable importance on not only prevention of extremist groups, but through concepts that rely on psychology and the importance of dialogue and diplomacy. The tactics of the Dialogue Police aim for all groups, albeit extremist, to practice self-regulation and encourage democratic participation through “self-policing”, that way radicalization through dialogue is reduced. Exit Sweden is an organization that provides support to any individual wishing to leave an extremist group or criminal organization, which becomes increasingly difficult for children to accomplish on their own. At the same time, there is a lack of reporting the efficacy of these programs and their interventions, leading the efforts of diversion outcomes being questioned. Despite the variety of efforts the Swedish government implements, the use of online platforms for radicalization has increased in the past two years often to recruit teenagers, but also children as young as 11 years old. Gang crime has only increased in Sweden where it records the most deadly shootings per capita in Europe, which is a stark contrast from two decades ago where it ranked amongst the lowest. As a result, the government is considering imposing age limits on social media platforms amongst the wave of recruitment into organized crime that continues rising. Sweden notes its counterparts following similar ideas elsewhere, citing the example of Australia preventing children under the age of 16 from using social media.

NIGERIA

Nigeria is dealing with major challenges from terrorist groups like Boko Haram and the Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP), which have recruited over 10,000 young people since 2010, mainly using online propaganda and taking advantage of the living conditions. Nigeria is working to combat this through security efforts, rehabilitation programs, and projects to improve living conditions.

The military's Operation 'Lafiya Dole' has weakened terrorist groups, while Operation 'Safe Corridor', which started in 2016, has helped over 2,000 former fighters, including youth, return to their normal life with job training and counseling. The National Youth Policy, which was updated in 2019, focuses on education and skills programs, reaching over 500,000 young people to give them better opportunities and keep them away from extremism. But Nigeria struggles with online radicalization due to its lack of strong cybersecurity tools. It's also difficult to monitor harmful content since only about half the country has internet access.

Nigeria often partners with the African Union's counter-terrorism center and wants more help from the United Nations to deal with cross-border issues, especially since borders with Chad and Cameroon are hard to control. Nigeria asks to support funding for education and jobs, provide tech support for tracking online extremism, and strengthen teamwork across countries to stop terrorist recruitment.

Past Resolutions

Resolution	Content of Resolution
UNSC 2250	Encourages member states to incorporate the youth (persons aged 18-29) within the processes of peace-making and dispute resolution; urges member states to consider mechanisms to offer youth larger voices in decision-making at the local, national, regional, and international levels; recognizes that the youth are an integral part of the population of individuals impacted by armed conflict and that they represent a 'unique demographic' that is crucial towards mitigating exploitation by terrorists
UNSC 2419	Recognizes the role of youth in promoting a culture of peace, tolerance, intercultural and interreligious dialogue; calls upon member states to protect educational institutions as spaces free from all forms of violence, expresses its intention, where appropriate, to invite civil society including youth-led organizations to brief the Council

Resolution	Content of Resolution
UNSC 2535	<p>Reaffirms states' obligation to respect, promote, and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms of all individuals, including youth; encourages Member States to eliminate all forms of sexual and gender-based violence against youth as well as protecting them from violence in armed conflict; emphasizes the importance of providing opportunities for young people to strengthen resilience against radicalization to violence and terrorist recruitment</p>
UNGA 60/288	<p>Recognize that international cooperation and that any measures undertaken to prevent and combat terrorism must comply with our obligations under international law; to continue to arrange under the auspices of United Nations initiatives and programmes to promote dialogue; to promote mutual respect for and prevent the defamation of religions, religious values, beliefs and cultures; strengthen coordination and cooperation among States in combatting crimes that might be connected with terrorism</p>

Resolution	Content of Resolution
<p>ECOSOC 2019/21</p>	<p>Encourages Member States to consider ratifying or acceding to other relevant conventions to support international cooperation in criminal matters, such as the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols Thereto; encourages Member States to use the platforms and tools developed by the UNODC, including the Sharing Electronic Resources and Laws on Crime knowledge management portal, to facilitate international cooperation in criminal matters related to terrorism</p>
<p>UNODC- Youth-led Action to Prevent and Respond to Terrorism</p>	<p>Designed to equip youth leaders and youth-led organizations with the necessary resources to address violent extremism, UNODC provides direct support to organizations. Launched the first conference in South-East Asia (2024) focusing on recruitment through digital spaces. Consists of three components:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Network of Youth-led and youth-focused civil society organizations 2. Youth-led board 3. Regional hubs

Resolution	Content of Resolution
<p>The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (OPAC)</p>	<p>Adopted by the General Assembly in 2000 and prohibits States from sending children under the age of 18 to the battlefield along with prohibiting them from being conscripted. Specifies that armed groups distinct from armed forces of a State should not recruit children under 18 or have them participate in hostilities.</p>
<p>The Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM)</p>	<p>The MRM was established in 2005 by the UNSC resolutions 1612, 1882, 1998, 2068, and 2143 to encourage accountability and compliance with international law to abide by child protection standards. It outlines the role of various actors, like UNICEF, in peacekeeping and the collection of data. The MRM's data is represented in the annual reports of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict, making sure that the international community is aware of the current scenario and can implement necessary responses.</p>
<p>Handbook on Children Recruited and Exploited by Terrorist and Violent Extremist Groups</p>	<p>Focuses specifically on the role of the justice system in combatting this multifaceted issue that echoes the sentiments of UNODC's mission of prevention, protection, treatment, and reintegration of children involved with extremist groups. Reiterates Resolution 2250's pillars of: participation, protection, prevention, partnerships, and disengagement</p>

Questions a Resolution Must Answer

1. What are the changes which could be made to the United Nations' frameworks to ensure safe repatriation or adequate asylum for refugees?
2. How can UN intervention help subdue the impact of proxy wars upon refugees and find administratively sustainable methods to prevent the eradication of minorities in pogroms and genocides?
3. What can be done to ensure any conflict limits the infliction of harm and persecution to those actively participating in the conflict?
4. How can minorities facing the threat of persecution or an ethnic cleansing safely be evacuated and reintegrated into society?
5. How can the UN get additional monetary assistance to be able to ensure safety and access to basic necessities for nascent increase of refugees due to recent conflicts?
6. Beyond condemnation and observation, what can the UNHRC do in order to prevent or deamplify the impact of mass pogroms and ethnic cleansing campaigns?
7. What can the UN do to ensure accountability by states for initiating and participating in armed conflict pertaining to refugee crises?
8. To what extent can contemporary ceasefires be negotiated under the auspice of the UN in order to facilitate relief for IDPs in areas bounded by conflict?
9. How can the power and authority of the UNHRC be increased and how can suspensions be made more impactful, having greater consequences for the suspended member states, including abrogation of privileges and certain rights concerned with the UN collectively?

Sources to Use

The Right Sources:

1. **Official UN Websites, Articles, and Libraries**
2. **UN Ratified Sites. Eg: Aljazeera, Britannica, Amnesty International, etc.**
3. **Governmental Websites (of your country)**
4. **Websites ending with “.org” that follow fact-based reporting**
5. **Websites of NGOs (that your country is associated with)**

These sources are verified with accurate information your portfolio could use. A UN website is the most reliable as it is UN-ratified and gives you more in-depth information about your country's stance.

The Wrong Sources:

1. **Buzzfeed**
2. **Wikipedia**
3. **Quora**
4. **Websites ending with “.com” that have a vested interest**
5. **Op-ed articles**

All of the sources listed above are opinionated with the perception of the article's writers. These sources also answer questions from a person's individual knowledge domain with no proven accuracy.

Preambulatory and Operative Clauses

Preambulatory clauses:

Acknowledging Affirming Alarmed by Approving Aware of Believing Bearing in mind Confident Congratulating Contemplating Convinced Declaring Deeply concerned Deeply conscious Deeply convinced Deeply disturbed Deeply regretting Deploing Desiring Emphasizing Expecting Expressing its appreciation Expressing its satisfaction	Fulfilling Fully alarmed Fulfilling Fully alarmed Fully aware Fully believing Further deploring Further recalling Guided by Having adopted Having considered Having considered further Having devoted attention Having examined Having heard Having received Having studied Keeping in mind Noting further.	Taking note Viewing with appreciation Welcoming Noting with appreciation Noting with approval Noting with deep concern Noting with regret Noting with satisfaction Observing Pointing out Reaffirming Realizing Recalling Recognizing Referring Reminding Seeking Taking into account Taking into consideration
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Preambulatory and Operative Clauses

Operative clauses:

Accepts	Designates	Recommends
Affirms	Encourages	Regrets
Approves	Endorses	Requests
Appreciates	Expresses its hope	Resolves
Asks	Further invites	Seeks
Authorizes	Further proclaims	Strongly affirms
Calls for	Further recommends	Strongly condemns
Calls upon	Further requests	Strongly urges
Condemns	Further resolves	Suggests
Congratulates	Hopes	Trusts
Confirms	Proclaims	Transmits
Deplores	Proposes	Urges