

Committee/Council: Disarmament and International Security

Issue: Measures to Combat Narcoterrorism

Student Officer: Thomas Julian Lynch

Position: Co-Chair of Disarmament and International Security Committee

Introduction

Narcoterrorism is defined as, “terrorism associated with the trade of illicit drugs” (Oxford Dictionary of English). More explicitly, narcoterrorism constitutes terrorism (meaning an attempt by any unauthorized body to achieve a political foothold through the use of violence, intimidation, and coercion) inclusive of the process of the trading of illicit narcotics. The trade of illicit drugs conducive of narcoterrorism is mainly used to provide massive and unregistered income for narcoterrorist bodies in order to assist them in their activities. Hence, due to the fact that narcoterrorist bodies are largely based on such illegal practices, one of their main aims is to cripple anti-narcotics forces so as to eliminate any disturbance in their businesses.

Narcoterrorism is an immensely substantial issue, due to the fact that it extends around the globe and concerns multiple parties in each respective location. Conservatively speaking, narcoterrorism is a battle between anti-narcotics forces, and global governments on the one side, and narcoterrorists on the other. However, the truth of the matter is that various other parties are caught in the shuffle. As most commonly identified in terrorist bodies, innocent civilians are oftentimes made victims of narcoterrorism through one way, shape or form, whether they be used as drug smugglers across borders against their will, or forced to work on the coca, cannabis, or opium poppy fields under slavery-like conditions. Henceforth, it remains to be stated that it is an issue requiring the utmost caution when conceiving a solution to.

Furthermore, narcoterrorism may in fact be only the surface of a much deeper, complex issue. It is of common belief and mutual understanding that narcoterrorism is the result of government corruption, and state abuses in certain areas throughout the world. As a result, there is some difficulty in understanding the exact denotation of narcoterrorism, and defining the main parties to blame for this occurrence. Therefore, when thinking of tackling this issue, one must truly consider certain underlying, yet essential roots of this problem. A paramount example of such comes up with the name Pablo Escobar, the “King of Cocaine.” Regarded as the wealthiest criminal and drug lord, Escobar managed to manipulate the authorities and dominate the cocaine trade single-handedly, earning \$30 billion by the time of his death.

Definition of Key-Terms

Narcoterrorism

Terrorism associated with the trade of illicit narcotics (Oxford Dictionary of English).

Terrorism

The unofficial or unauthorized use of violence and intimidation in the pursuit of political aims (Oxford Dictionary of English).

Coercion

The action or practice of persuading someone to do something by using force or threats (Oxford Dictionary of English).

Illicit Narcotics

Illegal narcotics, or drugs, that cannot be possessed under law. Such substances include, but are not limited to, marijuana (cannabis), cocaine, heroine and other opium derived substances, and more. (Note: Legal possession of Marijuana is permitted in few countries, or perhaps few territories within those countries, and at times requires a medical license. For the purposes of this conference, Marijuana shall unconditionally be considered as an illicit narcotic).

Anti-Narcotics Forces

Government bodies that have as their main assignment to bring all illegal drug trade and drug-related operations of narcoterrorism to an end. Such bodies are composed of border protection officers, armed units, forensic scientists, investigators, and intelligence and research specialists. Such forces include the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) of the United States.

Counterterrorist Policies

Policies aimed at constricting and eliminating terrorist operations within any said region. The United States' "War on Terror" policy that has developed as a result of the September 11th attacks is only one example of such policies.

Counternarcotic Policies

Policies aimed at limiting the dispersion of illicit narcotics within any said region, and eliminating any major benefactors of drug trade. An example of a counternarcotic policy would be Mexico's "War on Drugs" policy aimed at tackling smuggling and production of illicit narcotics.

Drug Trafficking

The illegal transport of illicit narcotics (mostly across country borders and in bulk).

Drug Trade

The illegal purchase or sale of illicit narcotics. When using this term, we typically refer to off-the-record sale and purchase, whose implication is then trafficking across borders in bulk.

Drug Cartel

A criminal organization that aims at directing, controlling, and promoting drug trafficking operations. Explicitly speaking, drug cartels endeavor to achieve control of drug manufacturing and cultivation, transportation/trafficking of such narcotics, and distribution thereof.

Guerillas

Members of a small independent group taking part in irregular fighting, typically against larger regular forces (Oxford Dictionary of English)

Paramilitary

Organized similarly to a military force (Oxford Dictionary of English). Note: the governments of the countries in which they are present herein do typically not sponsor paramilitaries in the context.

Background Information

Despite the term “narcoterrorism” being first utilized by President Fernando Belaúnde Terry of Peru in 1983, the narcoterrorism phenomena has taken place throughout the globe, and continues to do so till this date. Therefore, it would seem logical if the analysis of narcoterrorism were to be separated based on the most essential locations of occurrence and the parties involved in each respective location.

Colombia and the FARC

Throughout the late 20th and early 21st centuries, it can perhaps be stated that Colombia is the single country most heavily involved in the illegal trade and trafficking of illicit narcotics. As a result, Colombia’s interdependence upon the drug trade is also the most prevalent worldwide. This phenomenon holds obvious ties with the existence of the far-left former political (now considered terrorist) insurgent body of Colombia, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia---People’s Army (Spanish: Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia---Ejército del Pueblo, or FARC and EP). Therefore, in order to fully understand the presence of narcoterrorism in Colombia, it is of paramount importance that the history and origins of the FARC be understood.

Most unrest in Colombia today is attributed to a particularly unstable period in its history known as La Violencia (The Violence). La Violencia was triggered by the



Figure 1: An Image Potraying La Violencia in Colombia
(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/La_Violencia)

assassination of Colombian Liberal Party leader, Jorge Eliécer Gaitán Ayala on April 9th, 1948. Despite the fact that an insignificant citizen with unknown motives performed the assassination, it gave birth to great unrest and instability in the Colombian region, both on social and political fronts.

Naturally, this event would cause great unease and uprising on behalf of left and far-left supporters. Therefore, occurrences of mass left-wing organization and radicalization were observed throughout the next two decades. Some parties resolved to the adaptation of more radical ideologies, such as Marxism and Leninism, Bolivarism, and the Foco Theory. Others adopted more conservative points of

views that wished to instill order in the Colombian region. The main result of this separation was the birth of various paramilitary groups that fought for certain polarized ideological reforms.

Due to the fact that global shift of power between the Soviet and Western spheres of influence was taking on an increasingly significant position in global affairs (Cold War), it was in the greatest interest of Western powers, such as the United States of America, and Soviet powers, such as the USSR, to ensure their secure influence on as many territories as possible. Colombia was once such territory that demanded the attention of both fronts, due to its shifting political ideologies. As a result, the USA supported anti-communist movements in Colombia, so as to suppress a communist insurgency.

These were the circumstances under which the FARC came in to force. Though the exact time of emergence is disputed, it is common consensus that the FARC entered the Colombian armed conflict as a guerilla movement in 1964. At this time, they were also established as the official military body of the Colombian Communist Party (Partido Comunista Colombiano), or PCC. Since then, they have assumed an increasingly prevalent role in Colombian affairs. In addition, the USA designated the FARC as a terrorist organization on July 10th of 1997. More nations proceeded to do so shortly afterwards, such as France, Canada, and Spain.



Figure 2: The Flag and Coat of Arms of the FARC
(https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Flag_of_the_FARC-EP.svg)

Sometime along the line of its existence, most probably during or shortly prior to the 1980's, the FARC began the production, trade and trafficking of illicit narcotics as a method of funding the organization. Prior to this date, the FARC was known to illegitimately collect taxes from Marijuana growers in Colombia in order to fund their operations. Since the 1980's, up until 2014, the FARC largely encouraged local farmers sympathetic with its cause to cultivate and produce the coca plant, the main component of the drug, cocaine. Throughout this time period, the FARC was also known to employ coercive measures when confronting certain disdainful farmers and demanding their cooperation in cocaine production. In several instances, however, the FARC resorted to more extremist measures in order to secure its powerful hold on cocaine production and distribution in Colombia, such as the execution of rival drug cartels, and cocaine farmers resisting their demands. Perhaps the most atrocious example of such measure was the La Gabarra Massacre of June 16th, 1996, an event in which FARC guerillas executed 34 local cocaine

farmers and production workers who were affiliated with right-wing paramilitary groups.

In November of 2012, the Colombian government, under the leadership of president Manuel Santos, began peace talks with the FARC. The location of most of these peace talks was, and continues to be the Cuban capital, Havana. The Colombian populous was at first optimistic with the declaration of such talks, hoping that they would finally be able to bring an over-five-decade struggle to a close. Initial forecasts seemed promising, with commitments to a mutual truce. Beginning in September of 2014, word emerged as to the Colombian government's agreement with the FARC for a bilateral cease-fire that would begin in early 2015. In January of 2015, president Santos declared the Colombian government's readiness for such an occurrence. Shortly afterwards, FARC negotiators complied with this proposition, hence marking the beginning of a ceasefire agreement between the two fronts.

In an unforeseen turn of events, FARC guerillas killed eleven Colombian military personnel in an attack on a military convoy this April. Needless to say, public opinion on peace talks underwent rapid deterioration. Statistics of polls organized shortly after the attack displayed that less than 18 percent of all Colombian citizens favored the continuation of peace talks with the FARC.



Figure 3: Protests In Colombia In Defiance of the FARC
(http://positivenews.org.uk/2015/peace_democracy/peace/17290/colombia-peace-talks-save-5000-people-death-injury-report/)

The latest developments show that FARC leaders and the Colombian government are committed to declaring a formal ceasefire by July 20th of this year. Despite this fact, measures are yet to be taken to eliminate the FARC's military presence and to do away with its powerful hold over cocaine production in dispensary. In addition, public opinion on current peace talks does not show promise for a socially cohesive Colombia, placing the Colombian government under great public risk.

Peru and the Shining Path

As stated prior, president Terry of Peru was he who first employed the term "narcoterrorism," needless to say for good reason. The presence of the Shinning Path (Spanish: Sendero Luminoso or SL)/Communist Party of Peru (Spanish: Partido Comunista del Peru) as a narcoterrorist organization has become increasingly prevalent in the Peruvian region, and despite recent deterioration has replaced

Colombia's FARC as the largest cocaine producer and exporter amongst narcoterrorist organizations. It is therefore with due cause that Terry went to the trouble of defining the SL as the model for a very different kind of terrorism.

Despite being founded in the late 1960's, the SL came into full force on May 17th of 1980, initiating the period known as the Internal Conflict of Peru. The SL came into force during yet another particularly taxing period for the country of its origin, Peru. In 1975, directly proceeding from a military coup engineered by Juan Velasco Alvarado and his military subordinates, Peru emerged from the crisis as a nation submerged in poverty with minimal means of self-sustenance and financial stability. It was under these circumstances that the Shinning Path/Communist Party of Peru truly initiated its operations.

The Shinning Path's ideological standpoint lies closest to that supported by Maoist China in the mid 1900s, cohesive with a concept known as Maoist Communism. It supports certain respective principles such as the dictatorship of the proletariat so as to reinstate what the organization calls "New Democracy." In general, the organization is quite visionary, believing that it will be the instrument of global revolution and the overthrow of bourgeoisie ideals and principles. However, the methodology of this guerilla front in preaching such ideals is highly unsavory.



Figure 4: The Flag and Coat of Arms of the SL

(<http://www.forbiddensymbols.com/shining-path-sendero-luminoso/>)

Despite any claims of the SL at being a legitimate political movement, the Colombian government and president Terry swiftly proceeded to call deem it a terrorist group. This designation was ultimately complete with the attack of SL guerillas on Peruvian anti-drug enforcement personnel in 1983, hence moving president Belaunde Terry to deem the SL's actions as narcoterrorist. Further terrorist/narcoterrorist classifications of the organization occurred at the end of the century, with countries such as the United States designating the organization as such on July 10th, 1997.

Since 1980, when the organization launched its operations, the SL has been performing almost identical actions to that of the FARC with respect to the use illicit drug trade and production for means of funding the organization. The SL is also known to intrude on farmers' lands and demand the replacement of their food crops for mostly coca crops so as to fund the organization. However, the SL is at times known to be more unrelenting in its methods of coercion and securing service. Aside from semi-regular assaults on the Peruvian National Police (PNP), certain public sectors and the civilian population (mostly the peasant population), the SL is known to apply terror tactics when facing cocaine farmers.

The SL's most regular target for armed assault is the PNP, due to the fact that the body is essentially its only obstacle between simple drug control and ultimate domination of the trade. Such typical SL actions were the incentive for president Terry to coin the term "narcoterrorism," as he deemed narcoterrorism to be an attack against his country's anti-narcotics police force. Since then, however, the term's definition has expanded.

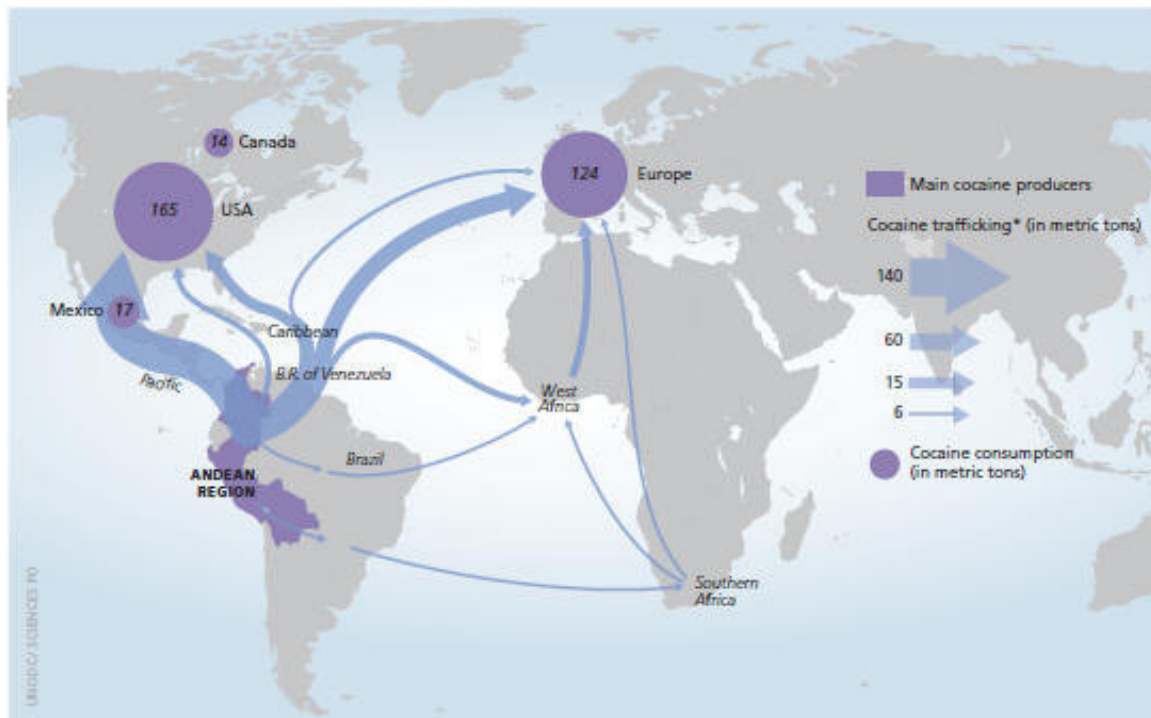


Figure 5: UNODC Diagram Indicating Worldwide Cocaine Flow (<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/it/drug-trafficking/index.html>)

Aside from the typical havoc the SL wreaks upon the Peruvian populous, the SL also collects illegitimate taxes from some of the most fertile coca plant crops throughout Peru. This instills the understanding that most cocaine not personally harvested and distributed by the SL in Peru is also monitored by the organization, hence granting a supervising status to the organization over the drug trade throughout the country. Another method used by the SL to manipulate the drug trade in Peru is the offered service of protection and safeguard of friendly cartels' operations in illicit narcotic transportation. Through this measure, the SL also effectively holds a share in the business of most other narcotic traffickers in Peru, defining an intricate control system.

After more than a decade of successful operations, the SL was set back by the arrest of its founder and leader, Abimael Guzman, in 1992. For the remainder of the decade, the SL remained less active than previously. However, as expected, the SL managed to reenergize their existence by continuing their operations with the Cocaine Trade. By 2007, the SL had managed to obtain and dispense over 290 metric tons of cocaine, coming second only to Colombia that year.

In 2009, with the SL's cocaine production numbers continuing to rise, reports emerged from local farmers saying that the SL had returned in full force, and was beginning to threaten families. The organization's aim was to yet again dominate the cocaine market. In March of 2009, a farmer and his family were assaulted by the SL, resulting in the death of the farmer's wife (five months pregnant) and the suspected death of his two children (of ages 6 and 1). Such stories continued to plague the nation throughout the remainder of that year, and continue to do so till this day.

By 2014, Peru's cocaine exports surpassed those of Colombia, yet again placing the SL in an advantageous position. An organization that was once near destruction managed to yet again reclaim its previous position. Despite certain beliefs reflecting the death of the SL in Peru, it has become evident that the organization shall continue to provide for itself through the use of the drug trade. As a result, the Peruvian government is left hanging in the balance, preparing for the next possible move that the SL has to make in order to reestablish its domination.

Mexico and the Mexican Cartels

The situation in Mexico with respect to narcoterrorism is definitely the most diverse, and perhaps the most pressing. The main difference between Mexico's situation and that of

of aforementioned nations is that Mexico lacks a single basic operating narcoterrorist body. Instead, Mexico's narcoterrorism is divided amongst large gangs or armed groups called cartels (major cartels include Los Zetas, Sinaloa Cartel, Gulf Cartel, La Familia Cartel, and others).

The Mexican drug cartels typically do not hold many things in common between them, and efforts of collaboration between these individual groups are much below frequent.

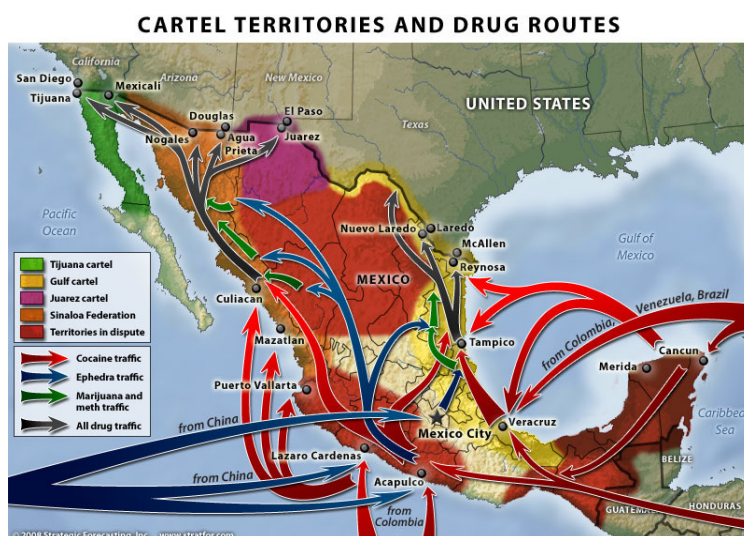


Figure 6: Diagram Indicating Cartel Territories and Drug Routes in Mexico (<http://geo-mexico.com/?p=1166>)

The minimal understanding and consensus that exists between most Mexican cartels is an unquestionable provocation for violence. In addition, due to strict ideals in pertinence to family and brotherhood, the cartels have managed to accumulate a

plethora of vendettas for opposing groups in the same business, causing frequent armed conflicts between them. The battles between the cartels have been known to leave young men and women dead in the name of such aforementioned ideals. However, certain assaults are known to be the fruits of no more typical turf wars, creating a very delicate balance for all groups under the cartel label.

The various cartels do, however, have one common characteristic: a deep involvement with the drug trade and drug trafficking. Such operations, as expected, provide ideal income for such groups to function and endure. In 2007, 90% of all cocaine entering the United States of America had its origins traced back to Mexico and its cartels. Though most cartels began with the cultivation and trade of drugs such as marijuana and later cocaine, some have moved on to the production of other substances, such as methamphetamine and heroine. The various drugs produced by each cartel, however, also instigate further violence in the region. Many cartels quarrel over the control of certain narcotics in the area. Methamphetamine, for example, has become a product of increased interest for certain cartels, especially during the past five years.

Though the first Mexican drug cartels emerged at some time in the previous century, the Mexican government first made a full-scale intervention in 2006 under president Calderón, marking the beginning of the Mexican Drug War. Despite the Mexican Drug War's small comparison as far as wars are concerned in general, it is definitely a war in its own right. The main characteristic of this conflict, aside from its affiliation to the trade of illicit narcotics, is the commonplace involvement of the civilian population.

Predominantly in the past few years, the conflict between the Mexican drug cartels and the Mexican civilian populous has escalated dramatically. Factually speaking, Mexico's homicide rate tripled between 2007 and 2012, the numbers falling in roughly from 8 deaths per 100,000 people to 27 deaths per 100,000 people within this time frame. Needless to say, this escalation is almost exclusively attributed to the increased activity of the cartels in recent years. In an event that shocked the global community, 43 college students attending a high school in Mexico's Guerrero State were kidnapped in September of



Figure 7: Members of a Mexican Drug Cartel Guarding their Collective Weapons and Narcotics Supply
(<http://images.google.com/>)

2014. Months later, authorities discovered a mass grave with dozens of incinerated bodies, suspected to be those of the students kidnapped in September. Reports show that local cartels were to blame for the massacre, mistaking the students for members of a rival cartel.

The Mexican cartels are generally heavily armed with modern weaponry (mostly firearms), most of which is supplied illegally across the mutual border shared between the United States of America and Mexico. With the expiration of the US Federal Assault Weapons Ban in 2004, more weapons than ever before were trafficked across the Mexican border and into the hands of the Mexican cartels. With an approximate 253,000 firearms smuggled annually into Mexico, this is yet another number that has tripled over the past decade.

Afghanistan and Al Qa'ida

Al Qa'ida (AQ) has perhaps over the years become the single most infamous terrorist organization worldwide, due to the September 11th attacks. Originally set in

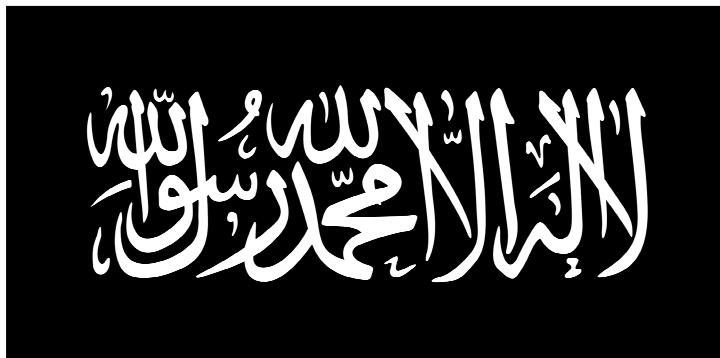


Figure 8: The Flag (Shahada) and Coat of Arms of Al Qa'ida
(<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Al-Qaeda>)

Afghanistan and still using the territory as its main homeland, AQ has recently expanded its activity into territories such as Yemen. Over the years, despite certain crucial casualties to the organization, such as the assassination of its former leader, Osama bin Laden on May 2nd, 2011, the organization has

managed to recuperate through a major influx of funds due to the production of opium.

Throughout the years, Afghanistan has been, and continues to be, the single largest opium producer worldwide, producing over 90% of the world's opium supply. Therefore, as studied in previous cases, this natural resource is an extraordinarily attractive force for terrorist organizations such as al-Qa'ida. Ever since the organization's foundation in the late 1980's, AQ has managed to dominate a large amount of Afghanistan's opium production and trade. In addition to this, strong ties have been held throughout with operation in Pakistan, which largely assist in the cultivation of the poppy-derived opium.

Though the exact time of its creation is unknown, it is common consensus that AQ was formed sometime between August of 1988 and late 1989. Installing itself within the chaos of an Afghanistan devastated by the presence of the Taliban, AQ had no difficulty rising within the ranks of public recognition and infamy. Similar to other organizations in the Middle East, AQ supports certain reactionary ideologies such as Salafism, Qutbism, and Pan-Islamism. In general, AQ wished to provide the world with a simple image of their mission: the elimination of Western influence in the region and the installation of an Islamic State.

AQ was designated as a terrorist body by the United States on October 8th, 1999. AQ had shown its intentions to the world and intended to stop at nothing to assert its political presence in the United States and other Western countries. At what was definitely the pinnacle of the organization's glory, two commercial airline flyers were crashed into the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center in New York City. Another flyer managed to inflict some damage on the Pentagon, the central United States' military defense building. Under the Bush administration it became evident that the United States wished to eliminate AQ as soon as possible, beginning with the organization's leader, Osama Bin Laden.

Under the Obama administration, Bin Laden and several of his closest commanders were assassinated as the result of a successful US Navy SEALs operation. Despite being a major blow to the organization, AQ wasted no time in reelecting a new leader and continuing to aim for its salvation. Reports have shown that AQ has taken its position as an overseer and controller of the opium and heroine trade in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and several other territories in the Middle East. This position, no doubt held by the usage of coercive methods, allows for the organization to receive unimaginable amounts of finances. These finances allow for the organization to reestablish itself by purchasing more and advanced weapons from external territories, sometimes even the United States. Additionally, AQ's involvement in the Yemen conflict has been purely beneficial, contributing to the continuation and sustenance of the organization.



Figure 9: The Poppy Fields of Afghanistan, often Harvested with Al Qa'ida Supervision

(<http://www.theguardian.com/society/2008/nov/07/heroin-cocaine-drugs-cannabis-afghanistan>)

Additional Organizations in Additional Territories

Despite there being more narcoterrorist organizations and more territories in which they are active than those aforementioned, all others explicitly coincide with the characteristics of all situations mentioned above. Whether organization be Boko Haram, the Taliban, the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, or Hezbollah, most situations retain the same characteristics.

In every situation, the control of production of distribution of illicit narcotics is a large beneficiary force to many terrorist organizations throughout the globe. Aside from any conflict caused independently of such activities, narcoterrorism offers many fronts on which the collateral damage of the situation becomes much higher. Additionally, the massive income provided for such terrorist organizations through control over the drug trade allows for massive purchases of firearms and other war-making devices. It is therefore of paramount importance that the very roots of narcoterrorism be eradicated so as to limit the occurrences of further conflicts.

Major Countries and Organizations Involved

Colombia

The government of Colombia has been fighting the FARC for decades, and suffers from the unnecessary hardship that comes as a result of the cocaine trade (largely facilitated by the FARC). The country is left in the balance to observe any further peace talks in Havana this year.

Peru

Peru's difficulties with the Shinning Path continue. Taking Colombia's place as the number one producer of cocaine worldwide, Peru's drug related terrorism has risen to its previous high levels.

Mexico

Mexico's battles with the cartels have reached more lethal standards than in the past. Recent developments truly highlight the danger of the cartels, and narcotics trade and production is at an all time high. The importation of great amounts of firearms from the United States promises only the further escalation of

conflict in the region. In addition, the very recent escape of Mexican Drug Lord “El Chapo” from one of the highest security prisons in Mexico (a suspect occurrence) is an event indicating the vast array of the drug cartels’ influence in Mexico.

Afghanistan

Opium production in Afghanistan continues to sustain its astoundingly high levels. Heroin exports continue to rejuvenate the presence of the predominant terrorist organization in the area, al Qa’ida. As it continues to be in a situation of crisis with the presence of the Taliban and a weak governmental standpoint, Afghanistan is unable to tackle the issue of opium production at this point.

The United States of America

Narcoterrorism surrounds the United States on every front and in every way. The nation has tried in certain cases to eliminate certain narcotic ties with terrorist organizations, such as in Colombia, but has not been entirely successful. Furthermore, organizations committing to narcoterrorism surround the nation, and the effects of narcoterrorism are constantly leaking into its borders. Intelligence also indicates that vast amounts of firearms are leaking out of the US, mostly into Latin American countries, allowing for narcoterrorist organizations to become armed, and more dangerous.

The FARC

The FARC guerilla movement, despite making claims of gradual recession, still remains the most significant and most active example of narcoterrorism throughout the globe. The FARC’s link with the cocaine trade results in an almost symbiotic relationship between the two. Despite imminent peace talks with the Colombian government, the public continues to question whether or not the FARC will abide by a ceasefire or any other such treaty.

The Shinning Path

Despite heavy set backs with the recent arrest and imprisonment of basic group leaders, the SL has managed to recuperate through the use of the cocaine trade in Peru. As a result of its efforts, Peru has managed to dominate the cocaine trade worldwide, hence placing the SL in an even more advantageous position.

The Mexican Drug Cartels

The war on drugs in Mexico has the cartels as its main target. Increasing violence, weapons import, and narcotic production is making the cartels perhaps the most pressing issue today pertaining to narcoterrorism. The recent escape of the leader of the Sinaloa Cartel, Joaquín Guzmán (El Chapo) is an issue of extreme importance, since his method of escape seemed to be planned externally, creating suspicion of involvement from outside the cartel itself. Therefore, government corruption may be a probable cause.

Al Qa'ida

The former most infamous terrorist organization in the world is currently reestablishing itself through much help from the production and trade of opium/heroin. The organization has laid low over the past few years, and has just recently reappeared in the Yemen conflict.

Timeline of Events

Date	Description of event
April 9th, 1948	The beginning of La Violencia in Colombia (Assassination of Jorge Eliecer Gaitan Ayala, Liberal Party Leader).
1960 (approximately)	Shinning Path is founded.
1964	The FARC is founded.
1975	Peru emerges from the military coup of Juan Velasco Alvarado.
May 17 th , 1980	Shinning Path comes into full force.
1980 (approximately)	The FARC comes into full force and further delves into the cocaine trade. Shinning Path performs similarly.

1983	Shinning Path assaults anti-drug enforcement police in Peru. President Terry coins the term «narcoterrorism» to define the attack.
1987 (approximately)	Records show Afghanistan and Al Qa'ida are responsible for 90% of all opium and heroine production worldwide.
1992	Shinning Path leader, Abimael Guzman, is imprisoned in Peru.
June 16 th , 1996	La Gabarra Massacre (FARC kill 34 local cocaine farmers and workers).
September 11 th , 2001	The 9/11 attacks are executed by Al Qa'ida.
2004	Expiration of Federal Assault Weapons Ban in US leads to excessive spillage of weapons into Mexico, arming the cartels.
2006	Mexican government declares war on drugs and Mexican cartels.
2007	Annual death rates in Mexico begin to rise as a result of cartel activity.
March, 2009	As a result of SL resurgence in further activity in the cocaine trade, the SL murders a cocaine farmer's family.
May 2 nd , 2011	Osama Bin Laden, leader of Al Qa'ida, is assassinated.
2012	Death rates in Mexico have tripled since 2007 as a result of cartel activity.
November, 2012	The Colombian Government begins peace talks with the FARC in Havana, Cuba.
2014	Peru dominates cocaine trade.
September, 2014	Colombian Government and FARC sign for bilateral cease-fire.
April, 2015	The FARC attacks a Colombian military convoy, breaking cease-fire.
July 20 th , 2015	Promises for new cease-fire agreement between the FARC and Colombian government.

Relevant UN Treaties, Resolutions and Events

Despite the fact that the United Nations HAS NOT formulated an official treaty or resolution on the issue of narcoterrorism, there have been several resolutions, conventions, and treaties pertaining either to the prevention of drug trafficking or the constriction of terrorist bodies (including funding thereof). The major ones are listed below.

United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (December 20th, 1988)

The Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances is the most widely addressing UN document pertaining to the elimination of drug trafficking. This document addresses almost all possible elements of the aforementioned topic possible. Units of this document include confiscation of illicit narcotics, controlled delivery, substances used in narcotic manufacturing, materials and equipment, and measures to eradicate illicit cultivation of narcotic plants and to eliminate illicit demand for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

Resolution 1373 (September 28th, 2001)

Resolution 1373 has as its main aim to eliminate methods of funding for terrorist organizations worldwide. Firstly, it prohibits the governments of independent states to provide financial assistance for local or non-local terrorist organizations. Secondly, it calls for the enforcement of measures to eliminate terrorist funding from external sources. However, no specific mention is made of specifically eliminating drug production and trade pertaining to terrorist organizations.

Previous Attempts to solve the Issue

There have been no previous attempts to solve the issue of narcoterrorism as a holistic issue. As mentioned above, efforts have been made to combat terrorism, and to combat drug trafficking and production. However, never has there been an attempt that has confronted both in joint. Hence, debate on this issue shall pioneer such activities in the United Nations.

Possible Solutions

Tackling the issue of narcoterrorism holistically is an extremely difficult proposition, due to the fact that its characteristics alter based on the territory in the world being addressed. However, there are certain basic measures that apply indefinitely.

Reinforcement of Border Control

Considering the fact that the main targets of terrorists bodies employing the use of the drug trade are outside their nations of origin (meaning across international borders), it would only be logical to enforce border control in sensitive areas susceptible to drug traffickers. If such methods are proven successful, drug trafficking profits for terrorist organizations can be severely decreased, hence eliminating the motive for such action.

Peace Talks with Terrorist Organizations

While some terrorist organizations are unapproachable, others, such as the FARC, might agree to talks pertaining to the elimination of narcoterrorist activities. Many narcoterrorist bodies, especially in Latin American countries, seek higher goals than just the employment of terror and destruction. Some, such as the FARC, seek recognition and/or political reform. Therefore, negotiation could very well be the solution to certain conflicts including such terrorist bodies.

Government Official Investigation

As stated prior, government official corruption may be one of the main instigators of narcoterrorist success. Therefore, it is an essential measure to investigate local governments of countries pertinent to narcoterrorism in order to eliminate any ties with official legislature and terrorist bodies (banned by UN resolution 1373). Additionally, such investigations could lead to the arrest of pivotal figures of narcoterrorism, and hence the elimination of possible funding and support.

Military Intervention

At times, military intervention is an appropriate action to eradicate imminent threats. Therefore, if the narcoterrorist problem is deemed unmanageable otherwise, plausible solutions could then fall under the category of armed assault. In this context, military intervention could fall under the categories of drone strikes, an operation to invade a terrorist organizations headquarters, or perhaps the general

increased usage of a country's military in difficult situations. However, due to the fact that many of the regions in which narcoterrorism is most prevalent are highly unstable, such armed conflict should be exercised with extreme caution.

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