

The European Drug Commission

Christ Junior College Model United Nations 2016

A letter from the Director.

Dear delegates,

Welcome to the European Drug commission and I have the distinct privilege and pleasure of serving as the Director for this committee. I hail from Chennai but later moved to Bangalore for my education. I'm a first year undergraduate student pursuing my major in Computer Science Engineering in Bangalore.

With the international community debating upon the narcotics issue, it has been concentrated only to the Latin American countries. Over the recent past, Europe has been a breeding ground to extend the narcotics culture and nurturing it. It is high time that we diplomats of the global community give equal importance to other regions because one loose call can trigger a monstrous impact for decades.

I sincerely hope that this background guide gives you a clear-cut idea of the problem and what the committee is looking for. However, delegates must note that this should not be your only research and the background guide only acts as an accelerator in directing you. It is extremely important that you research beyond this document so that you can put out some intense debate in committee. I expect some sensible argument and hope that all of you have a strong stance with respect to your foreign policy.

Please feel free to contact me via email if you have any queries regarding the committee procedures, topics and so on. Looking forward to meet each and every one of you.

All the very best and let's make Europe great again.

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Agenda I : Countering illicit drug trade and narcoterrorism in Europe.

Narcoterrorism in simple terms

In simple terms, narcoterrorism can be considered as terrorism being funded from illegal drug trade and also the attempts made by drug traffickers in corrupting governments or influencing their actions. Narco-terrorists use violence to extract political consensus from the government. The best example would be the war waged during the 80s by Pablo Escobar who headed the

Medellian drug cartel against the Colombian government. Assassination, bombings and hijackings are one of the most common tools used by narco-terrorists.

Region specific Drug Cartels.

Ndrangheta.

'Ndrangheta' is a crime organization located in Calabria which is the poorest region of Italy. They weren't as famous as the Sicilian Mafia but became the most powerful syndicate in Italy in the late 90s. Ndrangheta involve themselves in money laundering, narcotics trafficking, extortion and are accounted for at least 3% of the Italy's GDP.

Solntsevsckaya Bratva.

Solntsevsckaya Bratva are the biggest and the most powerful crime syndicate in Russia. They indulge in illegal organ trade, money laundering, racketing, human trafficking, drug trafficking and extortion to name a few. By the late 90s, Solntsevsckaya started moving into the banking sector so that money laundering becomes easier.

Solntsevsckaya have their prescenesse felt in the international cocaine trade community. They have links with the Colombian cartel which is enhanced by the Cuntrera-Caruana Mafia clan. They also operate across the United States and the tropical islands of the Caribbean.

Sinaloa Cartel

Known as the 'Guzmán-Loera Organization' and the 'Pacific Cartel', Sinaloa Cartel is an international organized crime syndicate which indulges in international drug trade and money laundering to name a few. The United States Intelligence community classified that the Sinaloa Cartel is 'the most powerful drug trafficking organization in the world.'

The Dutch Penose.

Penose is just a local word which I used to address organized criminal underbelly in Netherlands. The Dutch crime groups are involved in organized crime such as prostitution, drug trafficking, loan sharking, extortions etc. Another organized crime branch based in the Flemish region bordering Netherlands is the most important production site when it comes to ecstasy and other synthetic drugs. The Moroccan crime groups, Moluccan Kajahaatan and the Afro Dutch crime groups pose as a serious threat to the international community and are expanding their premises globally.

Drug trafficking routes.

The EU drug trafficking report which was released by the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) and Europol explains Latin America's role in European Cocaine industry. Columbia, Venezuela, Brazil and Mexico are the big time players in hosting some 'key departure' points.

The shipments are smuggled out in private yachts, vessels or by air. Peru and Bolivia are now expanding their role as suppliers to the European market. Porus borders across Latin America has made it possible for the countries to transport cocaine and other drugs freely amongst themselves before they send them off to Europe.

The Caribbean scenario is changing. It has become the most significant route for Europe-bound cargo, but still, Central America remains as the main trafficking corridor for Europe and northbound narcotics. There has been an increase in seizures in East Africa as a consequence of the Panama Canal's expansions. This gives us a hint that Tanzania may emerge as the next new route to smuggle drugs into Europe.

Italian and Columbian organized crime networks work in tandem to dominate the cocaine trade in Europe, in cooperation with British, Dutch, Nigerian and Spanish groups. Spain and Netherlands are the primary distribution centers.

Role of international bodies

A.] United Nations Convention against Corruption:

This is the first international anti-corruption instrument which is globally binding. The UNCAC aims to combat corruption at both domestic and foreign levels, money laundering,, embezzlement etc. The UNCAC also helps in strengthening judicial cooperation and international law enforcements, technical assistant and information exchange and legal mechanisms for asset recovery to name a few.

B.] United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime:

This is a multilateral treaty against transnational organized crime. It consists of three supplementary protocols which are

- Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing and Trafficking in Firearms.
- Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air.
- Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children.

All these 4 instruments include measures to combat money laundering, human trafficking and arms trafficking.

C.] International legal framework on drug control:

This is an extremely important document which is applicable internationally. There are three major treaties under this which supports one another mutually to provide legal action and foundation against narcotics-related offences. This lays down internationally applicable drug control policies to ensure the availability of psychotropic substances and narcotic drugs for scientific and medical purposes, and to prevent their diversion into illicit channels. General provisions on drug abuse and illicit trafficking are also included. The three important treaties which come under this are:

- 1988 Convention against the Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances;
- 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs.
- 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances;

Agenda II : Identifying and intercepting drug trade routes setup between Europe and the Americas.

INTRODUCTION

It is a lesser known fact that cocaine, marijuana and other drugs among many are being transported between The Americas and Europe. The frequency of these trades is slightly lower than normal ones, but the amount traded is comparatively more. Hence, it makes you think that it shouldn't be an agenda that should be prioritized for discussion.

Is what you think?

Although cartels in Europe, such as the Ndrangheta are less capable when it comes to distribution, their ability to influence a RELATIVELY smaller market (compared to America) and therein the supply makes them a tough issue to deal with. The reason not many people are aware of circulation and supply of drugs in Europe is because of how effective the cartels are in concealing their traces. It could be attributed to a number of reasons, including mass killing of innocent civilians if required.

It is our duty in the EDC to discuss fortification of international and national policy on drugs alike in this situation. With recent news headlines such as the Sinaloa cartel shifting its interests towards the European market and the like, this is the phase in which the EDC, in its power, must do everything possible to restrict free-flow and movement of the distributors in Europe.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SINGLE MARKET

After two decades of having limited its actions to its national territory, the European Union has aimed to clarify its position towards illicit drugs throughout the 90's decade, in order to bring heroin consumption to an end and to fight against the HIV epidemic (directly induced by the misuse of needles between drug addicts). The situational frame resulting from the creation of the Single Market in 1993 made clear the necessity of elaborating a common response. Twelve years later, the moment has come: the European Union has to make an approach in order to know if its actual position is efficient enough to face real drug problems. The drug situation in Europe has changed due to the fact that in May 2004, 10 new countries were accepted in the Community.¹

FINAL REMARKS

Considering how this is to be a reserve agenda, and is a direct follow up to the first agenda itself, we heavily encourage that you discuss the first agenda in detail, and any loopholes to movement, distribution and the Single Market established in Europe etc can be saved for the second agenda. Again, it is up to the committee whether they even choose to debate upon this agenda, or discard it entirely and incorporate solutions to this problem in the first agenda alone.

As for procedure of committee, it is very similar to the working of the EMCDDA (you may Google European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction) , except:

- 1) The ECD does not have a scientific and budget sub-committee,
- 2) There will be TWO representatives in the committee per country, instead of one, who have a proxy vote which means:
 - a) If one member of the committee is out, the other member can vote with or without consent of the other committee member for procedural vote,
 - 3) At the end of the discussion of an agenda, committee members will be required to draft and submit a resolution, with appropriate details (Sponsors, signatories, Date, Resolution name etc), preambulatory and operative clauses.

Citations

A.] Yagoub, Mimi. "New Report Offers Details on Cocaine Traffic to Europe." New Report Offers Details on Cocaine Traffic to Europe. InSight Crime, June-July 2016. Web. 30 Sept. 2016.

http://www.drugpolicy.org/docUploads/Drug_Trafficking_Europe_Latin_America_United_States.pdf

B.] "Penose." Wikipedia. Wikimedia Foundation, n.d. Web. 30 Sept. 2016.

C.] "Solntsevskaya Bratva." Wikipedia. Wikimedia Foundation, n.d. Web. 30 Sept. 2016.

D.] "Sinaloa Cartel." Wikipedia. Wikimedia Foundation, n.d. Web. 30 Sept. 2016.

E.] "Ndrangheta." Wikipedia. Wikimedia Foundation, n.d. Web. 30 Sept. 2016.